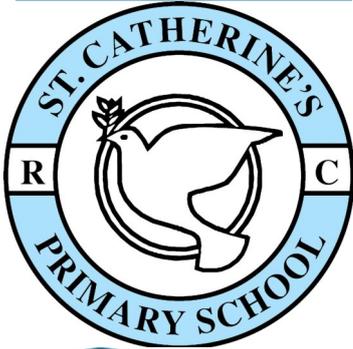


Newsletter 9
8th November 2019



St Catherine's School

8th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over half a term has passed since I last communicated with you and I have a few updates!

Our new senior leaders have settled well into the school and are bringing about positive change. All staff are working hard to improve children's experience. Improvements are visible. Children are happy and making progress in their learning. I am sure you will have seen this if you have been able to take advantage of open afternoons.

The membership of the Interim Academy Board has changed. Lisa Priest resigned due to starting a full-time course. Thank you to Lisa for her contributions. Laura Bennett, Headteacher of Bearwood Primary School in Poole, has joined the board. She brings a lot of experience of school improvement. In particular, of curriculum development.

Progress has been made in addressing all our four key priorities:

Establish highly effective leaders at every level of the school to secure capacity and sustained improvement to provision

Secure an ambitious quality of education for all pupils through the delivery of a progressive 21st Century Curriculum.

Establish effective provision for vulnerable groups.

Utilise collaborative opportunities to realise the Catholic mission of the school, strengthen provision, extend opportunities for continued professional development and secure the long-term viability of the school.

Under each of these priorities we have a series of actions to be completed by the end of term - we will share our progress in more detail at that time.

Mrs Betts is always available to talk with you about your child's progress. I am in school most weeks and am happy to respond to any further queries you may have. Just put a note in the box in the entrance hall.

We thank you for staying with us. We are on a journey, which is not always comfortable, but week by week we are getting there!

Best wishes to you all
Mrs Ann Harris OBE
Chair of the Interim Academy Board

St Catherine's:

**A family united in God's love,
learning in faith together for a
compassionate tomorrow.**

Message from the Headteacher

It has been lovely to see all the children return from the half term holiday, eager to learn. I have been into every class this week, talking to the children about what they are learning, looking at their work and I am happy to report that I can see improvements being made throughout the school and the children are indeed engaged in their learning!

One of the areas in which I would really like us to improve is raising the profile of reading. As you will have seen from Mrs Cunningham's 'Extreme Reading Challenge' before half term, we have already started this work, but we have much more to do. Thank you for sending in your pictures, I am looking forward to seeing them displayed.

Please could I ask that if you have any children's books of good quality that you are looking to rehome, we would love to have them! We are also trying to make our library a cosy area where children want to come and get lost in a good book. If you have any creative ideas (which don't cost much) I would love to hear from you.

I have also challenged the children that if they have read a book at home or from the library that they really enjoyed and would like others to read, they have to persuade me to buy the book for school. They can do this in a number of ways: written book review or poster or come to me with their copy of the book and tell me about it.

I look forward to seeing you in school next week for our Remembrance Liturgy on Monday at 2:30pm where you are all welcome. If you have anything you would like displayed on our Remembrance focal point for the liturgy, then please let me know.

I also welcome you to our first 'Open Book' session on Tuesday straight after school. This is an opportunity for your child to share the work they have done in their books last half term with you so you know what they need to work on next. Please note that this isn't a parents meeting and if you wish to speak to your teacher, please make a separate appointment.

Mrs Sharon Betts

Reflection

Litany of Remembrance

Adapted from Gittelsohn, R. B. (1975) Gates of Prayer

In the rising of the sun and in its going down, **we remember them.**

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, **we remember them.**

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring, **we remember them.**

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, **we remember them.**

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn, **we remember them.**

In the beginning of the year and when it ends, **we remember them.**

When we are weary and in need of strength, **we remember them.**

When we are sad and sick at heart, **we remember them.**

When we have joys we long to share, **we remember them.**

So long as we live, we will pray for their souls, **as we remember them.**

Anti - Bullying Week

The theme this year is: Small change. Big difference.

Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood. By making small, simple changes, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Because together, we can challenge bullying. Change starts with a conversation. It starts with checking in. It starts with work together.

Change starts here.

Change starts now.

Change starts with us.

Odd Socks Day forms...



The poster features a green background with a purple footer. On the left, there is a large purple letter 'O' with a pair of red and white striped socks hanging from it. To the right of the 'O', the text reads: "We're holding **ODD SOCKS DAY** for Anti-Bullying Week again this year". At the bottom left is the logo for "Andy and the Odd Socks", at the bottom center is the date "Tuesday 12th November", and at the bottom right is the "SafeToNet" logo.

Procedures for Raising Concerns

Sometimes you may wish to raise a concern about your child with a member of staff.

Can I please ask that if you wish to raise a concern about your child, please come and speak to us directly rather than using social media. There have been a few cases where a concern has been further discussed on WhatsApp. Staff have been made aware of some of the comments, thus causing further upset after the issue has been dealt with. This will not support school and parents working together in a positive manner for the best interests of the children. So, through the openness of the school, any grievance or complaint should be addressed in the following order:

1. Informal or formal communication with the class teacher
2. Arranged meeting with the class teacher and SENCO or Deputy Headteacher
3. Arranged meeting with the Headteacher

Pre-School Parent Consultations

Mrs Gill is currently absent due to illness, the parent consultation meetings planned for Tuesday 12th November, will need to be cancelled.

We will re-arrange these meetings once Mrs Gill returns.

Thank you for your understanding.

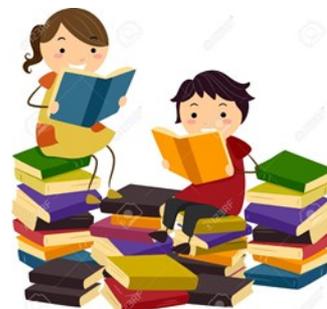
Children in Need

On Friday 15th November children are welcome to come to school dressed in spotty/yellow clothes for a suggested donation of £1.00 to help support Children in Need.



Extreme Reading Challenge

A huge thank you for all the half-term **Extreme Reading Challenge** entries! Once final pictures have all been received [deadline Monday 11th November), all will be displayed in the Library and a winner chosen from each Key Stage. Thank you again for your support in encouraging your children to read.
Mrs Cunningham.



Saturday Football Club

Hi all,
I hope you all had a good break.
This Saturday we will train
in preparation for our next
matches.

We will start at 9.15am on the
pitch at School.

Please come in club kit, black
shorts, black socks, shin pads and
warm outer clothing and a drink.
Please let all know and confirm
as we need lots of players to fill
teams.

If you want to know more please
call me on 07857 614316 or just
turn up on Saturday.

Many thanks
Alan

St Catherines School Football

SATURDAY MORNINGS 9.15 AM
STARTS AGAIN SEPTEMBER 2019

your first place for football!

All Ages & Abilities

Promoting Fair Play

Health & Wellbeing

**come and try-
out football for
FREE with
friends**

Football Association Registered
Qualified Coaches & Staff

ORGANISED BY PARENT VOLUNTEERS IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SCHOOL



Phizifit

Today we welcomed Duncan from Phizifit to launch our new exciting active challenges in a special assembly.

Phizifit is an exciting, innovative and effective way to motivate children to be more active, learn about healthy lifestyles and promote positive physical and mental well-being. It is an engaging interactive online resource, designed to be accessed at home and enjoyed by families together, as well as to be used by our school as an active classroom resource.

It is made up of a wide variety of progressive challenges, which are fun and motivating for children to become more active. It will reward the children with certificates as they complete the different levels, these we will present in our weekly celebration assemblies.

This is a new and exciting programme for us to introduce and develop. More information can be found at www.phizifit.com

Next week the children will be given their login details, which they will bring home. They will then be ready to access the activities.

All the children will be involved in class challenges within school, but we hope that they will also all engage with it in their own time as well. Individual progress will be kept track of in school. We really value the importance of being active and this programme is a great way of doing it.



Ancient Technology Centre

To complete our topic on early history, this week Y3 visited the Ancient Technology Centre. Situated just outside Cranborne, it provides an insight into what life was like during the long Stone Age period, through the Bronze Age to the Iron Age.

We looked at some replica artefacts, the children had a go at making a wattle fence out of hazel branches and we even had a go at some weaving too. We ended the day with marshmallows and chocolate biscuits.

The children really enjoyed the day; all the centre staff were very impressed by their knowledge of the subject.

And the sun shone on us!



Awards

Head Teacher's Award:

Reception:	Reuben
Year 1:	Riley
Year 2:	Scarlett
Year 3:	Levi
Year 4:	Emily
Year 5 & 6:	Eva

St John Bosco :	29
St Francis de Sales:	49
St Margaret Clitherow :	51
St Teresa of Lisieux :	37

Reading Certificates:

Year 1:	Ivy
Year 2:	Hannah ,George, Hattie & Archie
Year 3:	Levi, Pippa, Grace, Xavier, Aoibheann, Bethany, Jasmine, Lily-Grace, & Aliona
Year 4:	Justin, Brooke, Alina, Kerry, Ella
Year 5 & 6:	Archie, Isaac and Grace



Christmas Fayre Update

We are looking for help!

Are you a small business or do you work for a company? We are looking for support/donations or sponsors to help us continue planning our Christmas Fayre. If you can help please let the PTA team know as soon as possible.

On the day of the Christmas Fayre we are looking for volunteers from 3pm onwards, we would be grateful for any help you are able to give, please let the PTA team know if you can help.

We are also looking for any unwanted children's toys, books or games in excellent conditions for our Christmas Fayre, please leave any donations at the school office.



Verwood Pantomime Society



Verwood Pantomime Society
presents

Cinderella
by Joshua Clarke & Lewis Clarke

sponsored by
gumbaby

VERWOOD PANTOMIME SOCIETY

SAT 18th - SAT 25th JAN 2020
Book online or 01202 828740
www.VerwoodPantomimeSociety.co.uk
The Production is Presented by *Shropshire* with *SMITH & SCURIPS*

The poster features four performers in elaborate costumes against a blue, starry background. A large, stylized yellow and white 'C' is part of the title 'Cinderella'. A blue, glowing object resembling a magic wand or a piece of fabric is positioned diagonally across the lower half of the poster.

Dates for your diary

Please be aware that these dates will be added to as the term progresses, and there may be some changes. If there are any changes, we will endeavour to let you know with as much advance notice as possible.

11.11.19	Remembrance Liturgy 2:30pm – all parents and carers welcome
12.11.19	Wear odd socks for Anti –Bullying Week
12.11.19	Open Book 3-4pm & 6-7pm
15.11.19	Children in Need
21.11.19	Y1 Class Liturgy 2:30pm - parents and carers welcome
22.11.19	Bottle donations for Christmas fayre
26.11.19	Advent Mass 2pm in school – all parents and carers welcome
5.12.19	Year 4 Class Liturgy - parents/carers welcome
6.12.19	Christmas Fayre
9.12.19	INSET Day
10.12.19	KS1 Christmas Performance - 1.30pm
11.12.19	KS1 Christmas Performance– 1.30pm
18.12.19	Carol Service at St Catherine's Church evening (time to be confirmed)
20.12.19	Children break up for Christmas holiday on at 3pm

After School Clubs Autumn Term 2019

Activity	Day	Time	Year Group
Football Club	Monday	3:00 - 4.10	Years 1 - 5
Basketball Club	Monday	3:15 - 4:05	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Arting About	Tuesday	3:00 - 4:15	Years 1-6
Cloud School	Wednesday	3:00-4:15	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Multi-skills	Wednesday	3.10-4.10	All
Tennis	Thursday	3:15 - 3:45	All
French Club	Thursday	3:00 - 4.10	Years 1 - 3
Dance	Friday	3:15 - 4:15	All
Football	Saturday	9:15 - 10:30	All
