



Friday 27th June 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Wednesday 18th June marked 'Thank a Teacher Day', and I want to take a moment to say how incredibly fortunate our children are to have each and every one of our wonderful staff at St Katherines.

Whether it's in the classroom, the corridors, the playground, or behind the scenes - it is clear that the daily efforts of teachers, teaching assistants, midday meal supervisors, office, premises and catering teams, support and inspire our children both personally and academically, and make such a difference! The warmth, care and commitment that is shown does not go unnoticed and this is beautifully reflected in one of the 'Thank a Teacher' messages from a parent:



To: Recipient - office@st-katherines.kent.sch.uk

Mail queued for send: 2025-06-18 08:00:00

Message:

Thank you for making the school such a positive environment and creating such a safe and welcoming environment!

We are very proud to say our children go to St Katherine's!

Additionally, it was clear from the recent staff survey response to the question: **What do you enjoy most about working in your school?**, that our staff very much appreciate one another and the wonderful jobs that they do:

4	anonymous	There are many things i enjoy about working at St Katherine's, however the main reason i enjoy it is due to the team we have. Team as in St Katherines as a whole staff team, everyone is very always there for each other and we have a real supportive 'family' unit feel throughout the school.
---	-----------	--



41	anonymous	The general feel for the school is welcoming, supportive and considerate. I feel like we all really look out for each other and I love that. Teaching isn't easy and it would be so much tougher without the community of this school. I thoroughly enjoy seeing the children grow and progress, achieving milestones no matter how big and small and we celebrate this together.
----	-----------	---



National Pearson Awards

The whole school came together in assembly last week to celebrate two incredible members of our team who have received Pearson National Teaching Awards for their outstanding contributions to St Katherine's.

Congratulations to Mrs Elliott, who was awarded the Bronze Award for Excellence in Teaching, and to Mr Young, who received the Unsung Hero Award for his tireless dedication behind the scenes.



It's Platinum Again!

St Katherine's is proud to have retained the prestigious Platinum School Games Mark for the second consecutive year. This achievement recognises the school's continued commitment to promoting physical activity, competitive sport and inclusive opportunities for all pupils. Through a wide range of sporting events and strong community partnerships, St Katherine's has consistently demonstrated excellence in PE and school sport provision. A big thank you to Mrs Holt for leading PE so effectively throughout the school.



Community News

Summer Fair

Last Saturday's St Katherine's Summer Fair was a fantastic success, with a wonderful turnout enjoying the beautiful sunshine. Visitors browsed a variety of stalls, played fun games and enjoyed delicious food and drinks; all while being treated to an exciting rugby exhibition. One of the highlights was the chance to soak members of our staff - an activity that brought plenty of laughter! Thanks to your incredible support and generosity, which enabled us to **raise over £2000**, which will go towards further improving our school for all our pupils.



Assembly

Last week's assembly was especially powerful, as some of our young carers bravely took to the stage to share their personal experiences and explain the important roles and responsibilities they carry out at home. Their honesty and maturity left a lasting impression on both staff and pupils, helping to raise awareness and understanding of the challenges young carers face. The assemblies sparked meaningful conversations among children, and encouraged a deeper sense of community within the school. Please click on the [link](#) to access the assembly.



Eco- Warriors

Our Eco Warriors have been busy looking after the wellbeing garden, helping to weed and turn over the soil to improve drainage and aeration. As a special treat they were the first to try St Katherine's strawberries which were classed as "the juiciest ever".



Pupil Voice: "They were juicy, sweet and fresh. We hope to plant some raspberries too." (Emelia & Shanaide – Year 6).


Curriculum – Talk 4 Writing: A Transformational Year

We are continually impressed by the impact our *Talk 4 Writing* approach is having across the school. Children are not only developing greater confidence in their writing, but their enthusiasm, and creativity have flourished.

It's been inspiring to see how pupils are now embracing writing as a form of expression. They are thinking more carefully about their word choices, structuring their ideas with purpose and showing real pride in their work.

A fantastic example of this progress can be seen in Aston's writing (Year 3). Given the same stimulus a year apart, the difference in his work is striking. His recent piece shows a deeper understanding of narrative, richer vocabulary and a far more confident writing voice - clear evidence of how much can change in just one year.

Well done to all our young authors! We can't wait to see how their writing continues to grow.



Writing Assessment

Date: 1. 7. 24

The path

One day a boy named Dale came across a old, dusty bridge. He went across and Boo! says ogle. ha ha ha! Dale can ogle. Dale climbed the sack ~~mountains~~ mountains. He ~~found~~ found troll. Boo! says troll. haha! Dale went back to troll. troll is upset Dale asks whats amater troll says i cant find any one to Boo. you can Boo me says Dale can i yes. thankyou! Dale went to troll Boo hahahaha! says Dale. Dale is happy.

Summer term 2024

The river

As I was walking through the forest, the trees bowed down and welcomed me in the big, green forest. When I walked in here was a giant, rocky flowing river.

The water was deep, blue and crystal clear. It was shallow and narrow next to the river. Behind the narrow rocks was a blue glowing light. I was walking over there when I looked around the narrow corner and there was my friend splashing in the river. It turns out the river is connected around the corner.

The river is deep, blue and crystal clear. The sunlight shined off the top of the river it looked like someone was holding a flashlight. The horizon was so great.

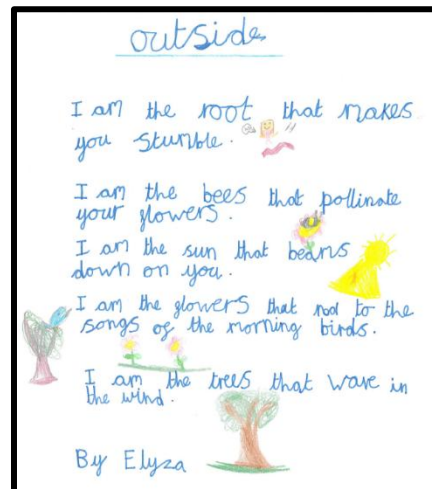
Summer term 2025

Writing Beyond the Classroom

Our writing model continues to spark creativity well beyond the walls of our classrooms. It's been wonderful to see how some children are taking their learning further, exploring writing in their own time and spaces.

Just look at Elyza's beautiful "I am the..." poem, which she created in her garden after experimenting with this poetic form during a class writing unit. Inspired by nature and her surroundings, she crafted a piece full of imagination and vivid imagery - proof that when children are truly engaged, their creativity knows no bounds.

We love seeing our young writers finding their voice and using it in the world around them.



Enrichment

Residential – Memories Made in Kingswood

Year 6 had an unforgettable time on their residential to Kingswood, Ashford, thoroughly enjoying the wide range of exciting activities on offer. From the adrenaline rush of the 3G swing to the teamwork challenge of Jacob's Ladder, the trip was a brilliant test of collaboration, resilience and courage. The disco was a definite highlight - imagine the excitement when their much-loved *Dance Through the Cultures* song was played! A huge thank you to all the staff who went above and beyond to ensure the trip was safe, smooth and full of memories that will last a lifetime. There are lots of pictures on our Facebook page for parents/ carers to view.



Happy Shoesday

The children had a fantastic time celebrating Happy Shoesday last week! The playground was bursting with colour and creativity as pupils proudly showed off their bright and beautiful footwear. From sparkly trainers to quirky boots, each pair told a story, reflecting the individuality and diversity of every child. Beyond the fun, the day carried an important message - encouraging a healthy lifestyle by walking to school and embracing self-expression through their choice of shoes. It was a joyful reminder that being active and being yourself can go hand in hand!



Pupil Voice: *"I enjoyed wearing my black Nike trainers because they look great and are good to run in. Everyone wearing different shoes made me think that we are all diverse and it is ok to be different."* (Zareen – Year 6)

Sports Update

KS2 Netball

Our Year 5 and 6 netball tournament ended their successful year with a tournament at Greenfields. They played brilliantly in back-to-back games in the heat and made it through to the quarter finals. Unfortunately, they were knocked out after losing by 1 goal in the last two minutes of the game. Well done to everyone who played.



Football, Football, Football!

Our Year 6 girls team competed in a borough tournament last week and, as always, displayed outstanding sportsmanship and determination. Although they didn't make it to the finals, they drew all but one of their matches and represented the school with pride. We very much appreciate their effort and team spirit.



Year 5 and 6 boys football team recently took part in the Greenfield's tournament, showing resilience and teamwork throughout. They worked hard in every match, drawing two games, winning one, and narrowly losing another 1-0. Despite not making it to the final stages, their determination and sportsmanship were outstanding, and they did our school proud!

Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic time at their competition and were one of the standout sides on the day, winning 3 games, drawing 1 and losing 1. They were joint top on points at the end and narrowly missed out on 1st and 2nd place on penalties, coming 3rd place out of 12 schools!



Our Year 2 footballers also played well and battled hard to win bronze at a recent tournament, coming 3rd out of 5 teams. Yet again, they represented the school superbly and played with smiles on their faces.



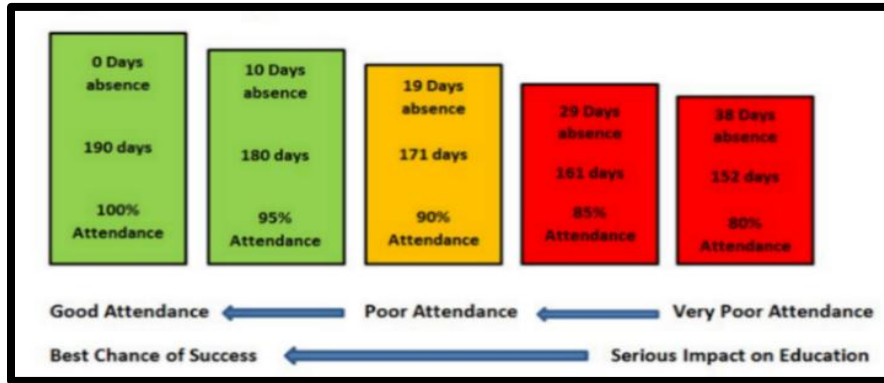
Parent E-Safety Information

YouTube Kids is designed to be the safer cousin of the regular YouTube app; however, built-in risks continue to pose concerns. From targeted advertising to addictive design, there's more going on behind the scenes than many realise. This

Please click on the [link](#) to access easy-to-follow tips to help adults keep young users protected while still enjoying their favourite videos .



Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99.4%		
R	Bramley 93.2%	Gala 94.1%	
1	Peach 96.4%	Pear 95.0%	Plum 96.1%
2	Cherry 92.4%	Quince 95.9%	
3	Hazel 95.5%	Walnut 91.0%	
4	Spruce 95.9%	Pine 91.2%	Fir 96.8%
5	Cedar 93.7%	Teak 94.4%	
6	Ash 93.2%	Oak 89.8%	Elm 93.9%



School Target: 95%

Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
KS2 Sports Day (Years 3,4,5 & 6) - POSTPONED	Monday 30 th June: 9:30am - 11:30am
KS1 Sports Day (Years R, 1 & 2) - POSTPONED	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 (see letter for specific times)
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 (1.30pm – 2.45pm)
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 and don't forget your sun cream!

Mr Lang

