



St Catherine's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

10th February
2023

Live, Love and Learn Together,
Growing with God, in Knowledge and Faith

Important dates for your diary: Coming up...

End of Term:
Friday 10th
February 2023

Back to School:
Tuesday 21st
February 2023

In 2023
LEE CUFF SPORTS
SESSIONS:
HAZEL CLASS,
every Wednesday.
Warm PE Kit is
essential

FOREST SCHOOL
SESSIONS:
MAPLE Class please
bring wet weather
gear and wellies

Message from Mrs Terrey:

We have come back with a bang and a drop of snow that excited us all!

This term we are focussed on our reading and I encourage you to read with or to your child every day to help them improve their vocabulary, their imagination and their resilience as well as leading by example by getting lost in a good book!

We have some trips coming up and also some class experiences which all look as though they will be excellent fun and great learning opportunities

Here we are at half term already, where did January go??? As soon as we come back to school we are back into the swing of things with lots of exciting events, lots of singing and lots of learning so please take some time to rest and relax over the half term break.

Mrs Terrey

First Holy Communion:

Please join us in sending prayers and good wishes for our children taking their First Holy Communion this year as they take this important step forwards in their Catholic life. Communion means, simply, 'togetherness' and this is a ritual to show the togetherness of Christians and God.



BugFest:

*Tuesday 28th
February Oak and
Ash Class*

Ash Class Ukulele Lessons:

Every Wednesday

Whole School

Mass:
*Wednesday 22nd
February 1.30pm*

Oak Class Kenya Day

*Friday 24th
February*

Oak Class

Assembly:
*9 am Wednesday
1st March. Oak
Class Parents will
be invited*

Absence:

Every minute at school is important for your child. It's not just about learning to read and write, it's about learning to empathise, learning to be kind, learning how to have fun, learning new games, songs and jokes from each other, making friendships that will last a lifetime. Your child's time at school is so important and if they miss out on a lot of school, they really miss out on a lot!

If your child wakes up feeling a little under the weather, you can always send them in to school. You know your child better than anyone and, if you think they may brighten up, we will keep a close eye on them and let you know if they need to come home.

Phonics Workshop:

Monday 30th of January Mrs Treble held a very well attended Phonics Workshop for Oak Class parents and carers to help our children with their reading. Many thanks to all who attended and special thanks to Mrs Treble for her hard work organising and running the workshop!

Art Day:

On Friday 20th January we had a Whole School Art Day. We all used our imaginations and mad artistic skills to create critically acclaimed displays which we have put up around the school. All the art linked in with the learning we have been doing this term and meant we could deepen our knowledge

Reading Partners:

We are looking for volunteers who can commit to some time each week to hear our children read. If you feel able to help we would love to hear from you. Thanks to everyone who has already offered to help. We will be in touch very soon with more details.

Gentle Reminder :

Children are encouraged to bring water in a plastic bottle to school. Keeping hydrated improves concentration, digestion and even helps keep our emotions balanced!

Please do not send your child into school with 'sports' or 'energy' drinks. These can contain harmful additives that actually reduce childrens concentration levels! Fizzy drinks are not recommended.

The BugMan Cometh!:

On Tuesday 28th February Nick the BugMan will be coming into school to delight and disgust Oak and Ash Class with enormous African snails, terrifying tarantulas and creeping cockroaches! This is a brilliant opportunity for us to learn about vertebrates and invertebrates and all things bug!

Safe and Happy:

Our children tell us they feel safe and happy at school. All staff work exceptionally hard to make sure children are happy and thriving. If you ever have a concern school Safeguarding Leads are:

Sarah Terrey – Head Teacher, Lydia Blake – Ash Class Teacher, Kate Middleton – Sycamore Class Teacher, Liz Harris – Maple Class Teacher.

Futsal Tournament:

Our amazing Futsal Team came a triumphant second in the tournament held at Colfox on Tuesday 7th February. They played with grace, style and determination. We are so proud of them. Well done!!

Year 3 Sleepover:

Friday 24th March Year 3 will be having a sleepover in school! This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to grow their independence and resilience as well as a fun experience and an important step in their personal and social development.

Whole School Mass:

On Friday 6th January Father Keith came to celebrate Epiphany with us. It was our first Whole School Mass of the year and we were very pleased to welcome parents, grandparents, carers and parishioners.

Leeson House:

Hazel Class are off on their residential stay at Leeson House on Wednesday 1st of March. They will visit Corfe Castle en route to Leeson where they will explore the ruins and learn why you always build your castle at the top of a decent hill! At Leeson House they will orienteer, learn Bushcraft Fire Lighting and shelter building as well as animal tracking and much, much more.

ECO Club:

Maple Class will be having Forest School when we come back. They will also have the opportunity to fine tune their skills by joining ECO Club after school, 3pm till 4pm. If your child would like to join, please look out for the email we will send on the first week back at school.

Turkey & Syria Appeal:

We are all so sad about the terrible tragedy which has devastated Turkey and Syria. Everyone is finding money tight at the moment so we have found a way to help that is easy and doesn't cost anything! In partnership with Astra Recycling, we are collecting clothes, blankets, bedding (sheets, pillow cases etc) that will be sold to raise money to help the relief effort. Please bring in whatever you can spare in a bag and put it in our recycling bin. It will all add up and, as ever, if we work together, we can make a massive difference!

Parent Liturgy:

Sycamore Class were the first to invite their parents and carers to Liturgy with Father Keith. The children read out some prayers and showed their visitors what they had been learning about. All in all it was a roaring success and we plan to do this with all our classes so look out for an invitation to your child's liturgy.

Extra Curricular Clubs:

We are changing up the Extra Curricular Clubs when we come back after half term so make sure you check your child's bag for their invitation letter.

Wrap Around Care Clubs:

Breakfast Club and After School Club will be on as normal when we come back. Starting with Breakfast Club on Tuesday 21st February at 7.30am. We would like to thank Mrs Pattinson-Smith and Miss Tschuchno for running them with kindness and care.

Singing at St Catherine's:

COVID took an awful lot from us but one of the saddest things was that we weren't allowed to sing in school! Now, Mrs Brown (a wonderful volunteer and parishioner) has started to come into school every Wednesday to run a 'singing assembly' and it is a joyous thing!

You will have noticed that your little people are starting to sing more, sometimes to themselves, sometimes along with music, and it really is a wonderful thing. We are so grateful to Mrs Brown and to the Church Finance Committee who bought us Out of the Ark music books and accompanying music so we can raise our voices together in joyful song!

Attendance Counts!

**Make sure that you give your child the best opportunities
for success by sending them into school
EVERY DAY.**



< 80% Attendance... means your child misses

- = 1 day of learning every week
- = 8 weeks of school in a year
- = 2 whole school years + 1 half term over the whole of their education (912 days missed)



< 85% Attendance... means your child misses

- = 1 and a half days of learning every fortnight
- = 6 weeks of school in a year
- = 1 whole school year + 5 half terms over the whole of their education (684 days missed)

< 90% Attendance... means your child misses

- = Half a day of learning every week
- = 4 weeks of school in a year
- = 1 whole school year + 1 half term over the whole of their education (456 days missed)

< 95% Attendance... means your child misses

- = Half a day of learning every fortnight
- = 2 weeks of school in a year
- = 2 terms and 1 half term over the whole of their education (228 days missed)

100% Attendance

- = No learning missed
- = You have given your child the best chance of success.

Forest School Re-Vamp:

Mrs Terrey has secured a huge grant to entirely re-vamp and improve our Forest School area. Little Fones won the bid and work will be starting very soon! There will be new sheds, a poly tunnel, the pond will be re-designed and raised flower beds will be built. We are re-using and recycling everything we can and the whole project will be completed responsibly and with our environment in mind.

Conjunctivitis:

We have had several cases of Conjunctivitis which makes eyes red and feel gritty, it is also usually contagious. Treatment isn't usually needed for conjunctivitis, because the symptoms often clear up within a couple of weeks. If treatment is needed, the type of treatment will depend on the cause. In severe cases, antibiotic eye drops can be used to clear the infection.

Saint Barbara: is invoked in thunderstorms and as protection from natural disaster and is the patron saint of artillerymen and miners.

Her story has a drop of the 'Rapunzel' to it!

She was kept in a tower by her father to 'keep her from harm' and when she refused to do as her father told her and she turned to Christianity and her father made her a martyr. We pray to Saint Barbara for strength and protection and to help us to be brave.

Prayer for Saint Barbara:

Saint Barbara, your courage is much stronger than the forces of hurricanes and the power of lightning. Be always by our side so that we, like you, may face all storms, wars, trials, and tribulations with the same fortitude with which you faced yours.

O Beautiful Maiden once imprisoned in a high tower, protect us from the lightning and fire that rages in the sky and the discord of war. Keep us alert and protect us from the dangers that surround us. Holy Mary Mother of Jesus intercessor for us all; we pray to assure receiving the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist at the hour of our death.

Through Jesus Christ Our Lord, Amen.