



Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

After our very first two-week October break, it's been a genuine pleasure to see the children return with such calm focus, positive energy and readiness to learn. Their smooth transition back into school life has been remarkable - full of engagement, kind interactions and a real sense of purpose in the classroom. We are proud of how they've settled back into routines and embraced the learning ahead with such enthusiasm.

Antibullying Week: Celebrating Kindness and Individuality

This week we marked Anti-Bullying Week across the school — a national initiative that raises awareness, celebrates individuality, and reinforces our commitment to a safe, respectful environment for every child.



Children took part in a range of activities designed to build empathy, respect and confidence in responding to bullying:

- **PSHE Lessons:** Exploring empathy, respect, and how to respond to bullying in age-appropriate ways.
- **Odd Sock Day:** Pupils and staff proudly wore odd socks to celebrate individuality — with some magnificent socks on show!
- **Theatre Show:** A visiting theatre company brought the message to life through puppetry, creating an engaging and empowering experience. Thank you to the PTA for paying for this.
- **Year 6 Workshop:** An interactive session deepened understanding of the impact of bullying and how to respond with empathy and teamwork.

Together, these activities highlight our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and to nurturing a culture where every child feels valued, respected, and safe.

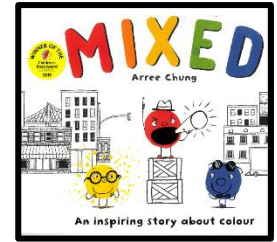


Pupil Voice: *"It was important to wear my odd socks as we are all diverse and we should celebrate this!" (Alfie – Diversity Ambassador)*



Assembly

My assembly this week reinforced the messages around antibullying and inclusion and I used the brilliant book 'Mixed' to discuss the importance of treating people respectfully and embracing differences. To access the assembly, please click on the following [link](#).



Teaching and Learning

Inclusive Teaching and Learning

At St Katherine's, we're committed to inclusive learning - adapting teaching so every child can access the curriculum and make strong progress from their starting points.

This week, our Year 2 pupils have been exploring how to use adverbials of time to sequence instructions. With personalised scaffolding and visual prompts, children were supported to produce written outcomes that show clear progression in their learning.

This forms part of a wider learning journey that will culminate in pupils writing their own instructions for washing a dirty goblin - a playful, purposeful task that brings together sequencing, vocabulary and creativity.

Tuesday 18th November 2025
Can I use adverbials of time to show the order of steps in instructions?

1st

First, fill the bucket with hot water.

Next, squirt in the bubbles.

Then, put him in the bucket.

1st

To start, fill the tub with fresh water. After that, squirt in the bubbles. After that, pop in the dirty goblin. After that, scrub his dirty body. Last, do the laundry with the nice water. At the end, put him in a towel and towel.

Tuesday 18th November 2025
Can I use adverbials of time to show the order of steps in instructions?

To start, load the pool with burning hot water but don't let it go over the top.

Next, squirt the blue bubble bath in the pool.

Once you have, squirted the blue bubble bath into the pool, pop the grubby goblin into the pool.

Later on, brush his warty, stinky and grubby tummy.

When you're ready, get the grubby green and not grubby anymore goblin out of the pool.

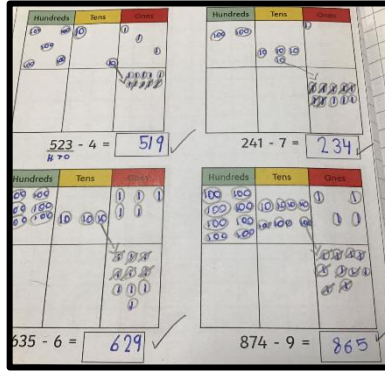
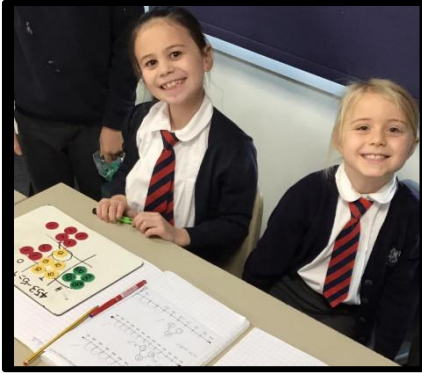
After that, throw the filthy water on the grass.

At the end, put him in a cozy towel and cuddle.

Practical Maths

In Year 3, pupils are not just learning subtraction - they're learning how to think mathematically. This week, children explored subtraction with exchange using base-ten blocks and place value charts, turning abstract concepts into hands-on problem solving. By physically regrouping tens and ones, they deepened their understanding of number structure and built confidence in tackling trickier calculations.

Practical maths like this is vital. It bridges the gap between knowing and understanding, helping pupils visualise what's happening when we subtract. It also fosters mathematical talk - children explain their reasoning, challenge each other's thinking and celebrate moments of success together.



Pupil Voice: "The equipment helped me because I could move the counters to help me exchange and then subtract." (Jessie – Year 3)

Mayor's Debate

This week, our School Ambassadors stepped into the historic Mayor's Chamber to take part in a series of thought-provoking debates alongside pupils from other local schools. The topics were relevant, and guaranteed to spark discussion:

- **Should we remove the 11+?**
- **Should families be allowed to take term-time holidays?**
- **Should children have to wear school uniform?**



Our Ambassadors were a real credit to the school - articulate, confident and deeply thoughtful. They not only presented their arguments with clarity and conviction, but also responded to opposing views with respectful challenge and sharp reasoning. Their ability to listen, reflect and debate with maturity was truly impressive.

Please click the [link](#) to watch a short video of them in action during the final debate on school uniform. It's a proud moment worth sharing!



Scholastic Book Fair: Dive into a World of Stories!

From Monday 24th to Friday 29th November, we are thrilled to host the Scholastic Book Fair - a celebration of reading, imagination and fictional friends! Run by our enthusiastic Reading Ambassadors (below), the fair will showcase the latest children's books, from laugh-out-loud adventures to magical mysteries.

Whether you're looking for a new bedtime favourite or a gripping page-turner, there's something for every young reader. Payments can be made by cash or card, and every purchase helps support our school's reading resources.

Come along, explore the shelves and let the stories begin!



Community

Top Tot Launch: A Warm Welcome to Our Youngest Visitors

A huge well done to Miss Aikenhead for organising our very first St Kath's Top Tot event - a joyful morning where toddlers from the local community joined us for baby massage and parent networking. The atmosphere was calm, welcoming and full of connection, with families sharing stories, laughter and support.

Thank you to everyone who attended and for the wonderful feedback - see examples below. It's clear that St Kath's Top Tots is already becoming a cherished space for early bonding and community building.

We're excited to announce our next Top Tots event in the spring term, which will feature a movement and dance session - a chance for little ones to groove and giggle together. We can't wait to welcome you back!

Parent Voice:

- *"It was a friendly and welcoming atmosphere."*
- *"How welcoming everyone was, refreshments were available and so many toys and books to choose from."*



Thank You for Supporting Children in Need

A huge thank you to our wonderful school community for getting behind Children in Need last week through our vibrant non-uniform day! From Pudsey-themed outfits to colourful creativity, the spirit of giving was on full display. Your generosity and enthusiasm helped raise both funds and awareness for an incredible cause.

It was heart-warming to see pupils, staff and families come together to make a difference - and have fun doing it. Every donation counts, and every smile shared made the day even brighter. Thank you for being part of it!



Friyay is Coming - Get Your Doughnuts Ready!

Next Friday, 28th November, marks another Friyay celebration. Our brilliant PTA and School Ambassadors will be out in full force selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts to raise funds and spread joy across the school.

Whether you're after a single treat or a whole box to share, we've got you covered. [Pre-orders can be placed via Arbor.](#)

Let's make it a delicious end to the week - thank you for your support!



Visit the Santa Shed at the Snodland Christmas Fair!

The festive season is nearly here, and we're thrilled once again to be part of the Snodland Christmas Fair on Saturday 29th November. St Katherine's will be running the ever-popular Santa Shed, where children can meet the big man himself, share their Christmas wishes and soak up the seasonal magic.

We warmly invite all families to come along, join the fun and make some joyful memories. It's a wonderful way to celebrate together as a community.

A huge thank you to everyone who's helped prepare for this event - your time, creativity and festive spirit are truly appreciated.



Essential Supplies - Here When You Need Us

At St Katherine's, we aim to be more than a school - we strive to be a hub for our local community. As part of that commitment, we continue to stock essential supplies including nappies, toiletries and non-perishable food items.

If your family is facing a financial challenge, or simply needs a little extra support, please don't hesitate to contact the school in confidence. We're here to help, and we'll always do our best to support you with kindness and discretion.



Sports Update

Football

Our Year 3 and 4 footballers took to the pitch with energy, enthusiasm, and fantastic teamwork last week. Guided by Mrs Humm, they battled through a series of matches and proudly secured 5th place. Their determination and effort in every game were clear to see - well done, team!



Netball

Meanwhile, our netball squad showed incredible spirit in their match, despite limited training time. With a final score of 8-6, they demonstrated resilience, respect and a real love for the game.

A huge thank you to all staff and supporters who helped make these fixtures possible. Our pupils continue to make us proud!

Inclusive Tournament

A group of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils proudly represented St Katherine's at a recent inclusive sports competition. The event began with a series of fun games designed to encourage teamwork and participation, before finishing with football matches against teams from other schools.

Every member of our team shone — showing resilience, respect, and sportsmanship — and they represented St Katherine's beautifully throughout the day. Their enthusiasm and inclusive spirit made us incredibly proud.

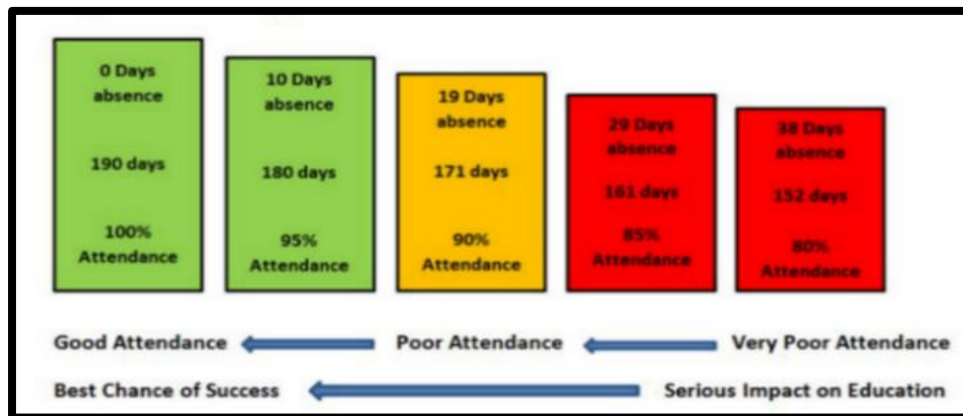
Pupil Voice: *"We practised throwing, passing and some matches at the end. I really enjoyed it."*
(Joey – Year 6)

Online Safety - Parent Support

This week's parent guide contains some valuable pointers for supporting children to deal with upsetting content they've encountered online, whether it involves conflicts, ongoing worries over the environment, or something else entirely. Please click on the [link](#) to access the short guide, with some useful tips and advice.



Attendance Matters!



Termly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99.0%		
R	Bramley 98.3%	Gala 99.4%	
1	Peach 97.8%	Pear 97.3%	
2	Cherry 98.0%	Quince 97.1%	Damson 89.3%
3	Hazel 96.7%	Walnut 93.5%	
4	Spruce 96.3%	Fir 94.3%	
5	Cedar 91.2%	Teak 94.8%	Mahogany 97.3%
6	Ash 97.2%	Oak 94.6%	

School Target: 95%



Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
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>
Year R Community Read	<i>Wednesday 26th November 2:30pm</i>
Alvin – Magistrate Talk Year 6 in school	<i>Friday 28th November</i>
St Katherine's Santa Shed – Snodland Xmas Fair	<i>Saturday 29th November 12pm – 4pm</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 15th 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 lovely weekend.

Mr. Lang
Headteacher