



# St Katharine's Knockholt Church of England Primary



## Newsletter 5 – July 2022

What a wonderful year we have had at St Katharine's! We are so pleased that the children have had a full year in school and that we were, once again, able to welcome parents and carers to school for events such as sports day, open classroom and our summer production.

At an emotional Leavers' Service today, we said a fond farewell to our 'Class of 2022'. It has been so exciting and rewarding to watch them grow and flourish during their time with us. They're ready for new adventures and they go with our love and prayers.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the staff at St Katharine's; we are blessed to have such a strong team who support each other. I would also like to thank those who give their time and expertise to support us - our Governors, our volunteer "Reading Champions" and parents and carers who accompany us on visits and experience days. Finally, thanks to our PTA for their fundraising efforts which, in these difficult financial times, are more important than ever.

I wish you all a very joyful and safe summer and some wonderful family time together.  
Miss Tormey



Young Eco Engineers race day in Gillingham  
(see Club News for details)



## Hedgehog Class



What an amazing last term we have had in Hedgehogs. We have been working on getting ourselves ready to transition up to Robin class. We have read a number of books to help us with this including Ruby's Worry and Perfectly Norman. We have thought about what worries we may have and what we can do if we have a worry. We also thought about what makes us special and unique. This term

culminated in the fantastic sports day. I was so proud seeing how hard Hedgehogs worked and the team spirit they showed.



## Robin Class

Our resilient Robins have thrived this term with hands-on learning inside and outside the classroom. They have enjoyed learning about plants and celebrated science in the science week with great enthusiasm. They exhibited their own science experiments that they prepared as part of the home learning as part of a unique show and tell session.



We also celebrated maths week where Robins class applied all the mathematical skills that they have learnt this year through a range of activities in our indoor and outdoor class environment. They showed great delight and care learning to use fire in our forest school sessions and learnt a range of important skills needed to explore nature independently. We had animals visiting us from fluttery butterflies to a not so slow tortoise called Arthur! Robins were so kind and gentle in handling these happy creatures.

## Squirrel Class

What a wonderful term we have had! In our study of Africa, we have completed bright eye-catching holiday brochures and postcards. We have learned about key Africans of historical significance - creating a biography of the wonderful Wangari Mathaai - and looking at the importance of her actions in protecting our own wild and green spaces. We have studied several areas of Africa and looked at a child's life in a rural village comparing the similarities and differences with our own life experiences. In DT, we have also developed our weaving skills, making box looms and



This term Squirrels have been finding out what seeds and bulbs need to grow into healthy plants. As part of life-cycles we watched caterpillars develop into butterflies.

butterflies. We also learned how to dye fabrics using natural resources.

The highlight this term, was our trip to Drusilla's Park, which linked with our science topics of lifecycles and habitats. We got to go inside a Masai Hut, play on the awesome adventure playground and rides and see some of the wonderful and amazing creatures from Africa and their babies. Our Squirrel Class also had its own



babies, where we successfully watched all 30 of our caterpillars hatch into beautiful butterflies. What an exciting and exhausting term - a well-deserved summer holiday is needed!

## Rabbit Class

What a busy term in Rabbits! For our science day, we focussed on nutrition. We explored the food groups and made flapjacks. This showed us how processed food contains ingredients from a variety of food groups. We also looked at the nutrients found in various foods and learnt to look for them on food labels. Finally, we worked out how much sugar is in a number of food and drinks and compared them to see which were the most or least nutritious. Hopefully, this might help us to make healthier choices, whilst still enjoying our favourite treats! We really enjoyed rewriting the story of Black Rock from Black Rock's point of view, wrote a postcard 'from Egypt', learnt lots about the pharaohs and ancient Egyptian gods, made Egyptian necklaces and a shaduf! In science we continued learning about all the different parts of a plant and how pollinators help them to produce fruits using some lovely chilli plants. We've also explored how nutrients in a rich soil helped our lettuces grow better. And we've had plenty of excitement with magnets even making a compass! Everybody has worked so hard and it has been delightful to see the fantastic progress made over the last couple of years. Farewell Rabbits, enjoy the summer and continue to be amazing in Year 4!



## Owl Class

Term 6 started off with our trip to Horton Kirby. The children immersed themselves in evacuee life in their World War II Day! We learnt more about what life was like in Horton Kirby for the evacuated children and we roleplayed as evacuee school children too. In English we wrote speeches inspired by Winston Churchill and we had our science day, where we were put to the test to make some raincoats for Teddy to keep him dry! Year 4 also had the chance to interview Miss Luckham-Down's Granny about her evacuee experience during WWII. With Mrs Bennett we learnt a WWII inspired repertoire of songs and performed them in a concert at Nesbit House! Our audience loved singing along and remembering some of their favourites. The day was a huge success and music was enjoyed by all ages.



## Otter Class

We were as busy as ever in year 5, starting the term with our Ancient Greek day, immersing ourselves in the lives of oracles and slaves! We then linked our computing, English and history learning, writing scripts and story boards and filming using green screen, trying to persuade each other which was the best city state to live in; Sparta came out top! DT this term included pop and twist cards and our worry monsters (linked to PSHE), all stitched by hand. We finished our MFL learning this year with a French café and our thanks go to Mrs Hanna for her French teaching this year. Full steam ahead for year 6!



## Badger Class

The West End had nothing on St Katharine's on the evening of Wednesday 13th July, as the Badgers put on a show-stopping performance of the JM Barrie classic, Peter Pan. Over the past 6 weeks, the year 6 children have been busy learning lines, perfecting solos and creating props for their end of year production, ably supported by the year 5s.



The beloved children's classic was a huge success with several children shining in the spot-light and reducing parents to tears with their heartfelt solos and fits of laughter at the antics of the pirate crew. The children were fantastic in their efforts and were rewarded for their graft with a spectacular performance.



The children would like to thank the staff, parents and siblings for all their support, without which, the show would not have been the success it was.

Badgers had an exciting set of computing lessons. We were learning to program using Micro:Bits which had been loaned from Sevenoaks School. The children had great fun learning how to use block code to create a pedometer from scratch. Alongside our computing we have also been exploring electricity in science.



On the hottest day of the year, Badgers had the answer - a water fight. We're not sure who had the most fun - Year 6 or Mr Freeman!



**Congratulations Bumblebees! House football champions 2022!**

2	Bumble V Mason	0
0	Carder V Honey	0
1	Mason V Carder	0
3	Honey V Bumble	0
2	Mason V Honey	1
2	Bumble V Carder	0

## Sporting excellence



This term has been so busy for St Katharine's. We have attended Cricket on the Vine with years 5 and 6, Sevenoaks Athletics Competition, a Swimming Gala and District Sports! Fun was had by all but what really stood St K's apart was our attitude, enthusiasm and great sportsmanship, cheering on other teams and encouraging each other.

It was wonderful to be able to hold our traditional sports day with parents and carers cheering on the children. Congratulations to Honey, who won both the KS1 and KS2 competitions!



## Celebration!

The whole school, staff and governors were delighted to celebrate Miss Tormey's 20 years of headship, with an assembly led by year 5 highlighting the changes that have happened at St Katharine's since 2002!



## Club news

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June the Green Goblins club attended the annual Young Eco Engineers race day in Gillingham. Three teams - The Green Gods of Go-karting; Blue Bolts; and Swift Stingers - entered against eleven other schools from around Kent. All teams raced one another and the finals ended up with the Blue Bolts and Swift Stingers coming 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively in the Class 3 final. The Green Gods stepped up in the Class 1 final and came a competitive 2<sup>nd</sup>. With points available from workbooks, teamwork, presentation as well as the races, The Green Gods of Go-karting were announced Grand Champions. What a fantastic day out!



## Summer Reading Challenge 2022

Although it's great to be out and about during the holidays, remember to keep that reading habit going. Kent libraries is excited to introduce Gadgeteers, Summer Reading Challenge 2022; join the Gadgeteers to discover the amazing science and innovation behind the world around you! Running until 10 September 2022, children can sign up and participate in the Summer Reading Challenge to read 6 library books over the summer period. They can read anything from the library, including stories, information books, audiobooks, eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and more. They can either visit a Kent Library to claim their joining pack or visit [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) to take part online. When they have read their six books and completed the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive a medal and certificate (while stocks last). And it's all for free! Find out more at your local library, visit [bit.ly/Gadgeteers2022](http://bit.ly/Gadgeteers2022), the dedicated Summer Reading Challenge page or follow Kent Libraries social media pages - Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.



## Dates for your diary ...

Date	Event
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	INSET
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	First day of term 1 (Hedgehogs AM only)

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