



Dear Parents/Carers

### **This week in School:**

This week I accompanied the Year 4 children on a 2-night residential Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire. The children had an amazing time participating in activities such as Giant Swing, Trapeze, Abseiling, Rock climbing and a sensory trail. We were so proud of the children who joined in all activities with such enthusiasm. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they were a credit to our school. I would also like to thank Mr Weller, Mrs Whiter, Mrs Eagleton, Mrs Etherington & Mr Gardiner who accompanied the children.

After training tirelessly throughout the winter and earning their place in the finals during the initial November tournament, the Archery squad stepped onto the line at the Archery Finals on Thursday 23rd April with confidence and determination. All four teams qualified, joining around 200 children from across Uttlesford in a fiercely competitive field. The standard was incredibly high, yet our Archers stayed focused, kept their composure, and continued to hit those bullseyes. One of our Year 5/6 teams was unstoppable, securing an impressive 2nd place overall and taking home silver medals. We also celebrated individual success in the Bullseye competition, with several Archers earning well-deserved medals. Their commitment—giving up countless lunchtimes to refine their accuracy—truly paid off. We are extremely proud of all 12 Archers.



## Menu (w/c 4 May)

Week 1

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Bank Holiday – school closed

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Red Squirrels visit Stansted Aerodrome

Turtle Class Forest School

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Year 2 Swim

### **Quiz Night – rescheduled date! – Tickets still available**

Mr Aiken will be running his very popular quiz night on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. This will be an evening event for parents/carers. Tickets can be booked now from the shop section of SchoolMoney. Tickets cost £7.50 per person, there will be a bar selling drinks however you are welcome to bring along nibbles (no nuts please). Maximum of 8 people per team, please email the office ([admin-inf@katherinesemar.net](mailto:admin-inf@katherinesemar.net)) at least 7 days before the event letting us know your team's name and team members. We have some people coming alone, or in smaller groups so please let the office know if you would like to be placed into a team! If you already brought tickets (prior to the Easter holidays) then these are still valid for the new date – please let the office know if you can no longer attend and need a refund.

### **RHSE Policy – following consultation on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our recent parent consultation regarding the updates to our Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum, following the latest guidance from the Department for Education. We use Jigsaw as our RSHE scheme, and the consultation provided an opportunity to share how this is delivered in school and to listen to your questions and feedback.

For any parents who would like to explore the changes in more detail, information handouts and our updated RSHE policy are attached to this newsletter and available on the school website. We appreciate your time, engagement, and continued support in working together to support our children's learning and wellbeing.

**This term all year groups will be covering the topic of "Changing Me" in RSE.**

### **Headlice**

Head lice are common in children and we have had some cases reported this week—please check regularly and see NHS guidance for treatment advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/> [\[nhs.uk\]](https://www.nhs.uk)

**Just a reminder squads begin at 8.15am. (8.10am for netball). Please be punctual. We cannot admit children after 8.20am. You will need to stay with your child until school starts if you arrive late.**



## Summer Fayre

Please see the attached document relating to our Summer Fayre and our non-uniform day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. On this day the children are invited to come into school in non-uniform in return for donating items towards our summer fayre. The attached document details everything – you can also sign up to help at the event here – [Katherine Semar School Summer Fayre Friday 5th June 2026 – Fill out form](#)

## Summer Term Scootathon

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a Sponsored Ride this summer for families to attend and to raise money for the school. Please find attached the event poster.

This will take place on Sunday, the 5th of July, on a course set up around the school grounds.

### Call for support:

One of our parents, Peter Scott, is the lead organiser and has asked for volunteers to help run the event on the day.

To make this happen and ensure this is run safely, Peter needs support from parents.

If you can spare an hour or two to help marshal the course or run the stands, any time you can give would be much appreciated.

Please contact Peter via text or WhatsApp on 07525987111. He will then get in touch to arrange times and roles with you. Thank you in advance.

## Young carers

We are considering setting up a young carers' group. This will support children who care for a parent or a sibling. It might be you feel they do not have caring responsibilities but do have a sibling whose special educational needs or disability affects their lives and you feel they would benefit from some additional support.

This group would not start until September and only if we identify a need for this provision.

If you would be interested in accessing support for your child(ren) please email the office with your child(ren's) name(s) and why you are nominating them for support.

## Smartphone free childhood

You have hopefully noticed a new banner on our school gates showing that we proudly support Smartphone-Free Childhood. Thank you to the Saffron Walden Roundtable for their generous funding for all schools in Saffron Walden to have these banners.

As a reminder, Katherine Semar, along with all primary schools in Saffron Walden, have committed to going smartphone-free from 2028. You can see a copy of our commitment letter here -

Our commitment is ahead of the curve, given the momentum building for this campaign as the government discusses banning smartphones in schools and raising the minimum age for social media users.

Please visit the Smartphone-Free Childhood website at <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org> for more information, to join their newsletter, or to find local/regional SFC WhatsApp group.

## GOVERNOR VISIT



### Joanne Foote – Parent Governor

In my role as a parent governor, I monitor behaviour and attitudes at Katherine Semar. On my recent visit I saw many examples of how the school's positive culture and values result in children being supported and enabled to thrive and be happy at school.

I observed lunchtime and playtime and saw children enjoying their food and play. There was a great range of activities to do at lunchtime, some being led by older children for younger ones.



## PE/CLUBS/SQUADS INFO

Please find below the timetable for PE for the first half of the summer term

Summer Term – First Half	PE	Swimming	Forest School
EARLY YEARS	Tuesday & Friday	n/a	Dolphins - 14/21/28 April Turtles – 5/12/19 May
YEAR 1	Tuesday & Wednesday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 2	Friday	Wednesday	n/a
YEAR 3	Monday & Thursday	n/a	n/a
YEAR 4	Tuesday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 5	Thursday	Monday	n/a
YEAR 6	Wednesday & Friday	n/a	n/a

- Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.
- Year 1 children should also wear their PE kit to school with their swimming costume on underneath on swimming days.
- Year 4/5 children should wear their school uniform on Swimming days and bring their swimwear to change into at the pool.

### Squads and Wet weather

Just a reminder that if it is raining on a morning the following clubs/squads will be cancelled (as we do not have an indoor space available). We will not send an email out about this as it will be too early – but if it is raining please assume the clubs below will be cancelled.

**Monday** – Rounders Y3/4

**Tuesday** – Netball Squad

**Wednesday** – Netball Squad

**Thursday** – Tennis Y3/4

**Friday** – Netball & Tennis Y5/6

## FUNDRAISING

### Amazon Wish-list

Lots of families have indicated that they do not have time to support our school by helping out at fundraising events but would be happy to purchase items needed by the school. We have therefore created an amazon “wish list” of additional items we would love for the children. The list can be accessed here, <https://amzn.eu/2G57jB4>. If you choose to buy an item – you do so via your own account but it is shipped directly to school. Thank you in advance! We are also very short on Glue Sticks!!! We would welcome any donations of Prittsticks!

### Pre Loved Uniform

Should you ever need contact any preloved uniform please contact [preloved@katherinesemar.net](mailto:preloved@katherinesemar.net). Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you all a lovely long weekend

Kind regards

Julie Puxley

Executive Headteacher

