



ISSUE NO.12 , FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2023

EAST HARTREE NEWSLETTER



CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR STARS OF THE WEEK AND HEAD TEACHER AWARDS

What a week to finish off the term before Christmas! Key Stage 2 performed Carols at St Laurence. It was brilliant to see the church full of local families, listen to the children sing and read and we loved the Y5 jive! A huge thanks to the PTA who organised mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies making £110 in donations! The whole school enjoyed a trip to Bristol Hippodrome to see Peter Pan. The children were perfect ambassadors for East Harptree School and thank you again to the PTA for helping to make this possible. Christmas jumpers were worn on Christmas Jumper Day and lots of fun was had pulling Christmas crackers over Christmas dinner and Hedgehog parents came into class for a Christmas Craft afternoon. We're looking forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 2nd January. In the meantime, all the staff at East Harptree School would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy 2024!



Christmas Panto and celebrations



On **Christmas Eve** 'come to the crib' from 6-8 pm for families to **drop in** and see the beautiful crib, the Christmas tree and other decorations, with carols playing in the background and mulled wine, mince pies and squash being served. It's designed for families to drop in and look round. This is not a service, a friendly drop in. It is number 24 on the East Harptree Advent trail.

If you're looking for a local Christmas Carol Service, you are warmly invited to a carols and Readings at 6.30pm on Sunday 17th December at St Laurence.

At 10pm on Christmas Eve, there will be a Christmas Communion Service and on Christmas Day there's a short service designed for families at 10.30am at St Mary's, West Harptree at 10.30am.



Hello! I am Katrina and I am soon to be your new Rector!

I am married to Phil and we have two grown up children - Iain and Jonah who is married to Becca. We are expecting our first grandchild who will probably (hopefully) have been safely delivered before we arrive in Blagdon in January. We also have two beautiful border collies - Shadow and Talisker.

We currently live in Suffolk where I am rector of nine rural churches. We are looking forward to returning to an area we know from when we were at Trinity College, Bristol, back in the 1980s! The county is also familiar to us as Phil grew up in Taunton and we have been back to visit friends and family many times over the years.

I have spent most of my adult life, working with young people and children in a variety of contexts as a youth worker and a school chaplain, so I am keen to get to know the schools in the benefice and supporting the staff and getting to know the children and families. We enjoy long country walks, pub lunches and the occasional dram of malt whisky. Favourite holiday spots are The Highlands & Islands of Scotland, Exmoor and occasionally Vancouver to visit my brother. We also love playing board games and our family film nights which we started in Covid lock down. Since then we have watched over 200 films ranging from the 1930s to the present day and take our review nights very seriously! We are very much looking forward to moving to Somerset and meeting you all in person.

See you soon!
Rev'd Katrina Dykes

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTA

What a lovely term we have had raising funds and spending them!

Lots of fun was had at the Great Gatsby evening and disco, our wreath making workshop raised more money than ever before and of course our community Christmas Market was very well supported by those in the village.

Just over £100 was raised at the key stage 1 nativity and another £100 was raised at the key stage 2 magical Christmas carol concert on Tuesday.

Today, Friday 15th December, is our last East Harptree Pta fundraiser event of 2023 and it's one purely for the kids - with our key stage 1 and key stage 2 discos.

Keep your eyes peeled next term for the PTA news bulletin, sharing all our up-and-coming fundraising events for 2024.

If you have any events you would like to run, then please get in touch with the PTA, as we are a very small group who would love more support!

Hope to see you at the discos and, if not, have a lovely Christmas!

ESSENTIAL DATES

Sunday 17th December - Carol and Readings service, 6.30 pm at St Laurence
Sunday 24th December - 'Come to the Crib' drop in 6-8.00 pm at St Laurence
Sunday 24th December - Christmas Communion Service 10.00 pm at St Laurence
Monday 25th December - Family Service 10.30 am at St Mary's Church, West Harptree

Tuesday 2nd January - First day of Term

Monday 29th January - Messy Church

Friday 9th February - Last day of term

Monday 19th February - INSET Day

Tuesday 20th February - First day of term

Monday 4th March - Messy Church

Thursday 7th March - Year 5 and 6 Football Event

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day

Wednesday 27th March - KS1 Longleat trip

Thursday 28th March - Last day of term