



Monday 10th March 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Last week, St Katherine's was home to all things fictional, as we celebrated the wonderful world of books!

World Book Day 2025 was a lively and unforgettable event, packed with exciting activities that brought stories to life. The children eagerly took part in live lessons with authors, who have written this year's World Book Day books. The whole school participated in guided reading lessons centered around 'The Last Zoo Keeper', by Aaron Becker, looking closely into its themes and characters.

The whole school embraced the spirit of reading with a community read, where children, teachers, and many parents shared their favourite books. Adding to the fun, children and staff dressed up as their favourite characters, filling the hall with a burst of colour and creativity for our World Book Day Assembly, led by the Year 6 Reading Ambassadors.

Mylo's Terrific Top Hat Competition stole the spotlight, showcasing hats inspired by beloved books and crafted with impressive detail. The winners of this competition will be announced shortly.

A big thank you to everyone who entered our Book Emoji Quiz! Your participation has helped us raise funds for the library – we very much appreciate this. By the end of the day, the school was buzzing with excitement for reading, proving that World Book Day was a roaring success.



Reading Buddies



Community Read



**Reading Ambassador
Assembly**



Top Hat Competition



Mayoral Debate

Our School Ambassadors had a wonderful time at the Mayor's chambers last week, discussing and debating a number of hot topics, with children from a range of schools across the borough.

I was extremely proud of the way that they conducted themselves throughout the debates, and how they articulated their points and opinions with such confidence. Well done!



Learning Together – Parent Phonics Workshops

Year 1 opened their classrooms to parents last week for their 'Learning Together Phonics Workshops'. The sessions gave parents the opportunity to learn more about how phonics is taught at St Katherine's and provided them with a better understanding of the strategies they can use at home, to support their children's phonics and reading development. Thank you to everyone that attended the sessions and for providing such positive feedback.



Parent Voice:

Loved the idea of joining in a phonics lesson as it gave a real insight.

Would like to know about how it is taught in year 2 so can help with learning there too.
Would also find it helpful to see other strategies used or is it just the 'post it' note way

Personal Development

Years 3 and 4 recently took part in engaging anti-racism workshops, which were a big hit with the children. They particularly enjoyed the drama activities, which allowed them to explore important themes of equality and respect through role-play and discussion. These activities helped deepen their understanding of diversity and the importance of standing up against racism in a creative and meaningful way. The workshop was a fantastic opportunity for the children to learn and reflect together.

Thank you to the PTA, who subsidised part of the cost of the workshops and for their ongoing commitment to raising funds, which help to provide enriching experiences for our children.



Pupil Voice: "I really enjoyed the drama activities. It made me think about how we are all different and the world is a better place because of this." (Katie – Year 4)

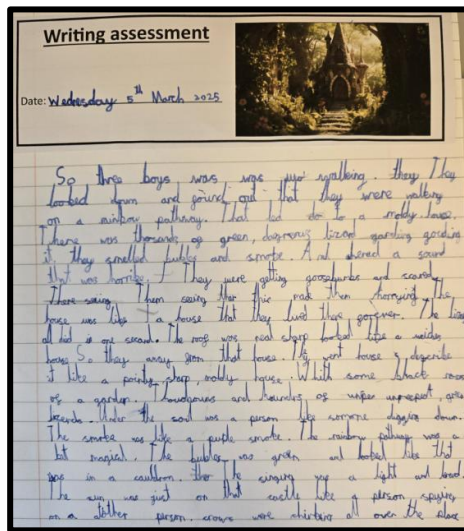
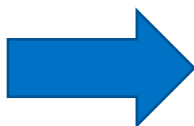
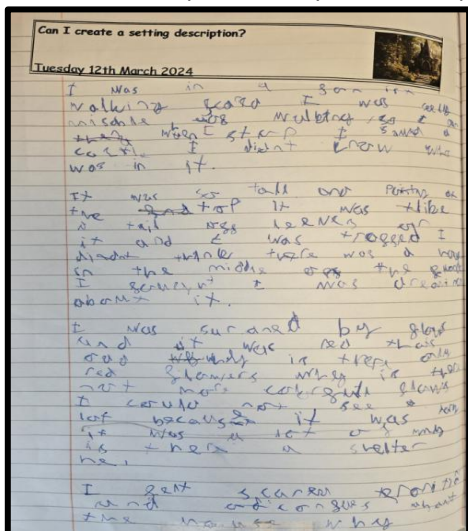


Curriculum Update

Writing

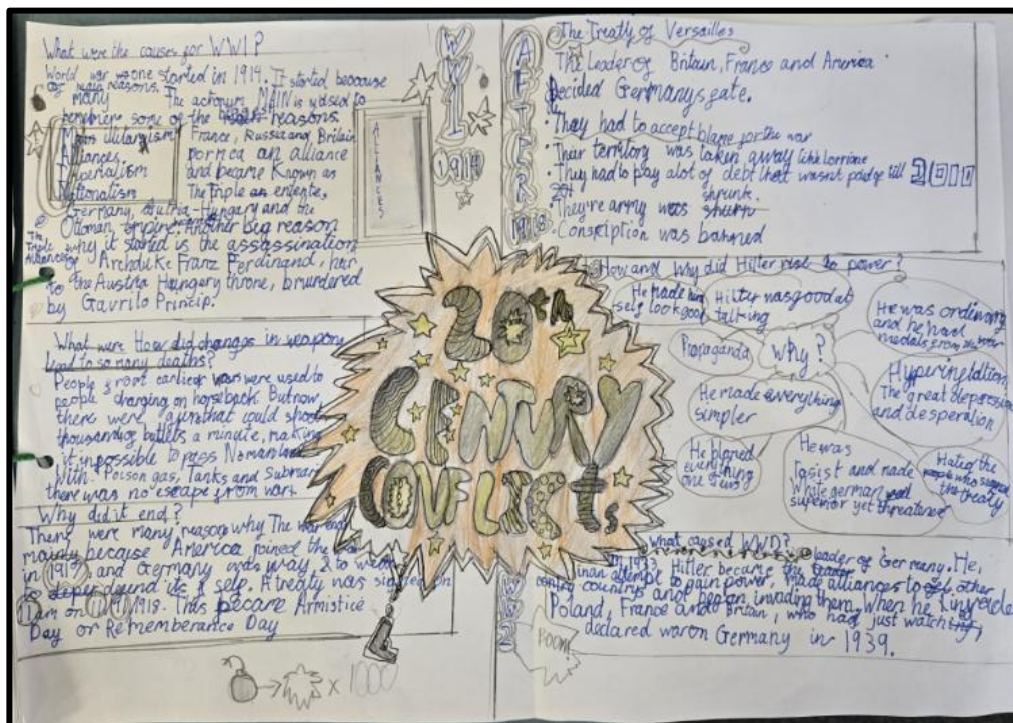
What a difference a year makes! At St Katherine's, we carefully monitor children's progress and celebrate their successes. One of the ways that we track progress, and identify next steps, is through 'cold writing tasks'. These activities involve children writing an independent piece of writing around a given focus.

The three schools within the Coppice Primary Trust come together each term to share samples of children's writing, moderate teacher assessments and discuss best practices. This allows us to support writing development across the whole trust. Below is an example of a Year 4 child's writing outcome from the previous year, compared to this term.



History Assessment

To assess children's learning at the end of their history topic, we provide them with an opportunity to respond to a number of key questions, in order to showcase the knowledge and understanding they have developed throughout their learning journey. Below is an example of an outcome from Year 6.



Parent E-Safety Information

This week's E-Safety information focuses on WhatsApp, the most popular messaging platform among children in the UK. Please click on the [link](#) to read key information to help parents stay up-to-date on the safety concerns around this popular app, and know how to protect their children who use the platform.



Community News

A big thank you to the PTA for hosting a fantastic bingo night on Friday. It was wonderful to see the community come together, have fun and raise money to support school development.



Sports Update

A small number of girls in year 5 & 6 represented St Katherine's at a local football tournament and won their group of matches. It was lovely to see them return to school in such high spirits and we are all incredibly proud of their achievements.



Our Year 6 boys team were involved in a cracking game of football against Kings Hill this week, which ended 4 – 4! The team started brightly and raced into a 3-1 lead, only to be pinned back during the later stages of the game. Well done to everyone that took part – it was certainly an entertaining spectacle.

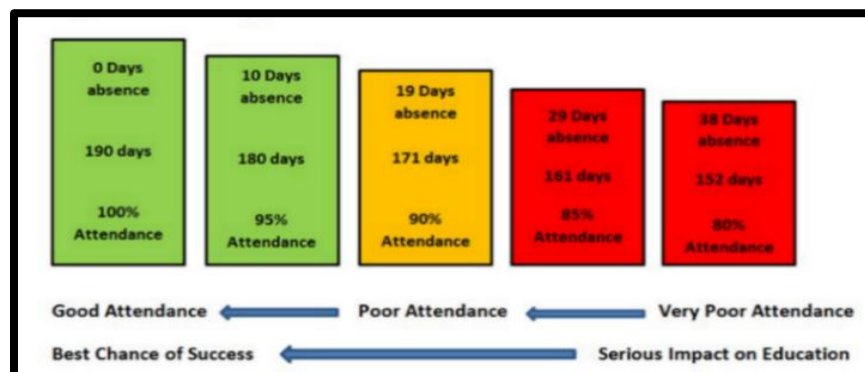


Haircuts

I have noticed that a small number of children continue to have **tram lines** cut into their hair. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, **this does not adhere to our uniform policy**, which you can access via the following [link](#).

Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99.3%		
R	Bramley 91.2%	Gala 96%	
1	Peach 94.8%	Pear 98.1%	Plum 98.7%
2	Cherry 96.7%	Quince 90%	
3	Hazel 92.4%	Walnut 95%	
4	Spruce 93%	Pine 89.6%	Fir 96.4%
5	Cedar 94%	Teak 92.5%	
6	Ash 98.5%	Oak 95.6%	Elm 96.9%



School Target: 95%

Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Start of term 4	Monday 24th February
British Science Week	W/B Monday 10 th March
Comic Relief	Friday 21 st March
Scholastic Book Fair	Monday 24 th – Thursday 27 th March
Parent Consultation Meetings	Wednesday 26 th and Thursday 27 th March
PTA Gift Room	Thursday 27 th March
Fire Safety Talks	Friday 28 th March
Aspiration Day	Monday 31 st March
CRIBS Easter performance	Tuesday 1 st April
End of term 4	Friday 4th April

Regards

Mr Lang
Headteacher