



Friday 13th June 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It was lovely to welcome both staff and children back from the half-term holidays as we begin the final term of the school year. It's hard to believe we only have five weeks left, but we've got a packed calendar full of exciting events for both the children and the wider school community.

One event I'm particularly looking forward to is our Summer Fair, which takes place on Saturday 21st June. This is always a highlight of the year - a wonderful opportunity for everyone to come together, enjoy some fun activities, and celebrate the spirit of our school.

On the day, there will be a fantastic range of stalls, including face painting, a Teddy Bear and Book Tombola, Hit the Can, Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar and Hook a Duck – some of which will be run by our Pupil Leadership Team. There will also be a tag rugby competition taking place.

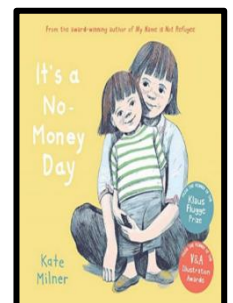
And yes, I hear there may even be a chance to throw a few wet sponges at me - surely an opportunity not to be missed!



Assembly

In our recent assembly, we explored the issue of poverty - both on a global scale and within our local community. Together, we discussed what poverty can look like for many families and considered the different reasons people might experience financial hardship.

To bring the issue closer to home, I shared the story *It's a No Money Day* by Kate Milner. This powerful book helped illustrate the day-to-day reality of poverty for some families in our area, particularly the difficult choices they may face around food.



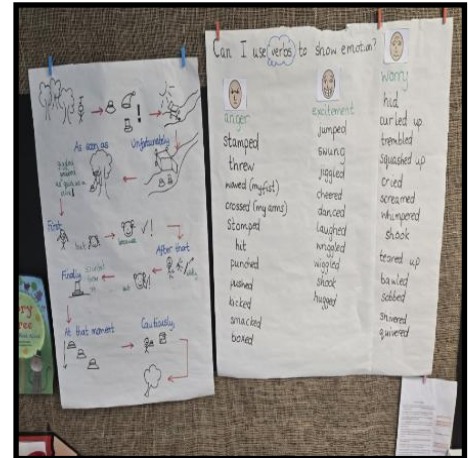
We also reflected on what we do as a school to support families in need, and how our actions are guided by our core values of **responsibility** and **compassion**. The assembly encouraged children to think about how we can all show kindness, understanding and support to those around us. Please click on the [link](#) to access the assembly.

Curriculum

Talk for Writing

This term, Year 1 have been exploring how verbs can convey different emotions, as they build their writers' toolkit in preparation for writing a 'losing story'.

Please click on the pictures of the children below to watch how the children are beginning to apply their learning by using the power of three!



Practical Maths

At St Katherine's this year, part of our School Improvement Plan has focused on enhancing the development of children's conceptual understanding in mathematics, ensuring they gain the strong foundational knowledge needed to succeed across the maths curriculum.

One key strategy we use to support this is the regular use of manipulatives and practical equipment. By engaging in hands-on learning, pupils can make connections, reason mathematically and explain their thinking with greater confidence.

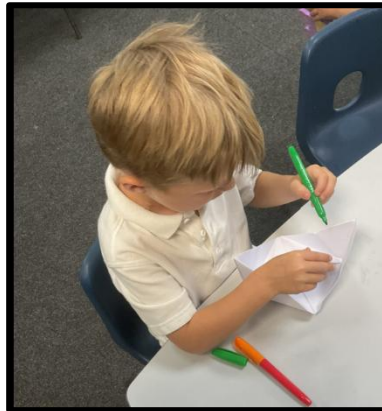
For example, Year 1 used pom-poms to share a quantity into quarters, whilst Year 4 have been using Numicon to explore the concept of mixed numbers and improper fractions.



Pupil Voice: "We used the Numicon to help us work out the improper fractions. It helped me to find the answer." (Charlie- Year 4)

Will It Float? Nursery Scientists to the Rescue!

Acorn Class have been busy investigating floating and sinking to find out which materials would work best to help their gingerbread man cross the river safely. There were a few soggy biscuits along the way, but plenty of enthusiastic experimenting and purposeful learning too!



Pupil Voice: "We put the gingerbread man in the boat and it floated and he didn't get wet."
(Olivia – Nursery)



Enrichment

Choir

This week, children from Years 1, 2, and 3 came together for the very first session of Choir Club with Miss Aikenhead and Mrs Taylor - and what a musical start it was! The session began with an introduction to the importance of warming up their voices, helping the children understand how to care for and prepare their vocal cords before singing. With energy and enthusiasm, they then took on the exciting challenge of learning part of "When I Grow Up" from Matilda the Musical.

[Please click on the picture](#) to watch a short video clip.



Nature Club Kicks off With Creative Fun!

Our Year 1 and 2 Nature Club had a fantastic start to the term with a session full of exploration, creativity and adventure!



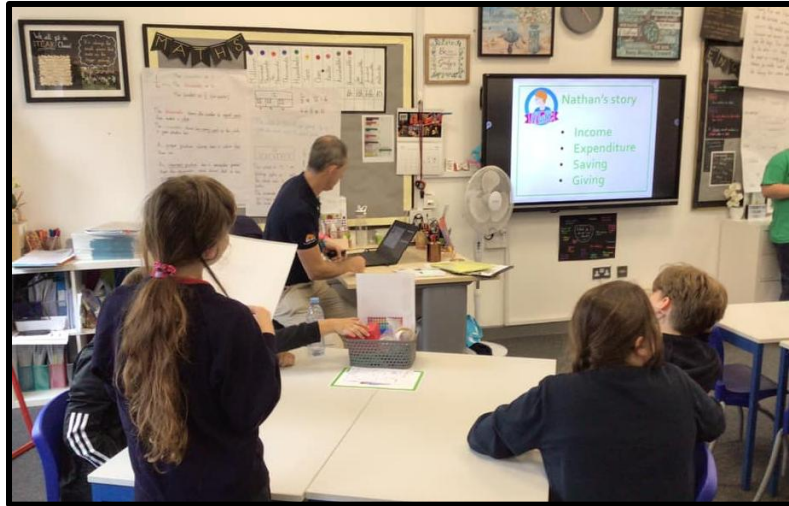
The children began by heading outdoors to collect a variety of natural materials -leaves, twigs, stones, and more. With baskets full of treasures, they then transformed their finds into imaginative natural artwork. From crabs and birds, to expressive faces and abstract designs, their creativity knew no bounds!

Personal Development and Wellbeing

Year 5 Money Management workshops

Our friends from CRIBS returned to St Katherine's last week to lead money management workshops as part of our Year 5 transition programme. The sessions were highly engaging and focused on key financial concepts, including income, spending, saving, and giving.

These workshops are a valuable part of preparing our children for the next stage of their education and developing essential life skills.



Pupil Voice: *"It helped us to learn about how to look after our money by saving what's left after we buy something. We also learnt how to budget when going on holiday."* (George – Year 5)

Mylo's Mindfulness Mondays

Children from Years 3, 4, and 5 have been joining Mylo on Monday mornings for Mylo's Mindfulness Mondays. These sessions promote calmness and focus through short, guided mindfulness activities at the start of each week.

They have been a great support for children's mental health and wellbeing. This week, the children learned about rainbow breaths and accompanying actions to help focus the mind.



Diversity Governor Visit

This week, we were pleased to welcome Mr Booth, our school governor for diversity, to St Katherine's. His visit focused on exploring the wide range of initiatives we have in place to develop children's cultural capital and raise diversity awareness.

Miss Aikenhead led a tour of the school, during which they visited classrooms and viewed displays that proudly celebrate different cultures and the importance of inclusion. Mr Booth also met with our Diversity Ambassadors, who spoke passionately about their roles and responsibilities, and shared how culture and diversity are valued aspects of life at St Katherine's and beyond.



Sports Update

Rugby

Two Year 6 rugby teams recently took part in their second tournament and came first and third. The morning session involved participating in a range of rugby drills and they played matches in the afternoon.

Thank you to all the children that represented the school so brilliantly, and to Oakwood Park Grammar School for hosting the event.



Community News

Having offered a very successful Mindfulness Pony Day during May half term, Your Space are offering four more opportunities to enjoy these special days over the summer holidays. Please see the flyer with further information below.



Your Space THERAPIES
Secure effectiveness
Ritual learners • Building Futures

www.yourspacetherapies.org

🌟 Summer Holiday Mindfulness Pony Day's for Kids! 🌟

Explore Calm, Connection, and Confidence with Our Gentle Ponies!

Dates: Friday 8th August, Monday 11th August, Monday 18th August, Monday 1st September.
Time: 9am - 2pm
Location: Ponies 'n' Kids, Eaton Thorne Stables, Woodmancote, Nr Itenfield, W.Sussex, BN5 9BH

Join us for a magical day designed especially for children ages 5-11! Dive into a world of peace, friendship, and mindfulness, all while experiencing the calming presence of our adorable ponies.

Your Child's Special Day with the Ponies will include:

- Mindfulness Time with Ponies, Pony Care, Riding and Mounted Games and Mindful Nature Art.

Spaces are limited to 15 children per session! Please visit the Eventbrite links below now to ensure your spot. Once your booking is confirmed we will contact you to gather further information.

Friday 8th August Mindfulness Pony Day. [Book now!](#)
Monday 11th August Mindfulness Pony Day. [Book now!](#)
Monday 18th August Mindfulness pony Day. [Book now!](#)
Monday 1st September Mindfulness Pony Day. [Book now!](#)

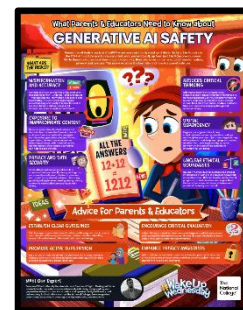
Contact: bookings@yourspacetherapies.org
Cost: £140

Join us for an unforgettable experience that combines mindfulness and pony magic!

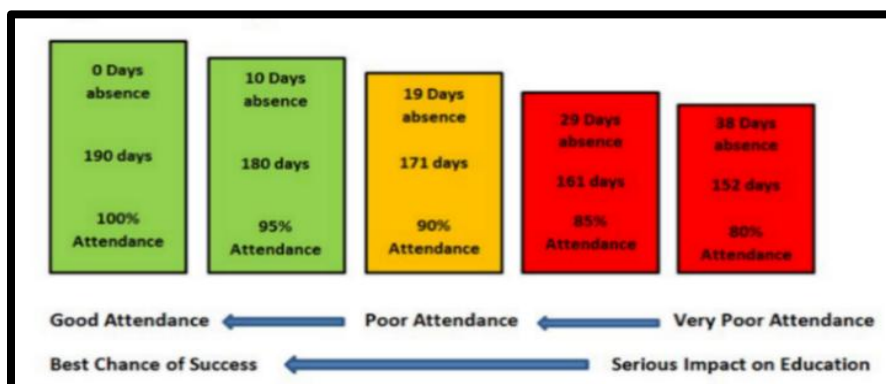
Parent E-Safety Information

Artificial Intelligence can be a brilliant tool for creativity and learning – but it's not without its hazards. With 3 in 4 pupils now using generative AI (up from just 2 in 5 last year), it's more important than ever for parents and educators to understand the risks.

Please click on the [link](#) to access information about the key safety concerns around AI tools and expert advice for keeping young users safe.



Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 95.7%		
R	Bramley 92.3%	Gala 95.5%	
1	Peach 92.3%	Pear 93.5%	Plum 95.9%
2	Cherry 93.7%	Quince 91.0%	
3	Hazel 91.0%	Walnut 91.0%	
4	Spruce 92.0%	Pine 91.0%	Fir 93.8%
5	Cedar 93.0%	Teak 92.6%	
6	Ash 92.4%	Oak 91.0%	Elm 91.0%



School Target: 95%

Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Start of Term 6	Monday 2nd 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 (Years 3,4,5 & 6)	Monday 30 th June: 9:30am -11:30am
KS1 Sports Day (Years 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
Optional Parents Afternoon	Monday 14 th July: 3.30pm – 5pm
'Dance through the Cultures' extravaganza	Thursday 17 th July: PM (time to be confirmed)
Year 6 Leavers Party	Thursday 17 th July: 5.30pm – 7pm
Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Friday 18 th July: 9.30am – 10.30am
End of Term 6 (end of the school year)	Friday 18th July

Have a lovely weekend.
Mr Lang