

Farewell to valued members of staff

Please join me in saying a fond farewell to Mrs Ghandi who is about to embark upon a new chapter in her career. Mrs Ghandi will be moving to a secondary school to carry out a teacher training course. We wish her the very best of luck in her studies. We know she will be an amazing teacher.

Miss Glackin will also be moving on to begin her career as a newly qualified teacher. Mrs Glackin has worked in all classes across the school and is well liked by all the children and staff. She will be the most experienced newly qualified teacher when she starts her new school in September! They are very lucky to have her.

Our temporary TAs will be leaving at the end of this school year. Thank you to Miss Jedrzejowska and Miss Ntano for their work at St Catherine's.

We welcome Mrs Grace, Mrs Jenkins, and Miss Orebe as our new Higher Level Teaching Assistant and Level 3 TAs. Along with Mrs Zacharias and Mrs Kaur they will be teaching classes across the school when Teachers are released for their statutory planning and preparation time, their training courses, meetings and when they work a less than full time schedule. Mrs Limerick who has been a friendly face in our Breakfast Club will start her new position as a Level 2 Teaching assistant in September.

COVID Update

Thank you for your patience and understanding this week as we navigate the implementation of the COVID guidelines. We have had a high number of staff isolating this week due to either having being told to isolate through track and trace, a member of their household having symptoms of COVID and waiting for a PCR test results, a member of their household testing positive for COVID or simply being part of the two bubbles we have had to isolate this week due 2 cases of COVID. Thank you to everyone who has kept their child at home and have taken COVID tests as a precautionary measure. As you know the symptoms in children vary and are not limited to the list of symptoms we have been aware of these last 18 months. So that we can minimise the risk of COVID spreading in school we recommend all members of the household take a PCR test even if only one member has symptoms. Your cooperation in helping to keep our school community as safe as possible is really appreciated.

Early Finish on Thursday 22nd July

As planned, we will be dismissing the children early on *Thursday 22nd July* from their usual gates as follows:

Years Reception, 1, 3 and 6 will be dismissed at 1.15pm

Years 2, 4 and 5 will be dismissed at 1.30pm

Nursery dismissal arrangements have been sent to nursery parents in a separate email. Please note that Vale Drive WILL NOT BE CLOSED for the dismissal period, so please take extra care with social distancing and ensure you stay out of the road.

If your child is in Years 5 or 6 and is normally an **independent traveler** we will require permission, in writing, via office@stcatherines.barnetmail.net in order to let your child walk home independently. Please ensure this permission has reached us by the end of the day on Wednesday 21st July.

Have you lost a scooter?

It has come to our attention that there are 8 scooters in our storage rack that have been there for the majority of this term. If you have misplaced a scooter, please email the school office with a description of it and we will ensure it is returned to you.

**Safeguarding is
our TOP
priority**

Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Catherine's is EVERYONES responsibility and is taken extremely seriously. Leaflets for parents and visitors outlining the school guidelines on safeguarding are available outside the school office. We also have a dedicated Safeguarding page on our website with a number of associated policies and details of our designated Safeguarding team. Please contact one of the team at any time if you have concerns.

Year 3 Trip

On Wednesday 14th (3F) and Thursday 15th (3W) visited the Barnet Environmental Centre to consolidate our knowledge and understanding of Plants. During the day, we were provided with a workshop where we became woodland explorers. We particularly enjoyed the 'Sultana Game', where we become plants, dispersing our seeds around the garden! During the meadow and woodland trail, we completed a pollination survey - looking for pollinators and pollination methods. We also explored seed dispersal further - looking for evidence of different dispersal methods. We all had such a wonderful day full of lots of learning and smiles! A huge thank you to the parents who volunteered, the children loved learning and having fun in your groups. Without you, it wouldn't have been possible to have such an enjoyable trip!

World Day of Grandparents' and the Elderly

In March 2021 Pope Francis declared a year of the Family, five years after he wrote 'Amoris Letitia' which is about the beauty and joy of love in the family. As it is the feast day of Jesus' grandparents (Anne and Joachim) in July, the Pope has announced the very first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly to take place on 25th July 2021.

The theme is 'I am with you always' (Mt28:20).

There are lots of ways in which you can grow in love and faith with a grandparent or elderly member of the family or community. Here are some thoughts:

- Watch a virtual tour of a museum or a show together
- Look at a photo album together. Perhaps you could start one of your own!
- Research your family history online and talk about it with each other
- Share a skill together such as knitting, painting, gardening, woodwork...
- Facetime and have fun. Be creative!

For more about this special feast, see: [The first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly](#)

Mark 6: 30-34

Sunday 18th July 2021

The apostles returned and met with Jesus, and told him all they had done and taught. There were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his disciples didn't even have time to eat. So he said to them, "Let us go off by ourselves to some place where we will be alone and you can rest for a while." So they started out in a boat by themselves for a lonely place.

Many people, however, saw them leave and knew at once who they were; so they went from all the towns and ran ahead by land and arrived at the place ahead of Jesus and his disciples. When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw this large crowd, and his heart was filled with pity for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began to teach them many things.

Prayer:

*God of all, you are always there for us.
Help us to be there for others when they
need us and to treat all people with
compassion and respect.
Amen.*

House Stars

Well done to all of our children who have earned stars this week!

Gabriel	136
Michael	178
Uriel	179
Raphael	143

The Week Ahead: W/C 12th July 2021

Monday 19 th	Tuesday 20 th	Wednesday 21 st	Thursday 22 nd	Friday 23 rd
Y4 Fieldwork Trip		Y6 Leaver's Gathering	Leaver's Assembly 1:15/30 Early Finish	INSET Day

