



Friday 1st March 2024

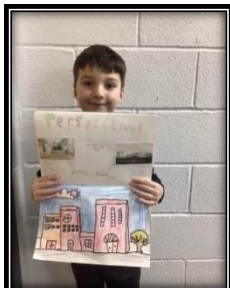
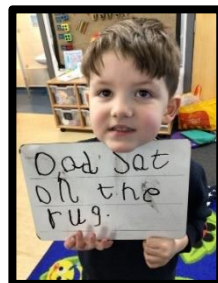
Dear Parents/ Carers,

It was an absolute pleasure to share our [OFSTED report](#) with you this week. Although we are only at the start of our exciting journey, it was fantastic that the inspectors recognised the progress that has already been made. They could clearly see the important role that all stakeholders play in creating such a magical school community. Before leaving St Katherine's, each inspector commented that they would take something away with them from the inspection, which they would implement in their own schools. This is high praise indeed!

As I have said before, it is a real privilege to be the headteacher at St Katherine's and work with such a committed team and inspirational children. Thank you to all the parents that congratulated staff at the gates this week or sent positive emails into the school office. You brought smiles to everyone's faces.

Achievement Assembly

Congratulations to all the children that attended our Achievement Assembly last week. During the celebration, the children discussed why they had been nominated and shared some of their wonderful learning outcomes. Both members of the Senior Leadership Team and parents were suitably wowed! Below are some of the pictures from the presentation and the names of all the children who were involved.



Achievement Assembly Awards: Annabelle (Nursery), Zak (Reception), Jesse (Gala), Leonie (Pippin), Autumn (Pear), Oscar (Peach), Rafael (Cherry), Destiny (Quince), Hudson (Almond), Lillie-Jane (Hazel), Samuel (Walnut), George (Pine), Louis (Spruce), Belle (Cedar), Akshara (Teak), Dylan (Mahogany), Thomas (Oak), Zoe (Ash).

Community Work

Our Community Ambassadors were delighted to unveil our new art display this week, which sits pride of place in the local Co-op. As a school, we are committed to giving back to our local community, so please keep an eye out for the wonderful Year 5 'mythical creature display' the next time you pop into the store.

Pupil Voice: *"Our display helps to spread creativity around Snodland and it might inspire people to do their own art."* (Isabelle – Year 6)



Curriculum News

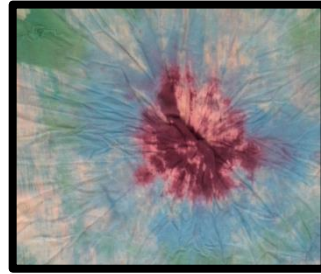
Nursery – Continuous Provision

Outdoor learning is a vital part of Acorn Class's daily routine. Come rain or shine, you will always find our nursery children thriving in the fresh air. Not only does this provide opportunities for our children to develop key skills across the early years curriculum; they also embed our school values through working together to think creatively and bringing their ideas to life. If our nursery children come home a little messy/muddy, this is a sign that they have had a very successful day at St Katherine's!



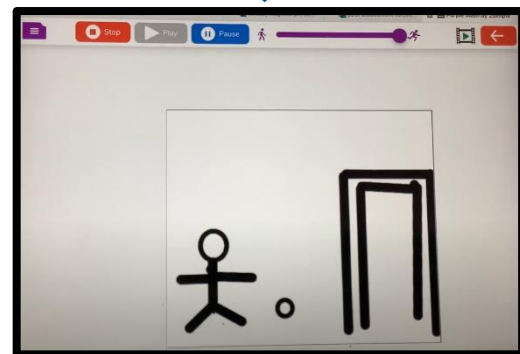
Year 3 - Art

For part of their current art topic, Year 3 have been tie-dyeing pieces of cloth. Moving forward, they will be using their tie-dyed cloth as part of a decorative piece of weaving. We are all excited to watch the children's designs come to life through their final outcomes.



Year 4 - Computing

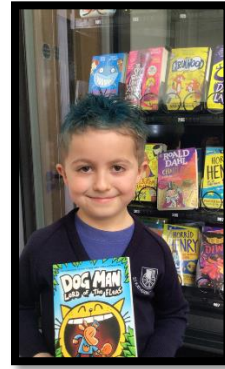
In their first computing lesson this term, children in Year 3 created a small animation for a character scoring a goal. They will begin to develop their skills further by learning about the importance of the 'onion skin tool', through creating a background, adding appropriate sound effects and thinking about the placement of their animations. Keep a look out on Facebook over the next few weeks for the children's pirate and disco animations! Please click on the animation below to see it in action.



Reading Vending Machine Winners

Congratulations to Freya (EYFS), Maisie (Year 1), Theo (Year 4) and Scarlet (Year 5), who were drawn from the St Katherine's hat today, to become the latest reading vending machine winners. They were each awarded a raffle ticket by their teacher, for either consistently reading at home, making good progress at school or helping others to read. The next vending machine book raffle will take place on Friday 15th March. Good luck and keep reading!





ST Katherine's Book Week

As we look forward to an action-packed book week, I thought it would be helpful to remind parents/ carers of some of the key events and deadlines.

Date	Event
Monday 4th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children to bring in their favourite book to share with their class. Children to bring in their vegetable characters for Mylo's Marvellous Character Competition. Masked Reader video link sent out to parents and recording form sent home.
Wednesday 6th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for children to bring in their vegetable characters for Mylo's Marvellous Character Competition.
Friday 8th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children to wear their bedtime clothing/ WBD costume into school. Community Read – parents/ carers to visit their children's classroom from 2.45pm – 3.15pm. <i>Parents/ carers are more than welcome to visit multiple classes if they have more than one child in the school.</i> Deadline for children's Masked Reader forms to be returned to their class.



Our Reading Ambassadors will launch St Katherine's Book Week by sharing extracts from their favourite books in our infant and junior assemblies. We look forward to a wonderful week of reading enrichment!



Crazy Hair Day

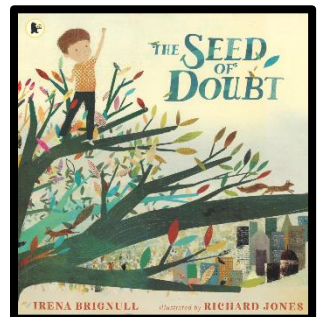
Thank you to the PTA for organising 'Crazy Hair Day' this week. It was a great excuse for our children and staff to get creative, and we were immersed in wacky hair styles, wonderful weaves and some very colourful barnets! It certainly championed diversity and showcased how everyone expresses themselves differently – as we all should!



Pupil Voice: *"Crazy Hair Day showed that everyone can have fun and be themselves. Being different is positive and special."* (Evie-Grace – Year 5)

Assembly

My recent assembly focused on our core values of **resilience** and **excellence** and was based on the book 'The Seed of Doubt'. We discussed the importance of being aspirational, having high expectations and overcoming barriers to achieve your dreams. I was very impressed with the children's understanding of why people may develop 'a seed of doubt', and the advice they would give to someone to overcome this.



Please click on the following link access the assembly presentation:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mvQomGIQxgnXWYB4QNozhuFTel0hOM0D/view?usp=sharing>

Road Safety

Please note that we have had another complaint from a member of the local community regarding parking. This concern relates to inconsiderate and dangerous parking on the bend at St Katherine's Lane, towards the Malling Road. Parking vehicles on this bend (on the hill) restricts the vision of motorists, making it difficult to see what is coming in either direction. This results in

vans, lorries and cars having to mount the pavement, which clearly poses a serious risk to pedestrians. As a result, it may only be a matter of time before a serious accident takes place.

As a school community, we have a responsibility to park sensibly and considerately outside the school. **Please can parents/ carers avoid dangerous and irresponsible parking at all times.** I am deeply concerned that if parents/ carers continue to park in a dangerous fashion, this could seriously jeopardise the wellbeing of our children and families. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.



Parents E-Safety Tip

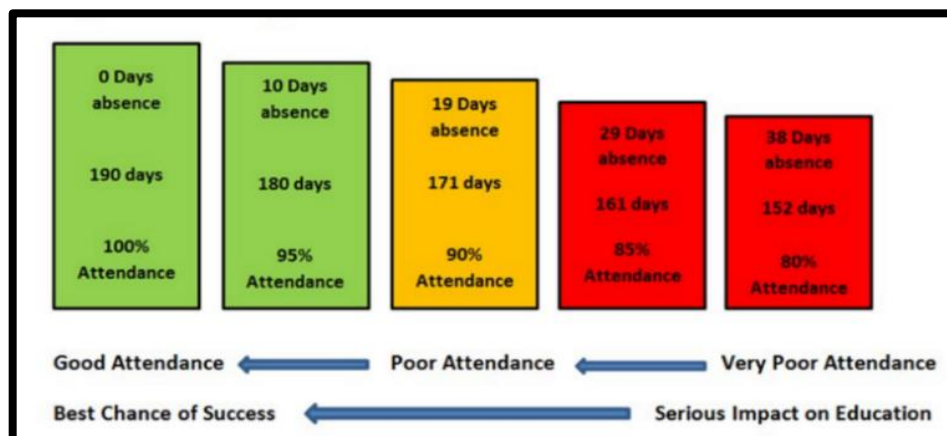
Snapchat is an instant messaging app, which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. Please note that **the age restriction for this app is 13+**.

One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' twenty-four hours after they have been viewed. However, this content isn't as temporary as many people believe – with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. Please click on the hyperlink below for some key advice for parents and carers regarding this Snapchat.



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sbbomEs8gcfU3Q38Bc8GXnKJztjPlARA/view?usp=sharing>

Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 98.3%		
R	Bramley 91.8%	Gala 97.1%	Pippin 98.3%
1	Peach 98.5%	Pear 89.6%	
2	Cherry 92.2%	Quince 93.5%	
3	Almond 96.3%	Hazel 95.5%	Walnut 91.8%
4	Spruce 91.8%	Pine 91.3%	
5	Cedar 96.2%	Teak 96%	Mahogany 93.6%
6	Ash 94.3%	Oak 88.2%	



School Target: 95%

Key Dates



EVENT	DATE
St Katherine's Book Week	Monday 4 th – Friday 8 th March
School Group Photos (Van Cols)	Tuesday 5 th March
Special Gift Room	Wednesday 6 th March
St Katherine's Science Day	Wednesday 13 th March
Comic Relief Day (Red Clothes Day)	Friday 15 th March
KS2 Virtual Reality History Experience	Wednesday 20 th & Thursday 21 st March
PTA Movie Night	Friday 22 nd March
Aspiration Day	Monday 25 th March
CRIBS Easter Performance	Thursday 28 th March
Last day of term	Thursday 28 th March

Have a great weekend.

Mr. Lang
Headteacher