



Friday 18th July 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we reach the end of another school year, it's a perfect moment to pause and reflect on the many wonderful achievements and cherished memories we've shared. It is a true privilege to lead St Katherine's, and after supporting leadership teams in monitoring their schools this year - both within the borough and further afield - there's always a special feeling of 'coming home', where I have truly appreciated what we have.

Our school continues to blossom, making improvements in pupil outcomes, while holding fast to the community ethos that makes St Katherine's so unique: a place where everyone is respected, valued, and cherished.

It really is a wonderful place to be, and we look forward to building on this momentum next year - driving further school improvements and continuing to broaden the enriching and memorable learning experiences we offer our children, who we are immensely proud of.

Have a lovely summer break. Stay safe, and we look forward to seeing the children refreshed, healthy and ready to embark on new and exciting learning journeys!

Ambassador Voice

Our Ambassadors have epitomised all that is good about St Katherine's this year, consistently embodying the school's values through their conduct, kindness and unwavering enthusiasm to give back to the school community. As the year drew to a close, I asked them to share their thoughts and reflections on their time as Ambassadors:

Joshua: *"I am so grateful for the experiences this role has given me and I am certain that they will be essential in later life. To all future Ambassadors, I testify that nothing grants more respect in life than embodying community in everything you do."*

Grace: *"Throughout St Katherine's, I have learnt so much but becoming Ambassador was the cherry on the top and it is nice to think that maybe I might have inspired others around me. I will certainly miss this wonderful role."*

Julian: *"If I could start over again, I wouldn't change one thing! Without doubt, the feeling of togetherness is one value that will stay with me as I leave St Katherine's."*

Mia: *"As an Ambassador, I've become so confident and I understand why resilience is one of our school values, as I have had to show this on many occasions this year. I have learnt so much and will miss everyone at the school."*

Elsie: *"I have loved being an Ambassador and representing St Katherine's to the best of my ability. The role has given me confidence to become whatever I want to be in the future. Thank you."*



Dance Through the Cultures

Our Dance Through the Cultures extravaganza was a resounding success, showcasing the incredible talents of our children as they performed traditional dances from across the globe. From the rhythmic beats of Africa to the sassy moves of Brazil, each performance was a testament to the children's enthusiasm, creativity and respect for cultural diversity.



Audiences were truly wowed by the stunning dances and heartfelt songs from every corner of the St Katherine's community, and enjoyed joining in to a lively rendition of the Macarena! It was a joyous occasion filled with laughter, pride and unity - one that will stay long in the memory of all who attended.

We were honoured to welcome our special guest, Cllr Chris Brown, the Mayor of Tonbridge and Malling, who was very impressed by the event.

A huge thank you to all staff, pupils and families who helped make the day so memorable. We're already looking forward to next year's celebration!



The End of an Era – Goodbye Year 6

As we say goodbye to our incredible Year 6 cohort, it's hard not to feel a mix of pride, joy and sorrow. The past couple of weeks have been a fitting, action-packed send-off, filled with celebration and unforgettable memories. From their brilliant performance of *Porridge*, which had us all laughing and applauding, to their lively Leavers' Party and the moving Leavers' Assembly, these final moments have truly captured the spirit of this special group.

The assembly was a particularly emotional occasion - enjoyed by the whole school and met with more than a few misty eyes from proud parents. It was a chance to reflect on their journey, celebrate their achievements, and wish them well as they prepare to take their next big step.

Although I've only had the privilege of two years with this cohort, it's clear that they are a remarkable group of young people. They've shown resilience, kindness and a zest for learning, and I have no doubt they will go on to achieve whatever they set their minds to.

👉 Please click [here](#) to read the letter I sent to them this week.

We wish each and every one of them the very best for the future. They will always be part of the St Katherine's family.



Wonka Bar Winners

The PTA Wonka Bar winners received their prizes this week, which included becoming Headteacher for the day, having 'lunch with Mr Lang' and hot chocolate with Mylo.

Leonie ruled the roost last week and ensured that everything was in order as she participated in lesson walks, assemblies, gate duty and even led Mr Chatley (our CEO) on a tour of the school. Additionally, Albie, Evie and Katie enjoyed feasting with Mr Lang and playing games during their lunch activity. It was a great opportunity to catch up, chat about the year and relax in each other's company. Freya and Jessica also enjoyed their treat and a chance to spend time with everyone's favourite, furry friend, Mylo.



Sports Days

It was double success for Air (KS1) and Air (KS2), who were crowned this year's House winners for our sports days. I was also incredibly impressed with the volume of friends and families that turned out to support the children. It really did make it a special event for the school – thank you.



Cheerleading Champs Raise the Roof

A huge congratulations to our wonderful cheerleading champions, who wowed the crowd with their energy, determination, and dazzling moves—dancing continuously for 30 minutes in front of a very appreciative audience!

Thanks to their incredible effort and your generous support, they raised a mammoth **£290**, which will go towards purchasing a brand-new cheerleading kit ready for next year. Your donations will help our cheerleaders continue to shine and represent St Katherine's with pride.

Thank you to everyone who cheered them on and contributed - your support means the world!



Summer Discos

The children had a brilliant time at our recent summer discos. It was lovely to see everyone let their hair down, dress up for the summer and dance the evening away. Thank you to the PTA for organising and running the event, and to all the staff that helped make it a great success!



Key Dates

A reminder that we have an **INSET day on Monday 1st September** and we look forward to seeing the children back at school on **Tuesday 2nd September**.

Please see below an overview of the term dates for 2025-26, including the dates for all of the INSET dates. These are also available on the school website.

Autumn - Term 1	
INSET Day	Monday 1 st September 2025 (children not in school)
Start School	Tuesday 2 nd September 2025
Last Day of Term	Thursday 16 th October 2025
INSET Day	Friday 17 th October 2025 (children not in school)

Autumn - Term 2	
Start School	Monday 3 rd November 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19 th December 2025

Spring - Term 3	
INSET Day	Monday 5 th January 2026 (children not in school)
Start School	Tuesday 6 th January 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 13 th February 2026

Spring - Term 4	
School Starts	Monday 23 rd February 2026
Last Day of Term	Thursday 2 nd April 2026

Summer - Term 5	
School Starts	Monday 20 th April 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 22 nd May 2026

Summer - Term 6	
School Starts	Monday 1 st June 2026
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 21 st July 2026



Teaching and Learning Presentations – September dates

Please see below the dates for September's teaching and learning presentations, where teachers will provide parents/ carers with key information about the year, including expectations, curriculum coverage, trips and enrichment opportunities.

Year Group	Date and Time
Reception	Wednesday 17 th September at 2:30pm
Year 1	Tuesday 16 th September at 2:30pm
Year 2	Monday 15 th September at 2:30pm
Year 3	Friday 12 th September at 2:30pm
Year 4	Wednesday 10 th September at 2:30pm
Year 5	Tuesday 9 th September at 2:30pm
Year 6	Thursday 18 th September at 2:30pm

Reminders - Uniform, haircuts and earrings

Thank you to parents/ carers for your support in providing the correct school uniform this year. Our school uniform is extremely important to us. Our children look smart in their uniform, which reflects the tone and ethos of our school. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community and it promotes a strong, cohesive identity, which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of life. It also promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security when off site.

A reminder that when children return to school in September, **they should not have 'distinctive lines or words cut into their hair/ eyebrows or permanent/ temporary coloured hair'**.



One change we have made to our uniform policy, in consultation with our Pupil Leadership Team, is that small jeweled earrings are now permitted to be worn. Please see the section below from our school policy.

JEWELLERY INCLUDING WATCHES

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exception to this is small stud earrings, worn in pierced ears. Earrings must be no larger than the child's earlobe, sit close to the ear, and be plain in colour (small jewel, gold or silver) as agreed with the Pupil Leadership Team, Summer 2025. All studs must be removed for PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. **Staff are unable to help with the removal of jewellery and they cannot be covered with tape.**

You can read the school uniform policy in its entirety by clicking on the [link](#).

A Year of Sports

What a year of sport it has been at St Katherine's! We are truly sports-mad, and we pride ourselves on offering our children a wide range of opportunities to get active, both within school and through borough-wide competitions. This year has seen some fantastic successes - our football and netball teams reached the latter stages of their tournaments, our lower KS2 athletics team triumphed in a borough competition, and we celebrated our first-ever win in a tag rugby tournament!

To top it all off, we also retained our Platinum School Games Award, recognising our ongoing commitment to high-quality PE and competitive sport. Congratulations to everyone who has represented the school with passion, teamwork and pride. We can't wait to see what successes next year brings!



Parent Information – Staying Safe Around Water

Whether it's sunny days at the beach or fun in the paddling pool, children are naturally drawn to water. But with excitement comes risk. This guide brings together 10 clear, practical tips to help parents and educators protect children around water – whether that's at home, on school trips or on holiday.

Please click on the [link](#) to access the top tips to help adults safe around water.



Yearly Attendance

- School = **94.2%**
- National average = **94.5%**
- Class yearly attendance is outlined below:

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 92.3%		
R	Bramley 93.6%	Gala 94.5%	
1	Peach 94.4%	Pear 94.9%	Plum 95.2%
2	Cherry 94.4%	Quince 92.2%	
3	Hazel 93.5%	Walnut 93.5%	
4	Spruce 93.4%	Pine 92.06%	Fir 94.0%
5	Cedar 91.5%	Teak 92.5%	
6	Ash 95.1%	Oak 94.9%	Elm 94.6%



Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
INSET DAY	Monday 1 st September
Term Starts	Tuesday 2 nd September
Swimming Starts – Year 2,4 and 6	Tuesday 9 th September
Kent Test (11+) <i>Familiarisation Paper</i>	Friday 5 th September
Year 5 Teaching and Learning Presentations	Tuesday 9 th September - 2:30pm
Year 4 Teaching and Learning Presentations	Wednesday 10 th September - 2:30pm
Kent Test (11+)	Thursday 11 th September
Year 3 Teaching and Learning Presentations	Friday 12 th September - 2:30pm
Year 2 Teaching and Learning Presentations	Monday 15 th September - 2:30pm
Year 1 Teaching and Learning Presentations	Tuesday 16 th September - 2:30pm
Year R Teaching and Learning Presentations	Wednesday 17 th September - 2:30pm
Year 6 Teaching and Learning Presentations	Thursday 18 th September - 2:30pm
Macmillan Coffee Mornings	23/9/25 (am), 24/9/25 (am) and 25/9/25(pm) – more information will be provided shortly.
African Storytelling Performance and Workshops	Friday 3 rd October
Last day of term	Thursday 16th October

Have a lovely summer break!

Mr Lang
Headteacher

