



Welcome to Year 3



Please visit www.katherinesemar.co.uk

Who's Who? – The School Leadership



Mr Anthony Hull
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Julie Puxley
Headteacher



Mr Rob Aiken
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Caroline Dolby
Assistant Headteacher



Miss Georgia Slade
Assistant Headteacher

Meet the teaching team



*Miss Munro
Flame Robin*



*Mrs Hull
Grey Falcon*



Mrs Baker



Mrs Angus

Important Times of the Day

Start and end of the day

The gate opens at 8.30am and the register begins at 8.35am.

The children are dismissed at 3:15pm.

If there is any change to pick up, then please inform the school office.

Break time

Break time is 10:45am until 11:00am

Snack time

A healthy snack (fruit is encouraged) is eaten at playtime. The children may eat fruit, vegetables, cereal bars or even a small sandwich. At the end of the week, a house point will be rewarded to your child if they have had fresh fruit or vegetables everyday for their healthy snack. Please ensure all snack pots are named.

Lunchtimes

Lunch is 12:05pm until 1:05pm – Lunch menus are available on the school website to allow you to see the choices on offer. A school lunch costs £2.40, payable in advance. School meals are prepared and cooked on site, with meat locally sourced via Burtons the Butchers and other produce sourced locally where possible.

A typical day in Year 3



Katherine Semar Junior School-Year 3-Autumn 1 2024-2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.35-9.00	EMW	EMW	EMW	EMW	EMW
9.00-9.15		assembly	assembly	assembly	spelling
9.15-10.15	GF English FR Swimming	Spelling and English	Spelling and English	Spelling and English	English
10.45-11.00	Playtime	Playtime	Playtime	Playtime	Playtime
10.30-11.30	FR English FR Swimming	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
11.30-12.05		Guided reading	Guided reading	Guided reading	Celebration assembly
12.05-1.05	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play	Lunch/Play
1.05-1.15	Handwriting	Handwriting	Handwriting		Handwriting
1.15-2.15	Foundation subject	Foundation subject	Foundation subject		Foundation subject
2.15-2.45	Foundation subject	Foundation subject	Foundation subject		Foundation subject
2.45	Story	Story	Story		Story
3.15 home					

General Information

Absence

The expectation is that children will attend school for 95% to 100% of the time. This is good attendance. Below 95% attendance attracts attention from the local authority and is below national averages. If your child is unwell, please inform the junior school office as soon as possible.

Office Times

The office is open from 8:15am until 4:30pm. You may leave a message on the school answer phone on 01799 521120 before this time if you wish to report an absence. You may also email any absence to admin-jun@katherinesemar.net

Making Payments

All payments need to be made through School Money. The office do not accept cash.

Reporting to Parents

You will receive a termly report showing your child's attainment and effort.

At the end of the year, you will receive an extended summary report on the year's progress and future targets.

Parents' consultation meetings are held on the same evenings as the infant school, in the Autumn and Spring terms.

Communicating with Teachers

The easiest way to communicate with your child's class teacher is through the school planner. If essential, you can pop in to see your child's teacher at the beginning or end of the day. If you need longer discussions with a teacher, please make an appointment via the school reception.

Uniform and PE kit

The parent section of our school website has comprehensive information on the uniform and PE kit children are allowed to wear.

Gray Palmers have a website which enables you to purchase school uniform over the website, which is:

<http://www.graypalmer.co.uk/store/Katherine-Semar-Junior/>

Our logoed school uniform (but not PE kit) is now available from <https://myclothing.com/>

Our school website has more information on what non-logoed uniform and PE kit is allowed.



Swimming

In the junior school your child will swim on a Monday morning. Your child will have a swimming slot every other half term. Reminder emails will be sent out at the end of the half term before they swim to provide you with all the necessary information including timings and payment details.



Swimming Kit

*The days your child is swimming they will need to bring a **named** swimming bag including the following:*

- ♦ *A **named** swimming suit (girls)/ named swimming trunks, not loose swimming shorts (boys)*
- ♦ *Bikinis are not allowed and tankinis are only allowed in the infants.*
- ♦ *A **named** swimming hat (a Katherine Semar swimming hat can be purchased from Gray Palmers—see next page)*
- ♦ *A **named** towel*
- ♦ *Goggles (optional)*

Equipment

Your child *may* bring a pencil case containing pencils, ruler, rubbers, etc. No toppers and only practical stationery please. Pencil cases need to fit in our trays. The children may bring their belongings in in a sensible-sized rucksack.

A water bottle is an essential item, and a good quality bottle can be purchased from the office for £1.50. Just pay through School Money and it will be issued to your child. For environmental reasons, single use water bottles are not permitted.

We will provide the children with a writing pen, pencil and ruler. Could we please ask that all children bring in a glue stick.



House Points

Your child will be placed in a house when they start in Year 3. If they have older brothers or sisters currently at KSJ, they will be in the same house as them.

The four houses are: Beech, Sycamore, Horse Chestnut and Oak.

Your information sheet gives a good indication of how your child can earn House Points.

The house points have two functions:

Your child will be working towards reaching their:

- Bronze (50 House Points)
- Silver (125 House Points)
- Gold (250 House Points)
- Diamond (500 House Points)

The house points your child gains each week are added to the house total. Each term the house with the most house points is awarded the shield.

House point badges can be purchased from the office for £1.50 via School Pay and diamond badges will be provided for free.

Planners

Your child will be issued with a planner, which they will need at school each day. This will travel between home and school and should be used as:

- a communication tool between parents and teachers
- a record of their homework
- a way of recording house points
- a reading diary (recorded here by school and home)



Parents as Partners - Planners

Reading Record		
Title and author	Date started	Date finished
THE BOY WHO WOULD BE KING	16/9/20	18/9/20
HONEY BEES AND POLLY	5/9/20	5/9/20
ELIA THE BIRD SILLIEST		
FRLEY, DRESSY MOPEDS		
GARY PARENT GOT MY	2/9/20	5/9/20
REVERER, FRANCA GUTCHNE		
EDICHELLE THE SPINE STONE	6/9/20	6/9/20
FRLEY, DRESSY MOPEDS		
TENDAS WAS ELEGANTOUS	5/9/20	11/9/20
FRANCA GUTCHNE		
FRANCA THE DOO GEM	6/9/20	8/9/20
FRLEY, DRESSY MOPEDS		
FRANCA OF EGYPT	7/9/20	9/9/20
FRANCA GEM		
FRANCA THE DOO GEM	7/9/20	9/9/20
FRANCA OF EGYPT		
FRANCA GEM	10/9/20	11/9/20
FRANCA OF EGYPT		
FRANCA GEM	11/9/20	14/9/20
FRANCA OF EGYPT		
FRANCA GEM	15/9/20	15/10/20
FRANCA OF EGYPT		

Weekly Organiser		Week Beginning 1.5.23	
Spelling to practice	Behaviour	Homework and things to remember	Reading Comment
* Health 429	Yellow Card	Yarmouth	The boy who would be king p8
* W.O.W 430	Red Card	Yarmouth	p 10 we liked the description of the garden.
* Math 431	House Points	Back holiday	p 18 Great Comprehension
Spell words with the prefix bi-	math 420	Wed 11/11	p 20 we worked on the story
bi-cyclic	* Spelling 421		p 25 we liked the word 'mild' in the story
bi-lingual	* Spelling 422		p 27 Super Comprehension
bi-pod	* Spelling 423		p 37 Excellent Comprehension
bi-podders	* Grammar 424		
bi-pod	* Grammar 425		
rhyme	* English 426		
sincerely	* Computing 427		
secondary	* Read 428		
signature			
Home/School Communication			
Bella Gray			
Parent/Carer:	Signatures		
Teacher:			
			Word of the week: Dormitory = bedroom in a boarding school.

Your child's planner is their reading diary. Please continue to read with your children throughout the Junior school. At the front of the planner, they must record the books they have read and then each week there is a place to comment and sign the planner each time you hear them read. Please record the page number they have read to as well.

In the juniors children can gain a reading award every term for the frequency of their reading (5 times per week). They can also earn a bronze, silver or gold certificate for their home reading each term (see next page). Unmissable reads are high-quality texts from our library that have a gold or silver star on the spine.

Reading Awards

Autumn and Summer Reading Rewards

Bronze (6 HPs and a certificate)

- 5 reads a week for 8 weeks of **Autumn or Summer** term in planner, signed with page numbers
- 8 my new words/definitions (planner) from home reading-only Y5/6
- At least 2 unmissable books (gold or silver) -only Y5/6
- Reading record up-to-date

Silver (8 HPs and a certificate)

- 5 reads a week for 10 weeks of **Autumn or Summer** term in planner, signed with page numbers
- 10 my new words/definitions (planner) from home reading-only Y5/6
- At least 4 unmissable books (gold or silver) – only Y5/6
- Reading record up-to-date

Gold (10 HPs and a certificate)

- 5 reads a week for every week of **Autumn or Summer** term, signed with page numbers
- My new words/definitions (planner) from home reading - one every week of that term – only Y5/6
- At least 7 unmissable books (gold or silver) – only Y5/6
- Reading record up-to-date

Spring Reading Awards

Bronze (6 HPs and a certificate)

- 5 reads a week for 6 weeks of the **Spring term** in planner, signed with page numbers
- 6 my new words/definitions (planner) from home reading-only Y5/6
- At least 2 unmissable books (gold or silver) -only Y5/6
- Reading record up-to-date

Silver (8 HPs and a certificate)

- 5 reads a week for 8 weeks of the **Spring term** in planner, signed with page numbers
- 8 my new words/definitions (planner) from home reading-only Y5/6
- At least 3 unmissable books (gold or silver) – only Y5/6
- Reading record up-to-date


Gold (10 HPs and a certificate)

- 5 reads a week for every week of the **Spring term**, signed with page numbers
- My new words/definitions (planner) from home reading - one every week of that term – only Y5/6
- At least 4 unmissable books (gold or silver) – only Y5/6
- Reading record up-to-date

Homework

Your child will receive a homework menu every half term which will be stuck into their homework book. This homework menu offers three activities for each of five areas of the curriculum, which may vary each half term. Each child is expected to complete one activity from each of the five subjects. However, they may complete as many as more as they wish.

To indicate which activities your child has completed, they will need to tick it off on the menu list. Once all the work is handed in, your child's teacher will mark the work by recording how many house points awarded for each piece they have completed (on the homework menu) As always, we base the number of house points awarded on your child's effort.

Science 	Research different types of rock, list their properties and what they are commonly used for.	Create a survey to find out: how many different types of rock you can find in your local area? You could record your results in a tally chart and display in a graph.	Show clearly how a fossil is made. You may wish to do this as a stop motion animation and share it via SeeSaw.
Complete			
	HP		HP

Homework

Spellings

Your child will be given weekly spellings to be learnt at home. These will be stuck into their planners.

Your child will on average receive three 15 minute spelling sessions a week, which will support them learning their spellings and applying them into their writing. However, practising spellings at home is also essential to support your children. Children will be tested weekly (usually on a Monday) on their spellings and each half term they will complete a 'Big Spell' which covers all the spelling learnt for that half term.

Reading

Your child should read for 15-20 minutes each day, ideally five or more times a week. In Year Three this means reading to an adult and discussing the text with them too – the setting, the characters, the plot, predicting what might happen next.

This 'Book Talk' is so vital to developing readers and helps their comprehension and understanding of their reading and helps them to develop their skills of inference and deduction. We also ask that a parent signs or initials the planner and records the page number each time. If this happens five times in a week (or more!), the child receives a house point.

Multiplication System

It is vital that children are fluent with multiplication facts in order to help them solve mathematical problems accurately and confidently. We have reviewed and updated our school times tables award system to further motivate and support our children to learn these number facts with rapid mental recall.

Year Group Expectations (by the end of the year)

Year Group	Times Tables
Two	2, 5, 10
Three	1, 3, 4, 8
Four	6, 7, 9, 11, 12

The National Curriculum specifies that pupils should fluently recall the multiplication tables up to and including 12×12 by the end of year 4. Schools in England are required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to year 4 pupils.

All children have a login for TT Rockstars to help them master their times tables.

Curriculum

We seamlessly build upon the curriculum the children started in the Infant School.

quest **I** on

challe **N** ge

inve **S** tigate

ex **P** erience

commun **I** cate

c **R** eate

und **E** rstand

INSPIRE Curriculum

Autumn 1
Down Under

Autumn 2
Sticks, Stones
and Bones

Spring 1
Radical Romans

Spring 2
Radical Romans

Summer 1
Invaders of
Britian

Summer 2
Fascinating
Fossils

Sports at Katherine Semar Juniors



Tyler Gilkes



Bernae Ellis



Natasha Eagleton

At Katherine Semar, we are fortunate to have fantastic sports coaches.

In the juniors, your child will be taught by Mr Gilkes or Ms Eagleton for PE lessons as well as their class teacher. Mrs Ellis runs the Year 3 netball squad. We offer trials for squad training before school and a host of sports clubs after school.

Forest Schools

Forest Schools continues in the junior school in Years 3 and 5.

In Years 4 and 6, the children are offered the chance to go on a residential visit.



Clubs at Katherine Semar Juniors

At Katherine Semar, we understand the importance of extra-curricular activities. At the junior school we offer a wide range of lunch time and after school clubs to the children. There is a club to suit everyone!

Here are just a small selection of all of the wonderful clubs we have been offer but these are subject to change:

- Microbit coding club (Y3 and 4)
- Tag rugby club
- Football club
- Netball
- Dance club
- Gymnastics club
- Running club
- Rounders club
- Art and crafts club
- Orchestra
- Musical Theatre
- Choir
- Dance



Squads at Katherine Semar Juniors

All children have the opportunity to trial for our morning squads. These run for children who show a particular aptitude for a sport. They will receive tailored coaching and may have the opportunity to represent the school in competitive sports against other schools.

Here are the squads that we have been able to offer (different squads run in different terms) but these are subject to change.

- Football
- Dodgeball
- Indoor athletics/outdoor athletics
- Netball
- Cross country
- Hockey
- Tag Rugby
- Archery
- Gymnastics
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Rounders
- Swimming gala



Music at Katherine Semar Juniors

There is the opportunity for children to have group or individual lessons in a wide range of instruments currently including piano, baritone horn, clarinet, violin/viola, euphonium, flute, guitar, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, cornet, singing and drums. Please note there is an administration fee of £30 when your child commences music lessons. In addition, fees are charged directly by the peripatetic teacher. Some instruments can be hired from school for a small fee.

Your child will have weekly music lessons with our highly skilled and talented music teacher — Mrs Savill.

There are many events in Saffron Walden and we participate wherever possible. The 'Spirit of Christmas' carol concert is an annual event in which the choir takes part in.

KSJ is very proud of its orchestra. Children are invited to take part in the orchestra when they are ready, which is usually when they reach grade 1 standard or beyond. If any parent plays an instrument at grade 1 standard (or beyond) and would like to become part of the school orchestra, please email admin-jun@katherinesemar.net or speak to the school office.



Weekly Newsletter

We encourage all parents to read our weekly newsletter, which is emailed out every Friday and put on our website in the 'parents' section.


If you're tight for time, please do read the information in the dark blue strip on the left as it has the most important dates and information.

Katherine Semar Schools
NEWSLETTER


Roses Close, Saffron Walden, CB11 4DU | Phone: 01799 521120 | www.katherinesemar.co.uk

Dear parents & carers,
It has been an incredibly successful week in school with lots of musical and sporting triumphs. In the Uttlesford athletics finals, we came second for our Y5 and 6 children and third overall. I was so proud of the children who such a hot day (with little shade) performed brilliantly and behaved impeccably. Thanks for all the parents who came to help and support. We also had some stunning performances from our choir. We will be putting in some links next week for you to enjoy – in case you missed it.

Athletics squad



Cheer club










This week in school
We have also been incredibly proud of our Y2 cheerleading team. Ava, Bella, Elsa and Lana from Year Six have been running their own cheer club at lunchtimes and the Y2 children performed to the rest of the school. They showed their core values of confidence and resilience. The routine was stunning and we are very grateful to the Y2 children and Y6 cheer captains who have worked so hard to choreograph and practice the dance. We have a link to the performance here https://youtu.be/iBTwD_yMq5M Please do not share on social media as we do not have permission to share from some children.

Sports Day
Sports Day will take place on Friday 5th July. The Juniors event takes place from 9.30am until 12.00 and the infants will start just after 1pm. Families are welcome to come to watch. (Please can we remind parents that school is a smoke and vape free site). Parents/carers are invited to join their child for a picnic on the school field between 12.00-1.00. Alternatively, parents are invited to book a school lunch (£5.00) and come and join their child in the lunch hall. For any children whose parents are not able to attend a school lunch will be offered as normal.

If you would like to share a picnic lunch with your child you will need to collect your infant child at 11.55am at their classroom door. We really hope and expect that the weather will be glorious. However, should we have to postpone the event on the day, we would ask that your child still brings their picnic as a packed lunch as it will be too late for the kitchen to prepare a cooled meal at the last minute. We advise your child brings their picnic lunch into school with them in the morning and you bring your picnic lunch to sports day. Sadly, last year the event got cancelled halfway through the morning and it was an impossible job trying to deliver packed lunches from parents to children at the last minute!

Please complete the form <https://forms.office.com/e/i3nii1MwYkIt> by the end of the day on MONDAY 1st JULY so we know what your child will be doing for lunch. This must be completed for every child in the school and can also be used to order a parent lunch in the school hall.

Thursday 18th July – Meet the teacher!
On Thursday 18th July children will spend the afternoon in their classes for next year with their new teachers. At 2.45pm parents are invited to come into school to meet their child's new teacher for next year and they will talk you through key points for the next academic year. If you have more than one child, we recommend that you attend the meeting of your eldest child. We will send a Parentmail out on the morning of Thursday 18th July informing you of your child's class for next year and where to come when you come to meet the teacher.






Parents as Partners



As a school we actively promote the partnership between home and school. We believe we can best support children's learning, progress and development through working in partnership and sharing opinions, experiences and information.



At Katherine Semar Junior School, we aim to provide a positive learning experience for every individual, and we take pride in the fact that our pupils are nurtured in a safe, enjoyable, respectful learning environment because everyone in our school matters.

Preparing your child for the future

Please visit www.katherinesemar.co.uk