



Friday 23rd May 2025

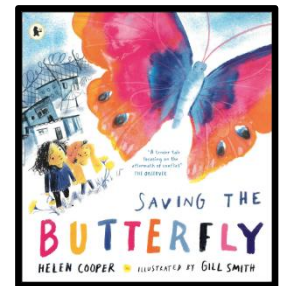
Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we approach the end of this short but busy term, we reflect on the many learning experiences and enriching opportunities our children have enjoyed. From classroom achievements to wider school activities, it has been a time full of growth, curiosity and creativity.

Looking ahead, we're excited to welcome the final term of the year - a time that promises to be both eventful and memorable. With Sports Days, the much-anticipated Year 6 production, and our grand finale: the whole-school "Dance Through the Cultures" extravaganza, there's plenty for our children (and families!) to look forward to.

Assembly

My assembly this week focused on our school value of '**compassion**' and the powerful impact it can have on others. I shared the picture book Butterfly, which tells the story of two young refugees and their experiences. It beautifully illustrates how even the smallest act of compassion can make a big difference in someone's life.



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

Charity Work

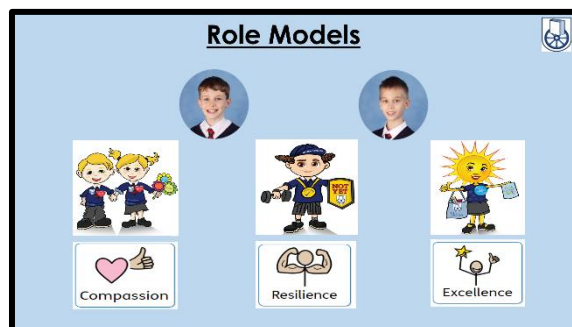
This week, we witnessed a truly moving act of compassion within our school community. One of our brave Year 5 children, Max, showed incredible solidarity by shaving his head in support of his friend Finlay, who was diagnosed with leukaemia in March 2025 and has been receiving ongoing treatment away from school.

Max's inspiring gesture not only demonstrated amazing friendship and empathy but also raised awareness of leukaemia and vital funds for the charity 'Finley's Touch', which has been a source of personal support for Finlay's family during this challenging time.

To date, Max has raised an amazing **£3,300!**

If you would like to support Max and this important cause, please click the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/max-wilson-1>



Well Done Year 6

Our Year 6 children completed their SATs tests last week, and we couldn't be prouder of the way they approached them. Each child demonstrated calmness, focus and determination throughout the week - they were a true credit to the school.

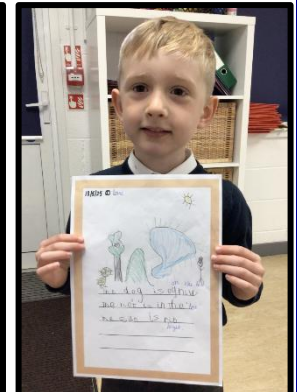
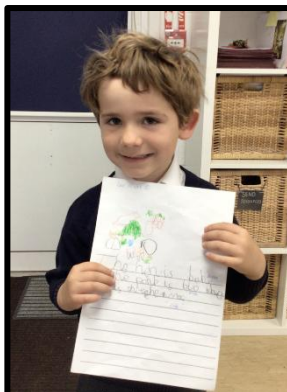
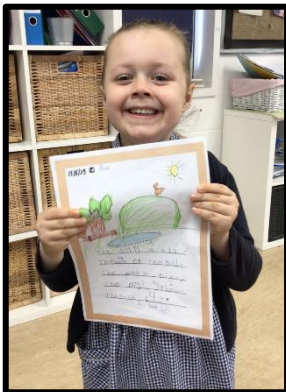
To celebrate their hard work, they were treated to a well-deserved ice cream, kindly provided by our wonderful PTA - a sweet ending to a week of fantastic effort!



Curriculum Update

Reception Authors

Last week, our Reception classes used Copilot (an AI programme) to generate images based on key vocabulary learned this term. The children then used these images as inspiration to write simple sentences using familiar words. It's been wonderful to see their growing independence and enthusiasm for writing!



Pupil Voice: "I wrote two sentences about a fox, a cat, a mountain and trees." (Leo – Reception)

Year 1 Science

In science last week, Year 1 continued their learning about plants by exploring the different parts of plants that we eat. They had fun sorting a variety of fruits and vegetables into categories, such as roots, leaves, stems, fruits and flowers - helping them make real-life connections to their science topic.

Pupil Voice: "We sorted fruits and vegetables and made a picture of a flower. We used the celery for the stem." (Leo – Year 1)



Enrichment

To consolidate and enrich their learning, several year groups have recently taken part in trips to a range of exciting venues - bringing classroom learning to life in new and memorable ways.

Year 3 History – Ancient Greeks

Year 3 recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Kent Life Centre. Throughout the day, they took part in a range of interactive activities designed to build on their history learning this term. Highlights included training as Greek soldiers, rowing a traditional Greek fishing boat, and bringing the myth of Medusa to life through drama. It was a wonderfully immersive experience that deepened their understanding of Ancient Greece in a fun and engaging way.

Pupil Voice: *"I was a fisherman and I learnt how to row a Greek fishing boat. We also learnt about Medusa turning people into stone when they looked at her." (Isla – Year 3)*



Year 5 History – Medieval Monarchs

To consolidate their learning on Medieval Monarchs this term, Year 5 visited Dover Castle, where they took part in a range of engaging activities. These included an interactive session on knights and feasts, role play and artefact handling. The children also had the chance to explore the impressive castle grounds, bringing their historical studies to life in a truly memorable way.



Pupil Voice: *"The secret tunnels under Dover castle were very dark. We walked through from one end to the other." (Raph – Year 5)*

Personal Development

For part of their transition into secondary school, Elm, Oak and Ash Class recently took part in workshops delivered by the NHS Emotional Wellbeing Team. During the sessions, children explored the similarities between primary and secondary school and discussed practical strategies for staying in touch with friends, managing homework and handling other potential challenges. They also learned emotional regulation techniques, such as breathing exercises, to support their wellbeing during this important time of change.



Supporting our Young Carers

Miss Croucher's 'Young Carers Club' continues to provide a supportive and welcoming space for children who help care for family members at home. The club offers a chance for young carers to spend time with others who understand their experiences, enjoy fun activities like games and crafts and have a quiet space to talk if they wish. This term, they have created gratitude jars to reflect on the positives in their lives and painted handprints to represent the strength, support and uniqueness of each young carer in our community.



PTA Wonka Bars

A huge thank you to the PTA for their creativity and innovation in running our recent Wonka Bar initiative. There was a real buzz around the school as the chocolate bars were handed out, and it was wonderful to see the smiles on the faces of children who won a variety of prizes - from ice pops for their class, to electronic tablets, and even the chance to be headteacher for the day! I'm especially looking forward to working with Leoni (Year 1) in that role.

The event raised an impressive £170, which will go towards supporting key school development projects. Thank you once again to the PTA for their continued efforts to bring our community together and raise valuable funds for the school.



Reading Vending Machine Winners

Congratulations to Ethan (Year 1), Lillie-Jane (Year 4), and Elsie-Marie (Year 5), who were drawn from the St Katherine's hat as our latest Reading Vending Machine winners! Each of them – along with one child from every class – earned a raffle ticket from their teacher in recognition of their reading efforts. This could be for consistent reading at home, making strong progress in school, or supporting others with their reading. As you can see, they were very happy to win a free book!



Strawberry Delight

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Beedell for kindly providing punnets of strawberries for our school community as part of this week's food bank offer. Many parents commented on their generous size and delicious taste, All strawberries were freshly picked from Oakdene Farm, Langley.

We are incredibly grateful for this generous gesture, which allowed our children to enjoy a tasty and healthy treat at the end of the school day.



Sports Update

Rugby

Our Year 6 rugby team took part in their first tournament this week and, as always, represented St Katherine's brilliantly. They played eight matches - winning four, drawing one (a 0-0 draw with the overall winners), and losing three - finishing in a commendable 11th place out of 25 schools. I'm sure you'll agree they looked fantastic in their brand-new St Katherine's rugby kits!

We hope this experience stands them in good stead for their next tournament, which will take place at Oakwood Park Rugby Club after half term.



Community News (posters on the next page)

Happy's Circus

We are excited to announce that Tiger Primary School will be hosting Happy's Circus this half term! It's sure to be a fantastic event for the whole family, with lots of fun and entertainment.

American Football

Please see below for information relating to an opportunity for children to participate in American football. This is an exciting and strategic game, which I am sure many children will enjoy the opportunity to participate in.

TIGER PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

HAPPY'S CIRCUS
Even the kids will love it!

SUN 25 & MON 26 MAY

BOUGHTON LANE, MAIDSTONE, ME15 9QF

FUN FAIR & FOOD GAMES & MUSIC

BOOK NOW AT TIGERCIRCUS.CO.UK

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CALLING YEARS 3 - 6

AGES 7 - 11 WANT TO TRY NON-CONTACT FLAG AMERICAN FOOTBALL?

COME & BE PART OF OUR WILDCARD TEAM AT OUR HOME TOURNAMENT ON SUNDAY 22ND JUNE 10AM - 3PM

UNISEX TEAM, FREE TRAINING* & ALL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED

TRAINING SUNDAYS 10AM - MIDDAY

ENQUIRES INFO@KENTPHOENIX.CO.UK OR 07790 268116

*FREE SESSIONS 25TH MAY, 1ST & 15TH JUNE

MAIDSTONE ME15 7JN

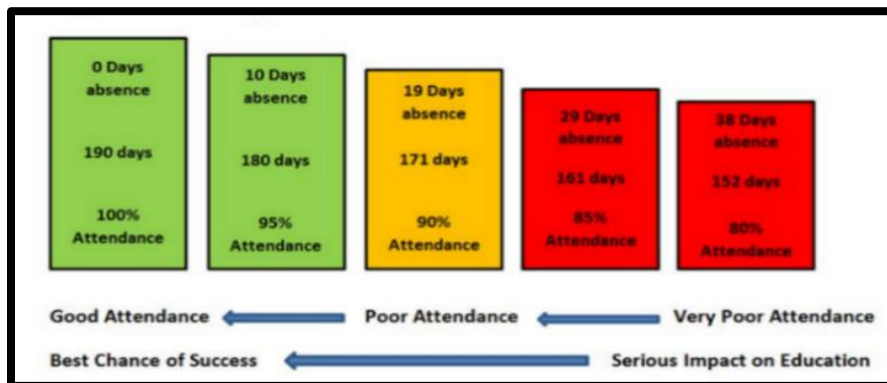
Phoenix Fire Bowl 2025

Parent E-Safety Information

Please click on the [link](#) to access advice on Minecraft – a gaming favourite for children and adults alike. It highlights the potential risks, including online strangers, in-game bullying and unintended spending.



Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

| Year | Classes | | |
|------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| N | Acorn 99.8% | | |
| R | Bramley 93.6% | Gala 95.7% | |
| 1 | Peach 97.2% | Pear 95.3% | Plum 93.4% |
| 2 | Cherry 93.9% | Quince 92.9% | |
| 3 | Hazel 95.3% | Walnut 94.0% | |
| 4 | Spruce 95.7% | Pine 93.3% | Fir 94.3% |
| 5 | Cedar 86.9% | Teak 92.6% | |
| 6 | Ash 97.7% | Oak 96.2% | Elm 93.6% |



School Target: 95%

Key Dates

| EVENT | DATE |
|---|--|
| Start of Term 6 | Monday 2nd June |
| Secondary Transfer Meeting Year 5 Parents 6-7pm | Wednesday 4 th June – 6pm to 7pm |
| Achievement Assembly for Summer Term 1 | Thursday 5 th June – 9:15am |
| CRIBS Money Management for Year 5 in school | Thursday 5 th June & 12 th June |
| Year 2 trip to Shorne Woods | Friday 13 th June |
| Year 4 Trip to Hemsley Conservation Centre | Thursday 19 th June |
| Year 1 Trip to Wingham Wildlife Park | Friday 20 th June |
| St Katherine's Summer Fair | Saturday 21 st June (11am – 2pm) |
| Year 6 Residential | Monday 23 rd June – Wednesday 25 th June |
| KS2 Sports Day (YR3,4,5 & 6) | Monday 30 th June - 9:30am -11:30am |
| KS1 Sports Day (Year R, 1 & 2) | Monday 30 th June - 1:15pm - 3pm |
| Nursery Sports Day | Wednesday 2 nd July – 9:15am –10am |
| PTA Summer Disco (Year R - Year 6) | Friday 4 th July (time to be confirmed) |
| Nursery Reserve Sports Day | Wednesday 9 th July - 9:15am – 10am |
| Reserve Sports Day for KS2 | Monday 14 th July - KS2 9:30am -11:30am |
| Reserve Sports Day for KS1 | Monday 14 th July - KS1 1:15pm - 3pm |
| 'Dance through the Cultures' extravaganza | Thursday 17 th July – PM (time to be confirmed) |
| End of Term 6 (end of the school year) | Friday 18th July |

Have a lovely half term break.