



Term: Spring - **Issue Number:** 09 - **Date:** 13th March 2020

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to our Y6 football team who won two, drew one and lost one match in the first round, taking them through to the semi finals where they played Wormley. This match went to extra time, then to a nailbiting golden goal, where Wormley scored first. St Catherine's then went on to play for 3rd or 4th place which went in to extra time – then penalties; which we won!! Well done to all who took part and thanks to Mrs Hasell and Ms O'Rourke for taking the team to the tournament.

BOOK FAIR BRING A FAMILY MEMBER TO SCHOOL – FRIDAY 20TH MARCH

In light of the current situation relating to Coronavirus, we will be postponing this event

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thank you to everyone who participated in this years 'book in a jar' competition; if you haven't already done so, please can you take your jars so that you can continue to enjoy them at home.

BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all those who bought books from Tuesday's Book Fair – it was wonderful to see so many children enjoying choosing a new book from the great selection on offer. Thank to Ms Maud for arranging this event.



PARENT FORUM

Thank you to the families who came to express their views on our new policy on Wednesday. Following the meeting, the policy has been sent to governors for approval; after which it will be added to the policy section of the website.

ARCH DEACON OF HERTFORD'S VISIT

We are delighted to inform you that on Wednesday the 18th of March, we will be welcoming the Archdeacon of Hertford to our school for a special visit. She will be leading our collective worship session and visiting our prayer space as well as being given a tour of the school by the worship group.

EASTER PLAYScheme

We are running an easter Playscheme in the first week of the easter holidays from 6th – 9th April. If you are interested in securing a place for your child, please complete and return the booking form from the carousel in the entrance area. The cost is £18 per day.



BUSINESS ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Several parents have been in touch to ask if we can advertise their businesses in school. As we have a responsibility to remain impartial, we are not able to distribute fliers or be seen to promote one business over another. However, if you would like to make people aware of your business, we are considering adding a page to our newsletter that is sent out to all of our families on a weekly basis and displayed on our notice board. The cost for a half term's advertising would be £20, which we feel is a very reasonable rate for this opportunity. If you are interested in advertising your business in this way, please contact the school office.

INDOOR ATHLETICS

A record number of 13 schools turned out for the Indoor Sporthall Athletics competition Tuesday 3rd March. We had year 3/4 and 5/6 teams competing in track events such as relays and obstacle races as well as field events such as long jump and soft javelin. All teams put 100% into their events, representing St.Catherines very well, resulting in teams coming 6th, 7th, 10th and 11th. All participants should be very proud.

Thanks to Mrs Hasel for organising our participation in the event.

ODD/COLOURFUL/MISMATCHED SOCKS DAY 20TH MARCH

This year we will be supporting Odd Socks Day, in recognition of World Downs Syndrome Day.

In particular, we will be raising money to support initiatives led by one of our families whose youngest child was born with Downs Syndrome. Ophelia and Angel's mum, Corina Gander, has launched a charity 'Daisy's Wishes' which has set out four 'wishes' that will improve care and support for children with a range of needs, particularly Downs Syndrome.

One of the wishes is to raise funds to put in a 'safe zone' at Princess Alexandra A&E department. This is to support children with sensory issues or compromised immune systems. The waiting area can be a very scary place for children who have either of these.

Daisy's Wishes want to raise funds so they can supply equipment that will make the area a calm space and buy learning tools such as Makaton posters and mini cards to go on staff lanyards to help with children that find it difficult to communicate.

A&E can be a very scary environment for a typical child, but those with special needs and health conditions will spend more time than a typical child in hospitals and can build a bad association. To have a specific area that doesn't look clinical would make a huge difference.

On Friday 20th March, children are invited to wear odd/mismatched/colourful socks* in exchange for a donation towards Daisy's Wishes

*school uniform still to be worn



ST CATHERINE'S MAKES THE FRONT PAGE! LOWEWOOD NEWS

You may have noticed that our school has made front page news this week – several of our pupils are pictured holding letters they wrote to The Mercury about the proposed closure of Lowewood Museum. Inside, there is an extensive article that was written following a visit by a Mercury reporter to the school last week.

You may also like to know that Lowewood Museum has been spared from closure; we are delighted that our letters may have played a part in that decision!

CARONAVIRUS CONCERNS

We would like to reassure families that the school is responding as directed to all government and local authority guidelines relating to the coronavirus pandemic.

There is ample hand soap and we have just taken a delivery of hand sanitiser to ensure the children are able to wash their hands as frequently as required. They are also being reminded to make sure they take their time washing hands thoroughly.

The school is being cleaned with disinfectant, including door handles, work surfaces and other areas in regular use, in addition to the regular daily clean.

We would urge all families to follow government advice regarding self-isolation and keep up to date with guidelines as they are issued.

DOLCE TASTER SESSION

Those of you who tasted a sample of our school dinners will know how delicious the food is that is on offer to our children at lunchtimes.

Dolce's flexible system allows families to;

- Select a school lunch from the menu online as many or as few times per week as you like.
- Pay in advance for lunches
- Order on the day
- Order in school
- Enjoy 95% locally sourced, Red tractor assured fresh produce daily

Y3/4 EASTER PRODUCTION THE TALE OF THREE TREES

Years 3 and 4 are working hard on their Easter production, which will be performed in the church on Tuesday 31st March at 2pm and 6pm. More details to follow...



APRIL

10



GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY CLUB

St Catherine's and St Paul's Church
2.00 - 4.00 pm

Bake hot-cross buns, make an Easter garden

Finish with hot-cross buns and prayers

All ages and parents welcome, under 5's must be accompanied

To book, contact the Church office on 01992 462127

admin@hoddesdonparishchurch.com

Photos by Jasmine Waheed and doc Price on Unplash



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