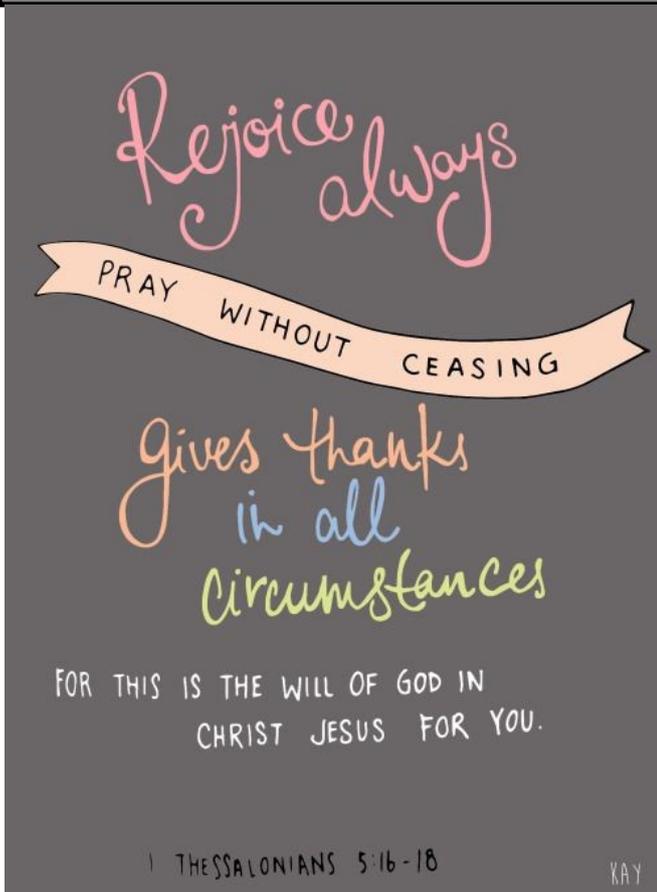


# Headteacher's Newsletter

6 September 2019

Christian Value for this half term:

Thankfulness



Dear parents/carers,

A very warm welcome to all established and new parents and carers to our school.

Our newsletter goes out at the beginning of each month as well as being posted on the school website.

The newsletters will help keep you informed of

news and school events. If you don't already do so, it is worth following us on Facebook and/or Twitter as we are busy posters and tweeters and you'll be able to see exactly what we get up to during the day.

In order to help us ensure that all our children are safe it is vital that parents do not come into the school building with their child. The exception to this rule is to reception parents who may bring in their child this week and next week only. We will have additional staff in place to ensure that this works as smoothly as possible.

The priority of school staff at the beginning and end of the school day is the children's safety. Therefore staff will not take any verbal messages or engage in discussions with parents at the door so that they can concentrate on ensuring that the children come in and get to the right place and leave with the right people.

Can parents please be reminded that any matters or concerns related to occurrences in school should be brought to school staff to deal with. We always aim to make time to listen carefully to any issues or concerns, and will respond appropriately. All our decisions are made with the best interests of the children and the school, based on many years of experience and ongoing professional training. We are very fortunate to have such a positive relationship with parents to allow us to support families and children, regardless of their needs, and it is important that we continue to work openly and honestly with each other.

Thank you for supporting the school throughout this academic year and for supporting the gospel values that the school aims to promote.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Graham  
Headteacher



## CONTACT DETAILS

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## What to do if you have concerns

At St. Catherine's we very much have an open approach – if there is anything that is worrying you or your child, or if you have any comments or suggestions on how we can make things even better please do not hesitate to come into school to talk to us. In the first instance your child's class teacher should always be your first port of call if you have any concerns about your child as they know them best. You can contact your child's class teacher via the main school office.

If for any reason you are still unhappy please see Head of Infants or Head of Juniors, Mrs English-Mather or myself.

Some useful staff names to know:

Mrs Graham – Headteacher

Mrs English-Mather – Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Lightbown – Assistant Headteacher and Head of infants

Mrs Leather – Assistant Headteacher and Head of juniors

## Come and meet us

We will be holding 'Meet the Teacher' sessions on Wednesday 11th September at 3.30—4.30pm. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, find out more about what the children will be learning this academic year, how you can support your child best at home as well as have the chance to ask questions. Meetings will take place in your child's classroom.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Uniform

The children are looking wonderful in their uniforms—walking around the school today the children looked so smart and together we look like an amazing family.

Governors have a very clear uniform policy which is available on the school website. The policy is clear regarding the following:

Only one small pair of stud earrings may be worn. These must be removed for PE (it is better that your child doesn't wear them on PE days as they need to be able to remove them themselves).

Socks must be dark grey or black (no racy colours under trousers please!)

School shoes must be black. We do not allow trainers.

Long hair must be tied back and hair accessories, eg, hair bands and bobbles should reflect the school colours or be neutral.

Nail polish is not permitted

Thank you for your continued support.

## Home Learning

We are busy preparing our 'Learning Together' booklets which outline what your children will be learning about this term and also when PE days are etc.

English and Maths are a big focus for us and we need your support in ensuring that each child builds their confidence and recall of key skills. Please support your child and us by working on reading, spelling and maths at home. We ask that your child reads every day (and certainly a minimum of 3 times per week).

Our curriculum has been redesigned for this academic year and we have a huge focus on knowledge across the subjects. 'Knowledge Organisers' will be given out at the Meet the Teacher meetings with a handy guide on how to use these at home

Don't worry if you're not able to make the meeting—any parents/carers who aren't there will also get a copy sent home.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

**“You can be strict without being nasty, maintain boundaries without cruelty and correct children without aggression”.** (Paul Dix, Pivotal Education)

The whole staff team have been trained in a new approach to creating an environment where exemplary behaviour is at the heart of productive learning. Everyone is expected to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, to accept responsibility for their behaviour and encourage others to do the same.

We will be using Restorative Practice to promote good behaviour and resolve unacceptable behaviour in a fair and consistent way.

We will recognise and reward learners who go ‘over and above’ our standards.

You can find out more by reading our ‘Behaviour Blueprint on the website. The policy will go up when it has been approved by Governors.

SATs Data

We are very proud of our children's learning and progress. Their achievements are a credit to themselves, their families and their teachers throughout the whole of their St. Catherine's journey. Well done children!

KS1 (Y2)	% at expected standard (national % in brackets)	% at Greater Depth standard (national % in brackets)
Reading	83 (76)	28 (25)
Writing	79 (70)	14 (15)
Maths	79 (77)	24 (22)

KS2 (Y6)	% at expected standard (national % in brackets)	% at Greater Depth standard (national % in brackets)
Reading	76 (73)	21 (27)
Writing	86 (79)	17 (20)
Maths	86 (79)	31 (27)

Forthcoming events

11 Sept	Music service start working with children in Y1/2/3 Meet the teacher meetings
13 Sept	Whole school careers day
20 Sept	Y6 Fire Service visit
24 Sept	Cluster football satellite
30 Sept	Y1—Freshwater Theatre company visit to school Cluster netball satellite
1 Oct	Y6 Hall I' th' Wood trip Cluster football satellite
4 Oct	Y3 Ancient Greece workshop
8 Oct	Netball match play
11 Oct	Harvest Festival in church 9.30 Led by Y3
15 Oct	Parent consultations Quick Sticks hockey
16 Oct	Parent consultations
17 Oct	School closes for half term (note this is a Thursday)

