



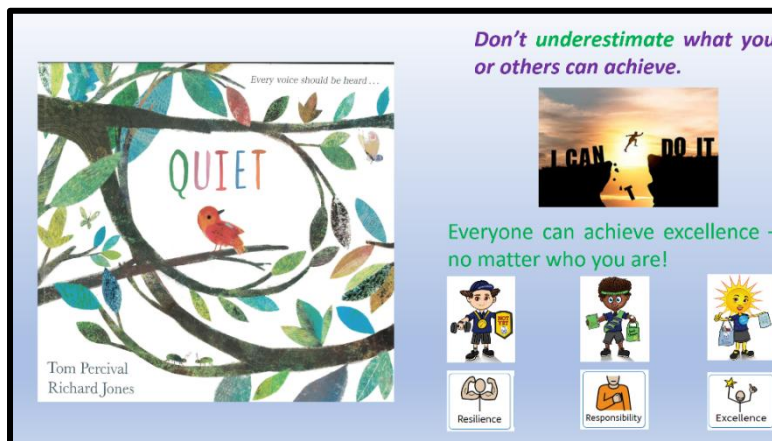
Friday 2nd May 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It was lovely to welcome back the children last week after the Easter holidays. During the first week, I visited every class and was extremely impressed with the way the children settled quickly into their calm and focused learning environments.

During my assembly, I spoke to the children about the countdown to the end of the school year and linked this to the aspirations and goals we discussed at the beginning of the year. I also shared the wonderful book 'Quiet' to demonstrate that you should never underestimate what you can achieve - even those with the quietest voices can make a difference!

Please click on the [link](#) to access the assembly.



Curriculum Update

Native American Day

Year 2 had an incredible time last week as they launched their new history topic all about Native American culture and the story of *Pocahontas*. To kick-start their learning journey, the children came to school dressed as Native Americans - and what a sight it was! The colourful costumes, feathered headbands, and creative accessories brought the school to life and set the tone for an exciting term ahead.

As part of the day, the children made their own Native American-style jewellery and designed their own tipi, using traditional Native American patterns, which helped them gain a hands-on understanding of various aspects of Native American life. Well done, Year 2 - what a stunning start to your learning!



Nursery

To celebrate Earth Day on 22nd April, Acorn Class took part in a litter pick around the school. As they collected rubbish, they discussed the impact of pollution and linked their actions to our school value of responsibility. Throughout the activity, the children also demonstrated a range of skills, including hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness, and perseverance.

It's reassuring to know that the future is in such safe and responsible hands!



Pupil Voice: "Rubbish goes in the bin and plastic goes in the recycling." (Alfie – Nursery).

Learning Environment

At St Katherine's, we believe that immersing children in an enriching learning environment inspires them and sets the standard for high-quality teaching and learning. You may have noticed that we have started adding outdoor display boards near the main reception to showcase children's achievements across the curriculum. We will continue to add new outdoor displays throughout the school, so please keep your eyes peeled for more fantastic examples of our children's work!



Sports Update



St Katherine's Achieves Gold Again!

We are delighted to share that St Katherine's has once again achieved gold in the Inter-School PASS Personal Challenge!

At the start of term 4, all children were challenged to see how many times they could throw and catch a tennis ball by themselves - the same challenge was set across other schools in the area. Throughout the term, our classes practised their skills before repeating the challenge at the end, aiming to beat their personal bests.

St Katherine's recorded the greatest overall improvement compared to the other schools, securing first place! We also had several individual winners across the school. A huge well done to everyone for their hard work, perseverance, and determination!

This term's challenge is Rebound (a bat-and-ball challenge), and we are determined to continue our winning streak!

Brave Netballers Bow Out

Our talented netball team's impressive winning streak came to an end last week, as they were defeated by Southborough in the semi-finals of the cup. Throughout the match, they showed incredible resilience and sportsmanship, demonstrating a never-give-up attitude. We are extremely proud of them for giving their all and representing St Katherine's so brilliantly.



Charity Work

Many parents and carers will have heard the sad news that Finley, a pupil in Year 5, was recently diagnosed with leukaemia and has been receiving ongoing treatment away from school.

In his absence, the children in Year 5 have been thinking of ways to support Finley and raise awareness of leukaemia. Max, one of Finley's closest friends, has decided to take a very brave step - he will be shaving his head on the last day of term! Max is inviting the St Katherine's community to help him raise funds for the charity 'Finley's Touch', which has provided personal support to Finley's family during this challenging time and continues to help many other families in similar situations. If you are able to donate, please click on the link below:

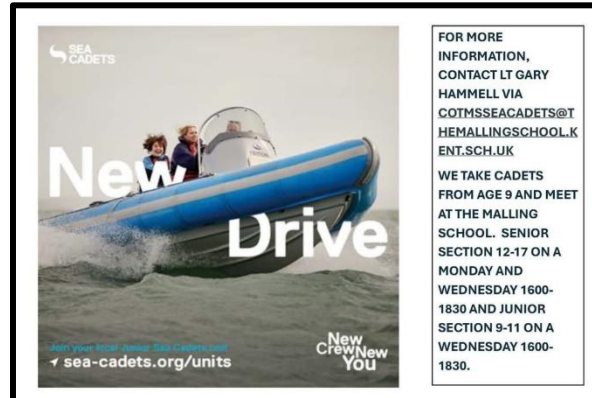
https://www.justgiving.com/page/max-wilson-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=015



Community News

Sea Cadets

The Malling Sea Cadets meet at the Malling School on a Monday and Wednesday evening. For anyone interested, they have an introduction evening on **Wednesday 23rd April at 5.30pm**, meeting in the School Canteen.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT LT GARY HAMMELL VIA COTMSSEACADETS@THEMALLINGSCHOOL.ENT.SCH.UK

WE TAKE CADETS FROM AGE 9 AND MEET AT THE MALLING SCHOOL. SENIOR SECTION 12-17 ON A MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY 1600-1830 AND JUNIOR SECTION 9-11 ON A WEDNESDAY 1600-1830.

SEA CADETS

New Drive

sea-cadets.org/units

New Crew New YOU

Space to Talk Dates

Space 2 Talk is an informal support group for parents & carers of children with additional needs. People come along for several reasons: to seek specific advice or information; to share ideas, for reassurance or to connect with others who understand. No formal diagnosis is required, and we support people no matter where they are on their SEN journey. These sessions are run by an experienced Family Support Officer from Space 2 Be Me. This is a West Kent based charity, which supports young people with additional needs and their families.

Space 2 Talk meet regularly at the Pavilion Café **on the second Tuesday of every month 10:00 – 11:30** (term time only). For more information and to book, please see our website <https://space2beme.org.uk/services/space2talk/>.



Supporting children with additional needs and their families in West Kent

SPACE 2 TALK

FAMILY SUPPORT

Space 2 Talk Snodland

Space 2 Talk offers support and advice for parents and carers of children with additional needs in a friendly atmosphere. Whether you're seeking help for your child, looking for guidance after a diagnosis, or simply wanting to connect with others, you can attend regularly or drop in as needed.

Tuesday 13th May, 10:00 - 11:30
Tuesday 10th June, 10:00 - 11:30
Tuesday 8th July, 10:00 - 11:30

Pavilion Cafe, Cricket Pavilion, Rocfort Road, Snodland, ME6 5NQ

For full details including all dates & venues please see our website <https://space2beme.org.uk/services/space2talk/>

space2beme.org.uk support@space2beme.org.uk 01622 764566

Registered Charity: 1140764, Company Reg 07324545

SPACE 2 BE ME

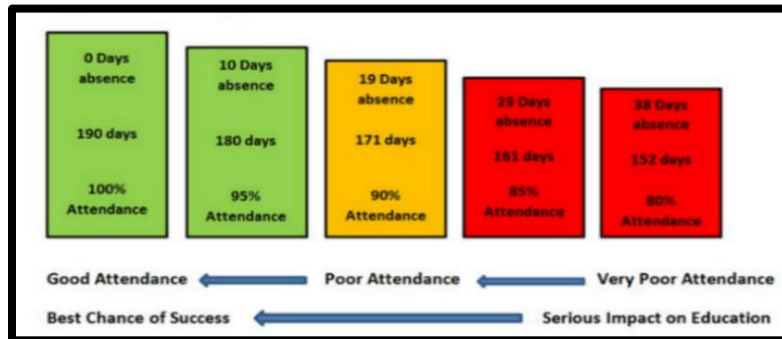
COMMUNITY

Parent E-Safety Information

Please click on the [link](#) to access advice on the challenges of children forming friendships online. The parent guide highlights key risks such as grooming, privacy concerns and inappropriate content — and offers tips for staying safe.



Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 100%		
R	Bramley 92.1%	Gala 98.8%	
1	Peach 96.6%	Pear 98.5%	Plum 94.8%
2	Cherry 93.1%	Quince 93%	
3	Hazel 95.3%	Walnut 96.5%	
4	Spruce 95.1%	Pine 94%	Fir 93.2%
5	Cedar 89.6%	Teak 92.8%	
6	Ash 99.2%	Oak 92.6%	Elm 95.8%

School Target: 95%



Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Year R trip to the British Wildlife Centre	Tuesday 6 th May
VE Day – red, white and blue (non-uniform)	Thursday 8 th May
Year 5 Parents Meeting for the Year 6 Residential 2026	Thursday 8 th May – 5.30pm
Year 6 SATS Week	Monday 12 th May to Thursday 15 th May

Year R Community Read	Wednesday 14 th May – 2.45pm
Year 5 trip to Dover Castle	Tuesday 20 th May
End of term 5	Friday 23rd May

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend.

Mr Lang