



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities



St Catherine's C of E School

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Please read and enjoy the latest newsletter! Hope you find it helpful in keeping you up to date with what's happening in school this term.

Apologies!

Many apologies for the late finish on Friday. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused and have adjusted our end of day routine to avoid this happening again.

Values in Action

These wonderful pupils have been spotted demonstrating our school values in the last two weeks:

Reception: Hattie – generosity; Poppy - friendship.

Class 1: Louis – respectful; Joshua – compassionate trustworthy.

Class 2: Keira – responsibility; Malachi - Compassionate.

Class 3: Oliver – trusting in others; Kornelia - courage; Gerard - respect.

Class 4: Filip - Kindness; Lola - friendship.

Class 5: Amelia - courage; Denisa - kindness.

Class 6: Miley - patience and kindness.

Good Learner

These are our star learners:

Reception: Georgia - responsible; Rose - positive attitude.

Class 1: Martha -reflective; Darius - great learning attitude.

Class 2: Tabby - resilience; Bill - resilience.

Class 3: Patryk - responsibility; Skye - reflective.

Class4: Maria - reflective; Jacob C - hungry for challenge.

Class5: Oliver - responsibility; Georgia - resilient.

Class 6: Ostin - independence.

Reading Focus

We now have a small band of Reading Champions ready to support children with their reading through the school. Many thanks to those giving up their time for this vital service, and please feel free to keep volunteering if at any point you find yourself in a position to offer some help! We make no apology for continuing to promote the importance of children reading, both at home and at school, as we feel very passionately that this is such a vital skill and families have so much to offer in supporting children in this. Even older children, who you may feel are excellent readers, benefit from the opportunity to discuss language and explain their understanding of the things they read.



We are trying to encourage children to record their home reading in their reading record books, which all children have in their book bags. This could be families writing when they hear children, but can also be children recording for themselves. We would really appreciate your support in this and feel it will encourage children to value time spent reading and promote that love of reading which is at the heart of successful learning.

If you need a **book bag** for your child (they are really brilliant for encouraging children to be organised and for keeping things safe!) you can order them on "**Mapac**", where you order the school uniform.

Read Write Inc. Reading Books

To support the teaching of phonics in Read Write Inc the school has purchased phonic reading books that all children in the scheme (mainly Reception and Year 1) will bring home on a Monday after school. These books will be **IN ADDITION TO** their normal banded reading book, which means your child may have one colour book for the normal banded books and a different colour for their Read Write Inc group.

It would be very helpful therefore if all children could have their book bags in school, so that in their lesson on a Monday they can change RWI books for the next title teachers want them to read at home. It may take us a few weeks to settle into the routine, but hopefully we will all have it sorted soon and then we will see the benefit of the extra phonic practise in the children's reading and writing.

Please ask your class teacher if you have any questions.

Children in Need

As always, we will be supporting "Children in Need" at St. Catherine's, which this year is **on Friday 15th November**.

This will be a **non-uniform day** where children may either dress up in dotty/Pudsey themes or just wear their own clothes! Please could children bring their **£1 donation** on the day for us to send to this very worthwhile charity.



Harvest Celebrations

Many thanks to those who were able to attend the Harvest Festival Services, which gave us so much to think about and were so well-presented by the children. It is always very special being able to share these important festivals with all our families and the children really look forward to these occasions.

Many thanks also for your generous donations of food for the local food bank, who are always so grateful for all contributions, as are the families who benefit from access to this vital service.

Confirmed Diary Dates:

Christmas Services

Infant Performance: Monday 16th December 4.30pm at the Methodist Church (details nearer the time)

Junior Performance: Wednesday 11th December 5:00pm at St Mary's Church (details nearer the time)

School Disco



Many thanks to the Friends, who organised a great disco evening on Friday 11th October, which was a very lively, fun-filled event attended by lots of our children! They were able to raise approximately £270 towards school funds.

Hub Kitchen

We thought you would like to see our newly installed kitchen in our learning hub, which has been provided with funds raised through the Friends. We are really excited to finally have a purpose-built space in which to prepare and make food as part of our DT and wider curriculum provision. Many thanks to the friends and to all of you for helping to raise the funds for this brilliant new resource!



Enrichment

Space Lab

Last week, Years 1,5 and 6 enjoyed a visit from the Space Lab Mobile Planetarium as part of their curriculum enrichment provision. Space Lab is an inflatable dome in which the children learn about the mechanics of the solar system, in an interactive, exciting environment, the highlight of which is the projection of the night sky in all its glory, with over 2000 stars and planets! The workshops were extremely informative and I'm sure will have left a lasting impression on those who attended!



Children's Quotes: "It was so cool – just like being inside space!" "I really loved learning how the stars moved in the sky." "It was amazing! I learnt which was the hottest planet in our solar system and why." "I learnt what colours the stars are and that that there are no green stars."

Farming Roadshow

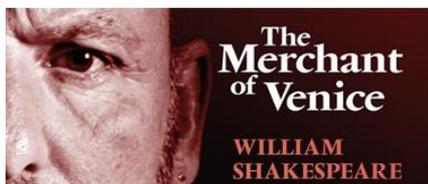
Also last week, Reception, Year 1 and Year 4 were fortunate to enjoy a visit from the Farming Travelling Roadshow, as an enhancement to their learning about farming and changes in the locality. Children were able to gain valuable insights into the production of the food they eat and some of the science surrounding animals and plants in a very hands-on, active way. Everyone really enjoyed the variety of activities available, but I think milking the goat was especially popular!



Children's quotes: "It was really good. I learnt a lot about livestock from the film." "My favourite things were feeling the sheepskin and turning the handle to roll the oats." "We were able to milk a goat!"

Shakespeare

A group of children from Year 2 to Year 6 had the great pleasure of watching a dramatized production of Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" at Launceston College last week. It was a very exciting, intimate production and all the children came back completely enthused about the chance to be part of a live performance themselves. We know from our past involvement in this project what a powerful impact this experience can have on the confidence, motivation and literacy skills of the children who take part and what a worthwhile opportunity it is.



Children's quotes: "I was impressed with the effort and energy the cast showed right to the end." "They made it so real I actually felt like I was in Venice!" "They made their own music to help tell the story."

Many thanks for all your continuing support.

Ms Pippa Warner – Head of School