



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

It has been wonderful to welcome so many of you into school this week for our parent consultations. These conversations are such a valuable opportunity to look through children's work together, reflect on their progress and celebrate the achievements they are so proud of. The positive atmosphere across the school was a real highlight.

The past two weeks have also been full of energy and shared experiences across St Katherine's, from the excitement of National Science Week and its hands-on investigations, to the thoughtful NSPCC assemblies and workshops that helped children understand how to stay safe and speak out. We also came together in a sea of red for Comic Relief, celebrating a brilliant cause with real community spirit, and rounded off the fortnight by cheering on our Kats Jaguar Cheerleading Team, who proudly retained their title at the Future Cheer Spotlight finals. And of course, the arrival of our Easter chicks has brought plenty of smiles, with children eagerly watching them grow and change each day.

### Personal Development

#### **NSPCC Assemblies and Workshops**

This week, children across the school took part in NSPCC assemblies and follow-up workshops designed to help them understand how to stay safe, speak out and seek support when they need it. The sessions were delivered in an age-appropriate, engaging way, giving pupils the confidence to recognise trusted adults, understand personal boundaries and know what to do if something worries them. These opportunities are an important part of our safeguarding and personal development curriculum, helping children build the knowledge and language they need to keep themselves safe both in and out of school. We were incredibly proud of how thoughtfully and maturely pupils approached the discussions.



**Pupil Voice:** *"I learnt that I should make my voice heard when needed. I am happy that I feel safe at school."* (Janiyah- Year 6)

## Comic Relief – Seeing Beyond Snodland

We were proud to support Comic Relief once again this year, with St Katherine's turning a much brighter shade of red for the day. Children and staff embraced the fun with real enthusiasm, but also with a strong understanding of why the charity matters. Through discussions in assembly, pupils learned how Comic Relief helps people facing challenges both in the UK and around the world.

Taking part in national charity events like this is an important part of our *See Beyond Snodland* vision. It helps children look outward, develop empathy and recognise the positive impact they can have on the wider community. A reminder that if you would like to donate to this great cause, please click on the following [link](#).



## Our New Visitors in Reception

Reception has been buzzing with **egg**citement this week as the children welcomed some very special new visitors – our Easter chicks. Watching the eggs in the incubator and seeing the chicks hatch will give pupils a wonderful opportunity to explore early science in a meaningful, hands-on way. The children will be able to make observations over time, noticing changes each day and talking about what living things need to grow and stay healthy. Caring for the chicks also helps develop children's sense of responsibility and empathy, as they learn how to look after something small and fragile. It promises to be a magical experience and a brilliant way to deepen their understanding of the world around them. Please click on the [link](#) to see a time lapse video of the chicks hatching.



**Pupil Voice:** *"The eggs hatched each day. The brown chicks are the girls and the yellow ones are the boys."* (Hayden – Reception)

## Community News

Our Eco-Warriors have thrown themselves into their roles with real enthusiasm, and it's been wonderful to see. They give back to our school and the wider environment through litter-picking, gardening, and leading by example. Our warriors will also be leading an assembly next term to promote sustainability and inspire others to make small, positive changes. Their pride in caring for our community shines through, and we're incredibly proud of the impact they're already making.



## Curriculum News

### Science Week

National Science Week filled classrooms with excitement, questions and plenty of hands-on exploration. Children threw themselves into practical investigations linked to this year's theme, 'Curiosity – What's your question?' Activities ranged from Reception children building bridges inspired by their class text *The Little Red Hen*, to Year 6 exploring how to clean dirty water using different separation methods. And of course, the most hotly debated investigation of all was: *Does toast always land butter-side down?* Pupils loved experimenting, discussing their findings and sharing their theories with one another.

We were also delighted to welcome Sublime Science into school. Their high-energy workshops were packed with demonstrations and interactive experiments that had children gasping, laughing and asking even more questions about how the world works. The sessions created a real sense of awe and wonder and helped our children think and act like scientists.



### **Pupil Voice:**

"Atomic Anna was so funny and a great scientist." (Dexter – Year 2)

"I just want to discover more science now!" (Ellis – Year 2)

## Sports Update

### **Kats Jaguar Cheerleading Champions!**

A huge congratulations to our Kats Jaguars cheerleading team who once again became CHAMPIONS at Future Cheer's Spotlight Showdown competition leaving them undefeated at this event. The team worked incredibly to hold their own in the elite all-star event and to come away with the Division Champion title is a fantastic achievement. Please click on the [link](#) to watch their amazing routine.



### **Netball**

Well done to both our Year 3 and 4 and our Year 5 and 6 netball teams who participated in a netball skills festival and tournament yesterday.

Year 3 and 4 showed incredible resilience as they had no breaks during the event and just kept working hard and scoring goals! They won their friendly match against More Park 4-1.

Year 5 and 6 won every game in their group stage and continued to work hard against some very tough opponents in the later stages of the tournament. They finished a very respectable 4th place out of over 15 schools – narrowly missing out on 3rd place by just 1 point!



## Parent E-Safety Information

In this age where news, images and video can cross continents in seconds, many children are able to access distressing news at the touch of a button. This could, of course, cause youngsters extreme distress and worry.

Our 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 parent information guide.



## Community News

As a way of thanking fans for supporting Maidstone United in the Community, the 1st team are inviting families to come and watch them train and have the opportunity of meet them after their session and get autographs and selfies.

The Spiffire Lounge and shop will be open.

Visitors are welcome from 10.45am and should come through the turnstiles and taking their place in the main stand to watch the action.

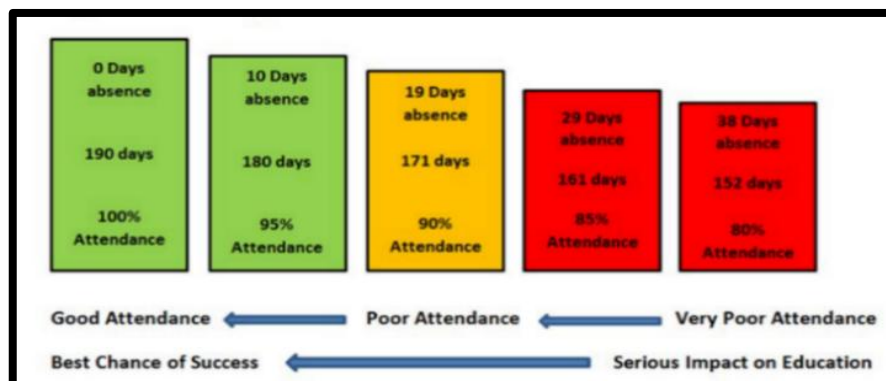
What a fantastic opportunity to support your local football club. Please confirm your attendance by email: [stonesinthecommunity.org](mailto:stonesinthecommunity.org).

**MEET THE TEAM**  
Thursday 9 April  
11am to 12.30pm  
Gallagher Stadium

- Watch a first team training session
- Meet the players and get their autographs
- Take some selfies with your favourites
- Visit the club shop

ORGANISED BY MAIDSTONE UNITED'S CHARITY  
**STONES in the community**

## Attendance Matters!



## Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 95.5%		
R	Bramley 95.2%	Gala 95.2%	
1	Peach 92.9%	Pear 95.2%	
2	Cherry 95.2%	Quince 92.7%	Damson 95.2%
3	Hazel 95.2%	Walnut 91.2%	
4	Spruce 95.2%	Fir 93.2%	
5	Cedar 91.6%	Teak 93.6%	Mahogany 95.2%
6	Ash 90%	Oak 92.8%	

**School Target: 95%**

Good attendance is one of the strongest predictors of how well children achieve in school. Even small, regular absences can add up quickly, making it harder for pupils to keep up with new learning, stay confident, and build the routines that help them thrive.

Being in school every day ensures children don't miss key teaching, social interaction, and the sense of belonging that comes from being part of their class community. Please continue to support your child by helping them attend every day they are well enough to be in school. If you are experiencing any difficulties with attendance, we are always here to help.



## Key Dates

<b>Events – Spring Term 2026</b>	
<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<b>Book Fair in the Library</b>	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Year 2 – Healthy Eating Rainbow Wraps Workshop</b>	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>CRIBS Easter Performance – EYFS, KS1 &amp; KS2</b>	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>St Katherine's Aspiration Day 2026 EYFS, KS1 &amp; KS2</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Kent Fire and Rescue Talks – Year R – Year 6</b>	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
<b>Last Day of Term</b>	<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>

Have a lovely weekend.  
Mr Lang