



Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we reach the end of a busy and purposeful term, it's been a pleasure to see the breadth of learning and enrichment across the school. This week's Parents Evenings provided a valuable opportunity to share and celebrate children's progress, outcomes and personal development with families. Thank you for your continued support.

The last fortnight has been particularly jam-packed with events - from pupil-led assemblies promoting mental health and marking Show Racism the Red Card, to our joyful Harvest Festival celebrations. Whilst a visit from Maidstone Museum added depth and excitement to our history curriculum, sparking curiosity through artefacts and interactive learning.

Whether half term offers a chance to relax with family or embark on new adventures together, we wish you all a pleasant break - and look forward to welcoming the children back, refreshed and raring to go for the lead-up to... Christmas!

Personal Development

At St Katherine's, we continually plan for our pupil voice groups to contribute meaningfully to school life, giving them platforms to make a real impact on our community. This term, several groups have led inspiring initiatives that reflect our shared values and commitment to personal development.



Our Wellbeing Warriors delivered a thoughtful whole-school assembly on the importance of mental health. They shared what mental health means to them and offered practical ideas for how children can look after their wellbeing. It was a valuable opportunity for pupils to reflect on what helps them feel calm, supported and resilient.



Our Diversity Ambassadors followed with a powerful message of unity through their Show Racism the Red Card assembly. They explored what racism means, why it must be challenged, and how we celebrate diversity at St Katherine's - highlighting the richness it brings to our school community.

Thank you to everyone for creating a sea of red across St Katherine's to show solidarity, raise awareness and reinforce our shared commitment to inclusion and respect.



Finally, our Community Ambassadors led a harvest assembly, linking the generous food donations from families to our core values of **compassion, responsibility** and **community**. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed - your donations have been passed on to Snodland Family Hub, where they will make a real difference.



We also recently welcomed PC Mundy into school to speak with our KS2 children about antisocial behaviour and its impact on the wider community. The session prompted thoughtful discussion and encouraged children to consider how they can be positive role models and responsible citizens beyond the school gates.



Bikeability

As part of their transition to secondary school, our Year 6 children recently took part in Bikeability training - a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, independence and essential road safety skills. It was brilliant to see our children growing in self-assurance while preparing for the next stage of their journey. Well done to everyone who took part!



Teaching and Learning



Year 2 recently took part in an exciting Great Fire of London workshop. The session brought history to life through drama, storytelling and hands-on activities, helping children deepen their understanding of this significant event.

The workshop was a fantastic opportunity to reinforce their learning in a memorable and interactive way. It sparked thoughtful discussion, curiosity and plenty of questions - well done, Year 2!

Pupil Voice: *"I liked it when we used actions to show how the fire spread through London. It went on for four days and damaged St Paul's Cathedral." (Ella – Year 2)*

Reception homework outcome

For Reception's creative homework activity, the children were asked to either draw, paint or build their house. Mollie from Gala Class made a wonderful model with her family and brought it into school to show everyone. She was able to point out the different parts of her house including the tree and flowers at the front.

Pupil Voice: *"The hardest part was putting the chimney on top." (Mollie – Reception)*



Hands on History!

Children in Year 3 had a fantastic time when Maidstone Museum came to visit, bringing the Stone Age to life right in their classroom. The children explored a fascinating range of real and replica artefacts - from tools to early artwork - which helped them make meaningful connections with what they've been learning in school. The hands-on experience sparked lots of curiosity and conversation, giving children a deeper understanding of how people lived thousands of years ago. It was a memorable, enriching session that made history feel exciting and real.



Parent Power

Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed a fascinating history afternoon exploring what school life was like in the past - particularly during the time of their parents and grandparents. Through photos, artefacts and lively discussion, children compared classroom routines, uniforms, playground games and much more.

It was a wonderful way to bring history to life and connect learning to their own family stories.



Reception have also welcomed families into school for a joyful 'autumn activities open afternoon'. Children proudly shared a rich variety of seasonal learning experiences - from counting conkers and creating leaf pictures to pumpkin painting, autumn-themed colouring, and even tasting their very own class-made pumpkin soup!

Opportunities like this not only celebrate children's learning but also strengthen the vital partnership between home and school. When families engage in classroom life, it builds confidence, deepens understanding and creates lasting memories. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the afternoon so special.



Graffiti Competition winners

I was absolutely amazed by the outcomes of our recent graffiti competition - what a vibrant showcase of creativity, flair and bold expression from every participant! The entries were thoughtful, imaginative and full of personality, making it an incredibly tough task for Mrs Evenden, our Chair of Governors, to select just a few winners. After much deliberation, she made a wonderful decision: all 14 children who entered will now have the exciting opportunity to work alongside professional graffiti artist Rossi Toltech to co-create one of our new outdoor murals. We can't wait to see their ideas come to life and brighten our school walls!



Christmas Card Winners

We're delighted to share that Alfie's artwork has been chosen by the teachers to go forward to the KIMS Hospital Art Competition - a fantastic achievement! All of Year 6 had the opportunity to take part, and we're so proud that Alfie's piece has been selected to represent our school.

Well done, Alfie - we'll all be cheering you on and wishing you the best of luck in the competition!



Sports

Well done to our Year 3 and 4 and our Year 5 and 6 hockey teams for showing resilience, respect and great effort in the hockey tournaments this week. They had a great day, learnt lots and had fun competing against other schools!



Pupil Voice: "I enjoyed playing matches against other schools as we worked as a team to score as many goals as we could." (Ella – Year 4)

Community News

Neon Disco Dazzles

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent neon discos - they were a brilliant success! With music, lights and plenty of neon fun, the event created unforgettable memories for our children and raised an incredible £1,000+ for the school. All funds will go directly towards exciting development projects that benefit our children's learning and play. We're so grateful to our amazing PTA and everyone who helped make it happen!



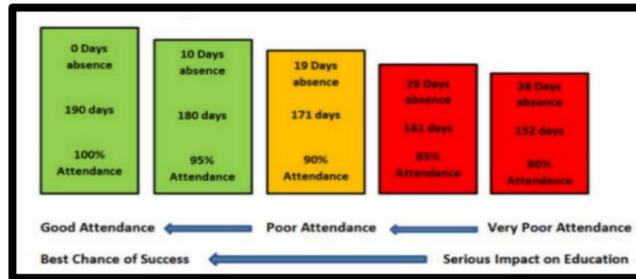
Online Safety - Parent Support

This week's guide explores the role of memes in youth culture - and why they're not always as harmless as they seem. Please click on the [link](#) to access the short guide, with some useful tips and advice.



Attendance Matters!

Your child will only be successful if they attend school. Our aspiration is for everyone at St Katherine's to attend school at least **95%** of the year. If your child's attendance drops below this, they will inevitably fall behind, as days off will mean lost learning time. Please see the chart below that outlines the impact of your child's attendance on their learning.



Termly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99.6%		
R	Bramley 99.3%	Gala 99.8%	
1	Peach 92.9%	Pear 96.5%	
2	Cherry 97.1%	Quince 96.4%	Damson 96.5%
3	Hazel 96.5%	Walnut 93.5%	
4	Spruce 96.7%	Fir 93.8%	
5	Cedar 92.5%	Teak 96.0%	Mahogany 96.2%
6	Ash 95%	Oak 92.8%	

School Target: **95%**

Key Dates



EVENT	DATE
Trust INSET Day	Friday 17 th October
Start of Term 2	Monday 3 rd November
New Year R (Intake 2026) Open Morning	Tuesday 4 th November 9 -10:30am
Achievement Assembly	Thursday 6 th November at 9:15am
Anti – Bullying Week / Odd Socks Day	Monday 10 th November
Remembrance Day Assembly Year 6 Leading	Tuesday 11 th November
New Year R (Intake 2026) Open Evening	Wednesday 12 th November 6-7:30pm
PTA Quiz Night	Friday 14 th November (More details to follow)
Be Bright Be Seen – Road Safety Week	Monday 17 th November
Individual School Photographs	Tuesday 18 th November

Anti Bullying Assembly and Workshops Year R – Year 6	<i>Wednesday 19th November</i>
Children in Need – Dress Down for Pudsey	<i>Friday 21st November</i>
Book Fair in Library run by Reading Ambassadors	<i>Monday 24th – Thursday 28th November 3:30pm</i>
Drama 4 All Workshops Year R – Year 2	<i>Tuesday 25th November</i>
New Year R (Intake 2026) Open Morning	<i>Wednesday 26th November 9-10:30am</i>
Alvin – Magistrate Talk Year 6 in school	<i>Friday 28th November</i>
New Year R (Intake 2026) Open Afternoon	<i>Thursday 4th December 1:30pm-3pm</i>
Christmas Fair at St Katherine's	<i>Saturday 6th December 11am - 2pm</i>
Christmas Church Service for children in KS1& KS2	<i>Tuesday 9th December AM</i>
Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch	<i>Friday 12th December</i>
EYFS (Nursery & Year R) Christmas Concert	<i>Friday 12th December 9:15am</i>
CRIBS Theatre in School - EYFS, KS1 & KS2	<i>Monday 14th December</i>
KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Christmas Performance	<i>Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th December 2pm</i>
Christmas Church Service for Parents	<i>Tuesday 16th December 6-7pm (More details to follow)</i>
Last Day of Term	Friday 19th December

Have a wonderful half term break!

Mr. Lang
Headteacher