



**ST KATHARINE'S CofE (VC)
SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER NO. 23
14th October 2011**

Dear Parents

Thank you for your kind donations for the Harvest Festival, The Trussell Trust fund organisers have collected and expressed their gratitude.

A very warm welcome to Pip Harvard-Taylor as the new Chair of the PTA and her new team. If you have any fund raising ideas that you would like to share please get in touch with Pip or any other committee member. The school recognises and values the enormous commitment and enthusiasm of St Katharine's PTA.

As you are aware we are setting up a School's Saving Scheme (Bank). This is a way of encouraging children to save their pocket money, especially with Christmas coming! There will be a letter explaining all shortly. We are nearly there with our new build. Mrs Stagg and I are very excited about moving into our new offices and as you can imagine the rest of the staff are very pleased to be gaining a staffroom, it looks very likely that we will be moving in during the first week back after the holiday.

I hope you all have a well earned rest during the half term break, don't forget the clocks go back on Saturday 29th October.

**Sharon Cross
Headteacher**

Morning Arrangements

We have decided to continue with the current morning arrangements - which is, children coming in to class and participating in an early morning activity. This is working extremely well and we have had positive feedback from parents and pupils.

**YR6 PARENTS - Deadline for
Secondary School Applications -
Noon on Monday 31st October
2011**

Please ensure you have applied for your child's secondary education before the deadline date.

Liz Hopkins - Numeracy Consultant

We have arranged a parent numeracy workshop session with Liz Hopkins, Numeracy Consultant. This will take place on Thursday 1st December in the school hall at 6 p.m. It will be an opportunity to learn more about the schools calculation policy and the way we teach numeracy, the bare necessities games and problem solving activities. The PTA is providing cheese and wine during the session. Please come along and join in.

PTA News

As you are aware the Christmas Fair will be held at the Town Hall in Marlborough on November 19th. We have decided to use the Town Hall this year as our school hall will be decorated over the Christmas holiday and will need clearing beforehand.

The PTA is keen to be involved in the 'spend and raise' scheme as a way of generating more money for the school. Once it is set up you will be able to register as a supporter and shop on line and earn commission for the school. There are hundreds of retail shops on the site, including big names like M&S, John Lewis, Boots etc. If you are interested in helping the PTA in setting this up please get in touch with Pip or any member of the committee.

Forest Schools

As a school we are very interested in acquiring 'Forest Schools' status. We are hoping to get this accreditation by the end of this academic year. In the meantime we will still use the forest to enhance the children's learning as we have always done.

Operation Christmas Child

We are once again participating in this worthwhile appeal. Please find attached a leaflet giving details. If you would like to take part in this shoebox appeal please return your box and completed form, to school before Friday 11th November. This is the day that they will be collected.

Nut Free School

As you are aware we have two children in school with severe nut allergies. We are trying to promote a 'nut free' zone in school; therefore produce containing nuts is not encouraged in school. This includes packed lunches, mid morning snacks, star worker treats, birthday treats etc

Absence

If your child is ill, please telephone the school office before 9.30 a.m. on the day to let us know. Please follow this up with a note giving details. If we are not notified of the reasons for an absence, an "unauthorised absence" will be recorded on their school record. Requests for absence in term time for reasons other than illness must be made in advance on an Absence Request form available from the school office. If your child arrives after 9.05 a.m. it will be classed as **unauthorised** and you will be asked to fill in the late register.

Celebration Worship

Please note that Celebration Worship will be **weekly** from after half term and will continue to be on a Thursday afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

*From Little Acorns Great Oaks
Grow*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18 th October	Parents' Evening 3.30 - 6.30 p.m.
19 th October	Parents' Evening 3.30 - 5.30 p.m.
20 th - 30 th October	Half Term
31 st October	First day of term 2
3 rd November 2011	School Photographer 1.30 p.m. (individual & sibling portraits)
10 th November	Oak Class trip to Sevington School
11 th November	Deadline date for return of Shoeboxes.
14 th November	Nurse in to do height & weight - Yr6
19 th November	PTA Christmas Fair Marlborough Town Hall - details to follow
22 nd November	Last swim
28 th November	Robotics Competition
1 st December	Parent Numeracy Workshop session at 6 pm. in the school hall.
8 th December	Hazel Class to Watermill Theatre (a.m.)
9 th December	School disco - details to follow

15 th December	Christmas Nativity & Carol Service 5 p.m. at Church
16 th December	Last day of term 2
3 rd January 2012	First day of term 3
9th February 2012	Last day of Term 3
10th February 2012	T D Day
20th February	T D Day
21st February	1st day of Term 4