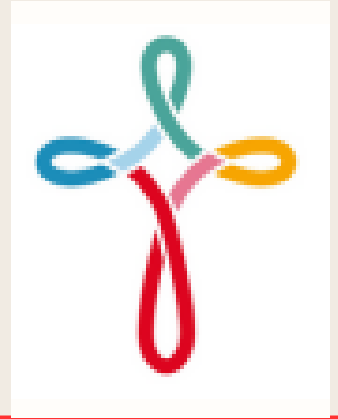


Be who God wants you to be and so set the world on fire.



St Catherine's Newsletter

Spring 1 Term 2025



A message from Mrs Partington

I can't believe it is half term already - time is rushing by!

I am so very proud of the children and everything they are achieving in school. It is a delight to see who has been awarded the Golden Jumpers on a Friday and to hear about their achievements over the week.

This half term we have focused on our Core Value of Perseverance. The children are showing us how they do persevere when learning is harder and how they are able to help themselves using resources available to them. It is wonderful to see how proud they are when they know they now understand.

We have had many exciting events in school this half term.

One of our great achievements was being accredited with the International School Award for our teaching and immersion in the Spanish culture. Mrs Taylor and Mrs Chidgey went to the Houses of Parliament to receive the award and met with our local MPs. This is the second time we have been accredited with the award which is a great testament to the fantastic provision and opportunities with our Spanish offer.

Whole School

The school was visited by disabled author Grandad Wheels, who had the whole school transfixed with his storytelling and he was equally impressed with the very imaginative wheelchair designs from the children.

We really enjoyed our Storytelling week with mystery readers and bedtime story evening and it was wonderful to see so many parents come into school to share a book with their child.

Our theme weeks for Mental Health and Internet Safety allowed the children to explore how to keep themselves safe and what to do if they felt unsafe.

Sadly, we said goodbye and bon voyage to Mrs Mallon and wished her all the very best for her new life in America. Mrs Mallon will be very much missed.

I hope that you all have a wonderful and restful half term and we'll see you on Tuesday 25th February!

Mrs Partington



Love

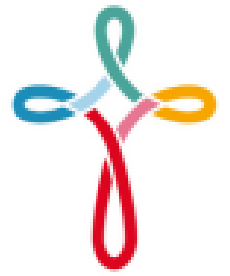
Faith

Respect

Perseverance

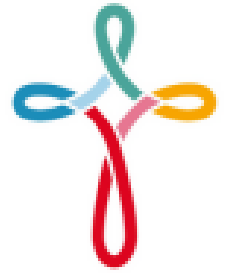
Compassion

Inspiration

[illegible]



Year 1



Our Children Say:

- "In Art, we have been doing painting, I loved using the sponges!"
- "I loved the Science lesson when we learnt about taste and tries to different foods".
- "I have loved learning about London. London day was the best! I want to go in the summer".

This Half-term:



- In English we have been improving our writing by starting to add 'and' to join words and clauses.
- Both classes have completed their first class worships of Year 1. The children worked extremely hard to plan and deliver their worships and loved performing them to their loved ones.
- For Phonics this half term, we have been focusing on alternative sounds. The children have shown great perseverance in doing this and understanding the difference between how sounds are written and pronounced.
- Science has been very exciting this half term. We have been exploring our senses and how we can use them in everyday life.



Year 2



Our Children Say:

- I loved making the fruit kebabs, they were delicious and I enjoyed tasting new fruits.
- The animal visit was SO much fun and I can't believe I held a tarantula.
- I really enjoyed learning how to solve multiplication calculations by creating arrays and it really helped me to understand this operation.

This Half-term:

- As part of our Science topic we have been learning all about habitats and the adaptations which animals make. We had a visit from Animal UK where the children got to meet the following animals; an owl, a tortoise, a tarantula, a skunk and a python. The children loved holding the animals and they learnt lots of mind-blowing facts.
- As part of our Design Technology lessons, we have been learning all about food preparation and hygiene. The children had the opportunity to put this new-found knowledge into action by creating their very own fruit kebabs. They washed, peeled, chopped, sliced and munched lots of different fruits.
- During PE this half-term we learnt many new gymnastics skills. We learnt how to do a handstand, a forward roll, a cartwheel and we also learnt lots of new travels.
- As part of our English lessons the children have enjoyed reading, 'The Dragon machine.' They have learnt about different sentence types and they even watched a video of a dragon invasion-in our SCHOOL! The children worked very hard to prepare some interview questions for all the witnesses and we definitely think we have some budding reporters.





Year 3



Our children say:



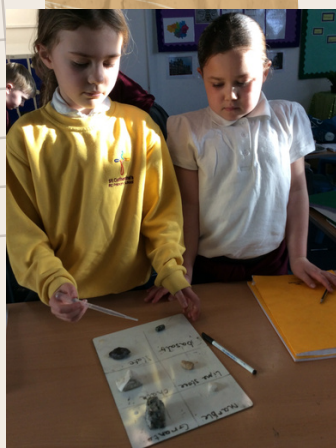
- "I loved making our dinosaur fossils!"
- "I've enjoyed the activities we did for children's mental health- especially when we wore our own clothes and also thinking of what we are thankful for!"

"I have really enjoyed the Stone Age Boy book and writing our own Stone Age story."



This Half-term:

- This half term, we have been learning the months of the year in Spanish. We have practised asking each other, "¿Cuándo es tu cumpleaños?" and answering in Spanish.
- In Science, we carried out a number of investigations to test the physical properties of rocks - we checked their absorbency, hardness and appearance. We have also looked at different fossils and types of soil.
- We had lots of activities during 'children's mental health week' where we focused on 5 ways to wellbeing: connect, be active, take notice, learn new things and express yourself.
- In English this half term, we have focused on the 'Stone Age Boy' book. We have looked at what life was like in the past and compared this to our daily lives. We have written a wonderful historical narrative from the boy's point of view.





Nursery



Our Children Say:

"We went to our church to see Father John."

"Penguins cannot fly but they swim in the water."

"I have a bookbag now. I choose a book to take home on a Wednesday!"



This Half-term



- This term in Nursery, our topic has been Polar & Prehistoric Animals! The snow at the start of the term gave us a great hook into our learning!
- We were visited by Teach Rex and met Jam the dinosaur! The children were all so brave, tickling Jam on his chin. We also met the baby dinosaurs too!
- We have been working hard to practise our names. We have seen such amazing progress with all of the children in their pencil grip and control and are working hard to form our letters correctly.
- We have also loved choosing books to bring home and share this half term! We hope you have been enjoying them too!

