



Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the close of a jam-packed term, St Katherine's has once again been alive with enriching experiences for our children. From curriculum-linked adventures to Shorne Woods, Howletts Zoo, and Wingham Wildlife Park, to a full calendar of sporting enrichment, borough-level successes, and vibrant community events such as our Sports Days, the term has been busy and full of moments that brought learning to life. Even the odd hot day was navigated with calm, care and the trademark St Katherine's teamwork.

Now, as we enter the final few days of term and look ahead to our flagship community celebration, Dance Through the Musicals, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks. To all parents, carers and the wider school community: your engagement, encouragement and unwavering support make an extraordinary difference.

St Katherine's continues to grow, thrive and shine because of the strong community spirit that surrounds our children every day. Thank you for the part you play in making our school such a special place to belong to.

England vs Mexico – Early Morning Replay

The school hall was recently buzzing with excitement as over 80 children gathered early to watch England take on Mexico. The atmosphere was electric, with pupils cheering their nation on and sharing in the drama of every goal. It was a wonderful display of community spirit and togetherness - and the celebration was complete when England secured a thrilling 3-2 victory. A huge thank-you to everyone who joined in and helped make the morning such a memorable occasion.

Best not to mention what happened in the semi-finals. We'll leave it at that!



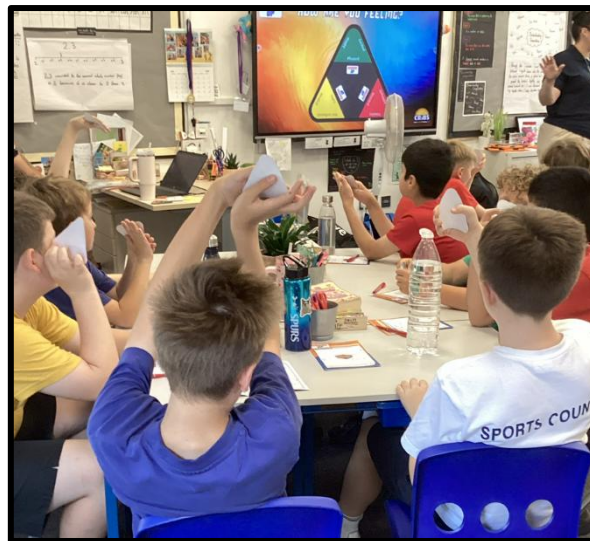
Onwards and Upwards

The End of an Era

As we prepare to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, it truly feels like the end of an era. These wonderful children - our Covid cohort — were arguably among the most affected by the pandemic, carrying experiences that shaped their early years of schooling in profound ways. Throughout their time at St Katherine's, they have epitomised our school value of resilience, showing determination, adaptability and a remarkable ability to keep moving forward.

The progress they have made this year has been quite phenomenal; they have attained the highest set of SATs outcomes that the school has on record. Academically, socially and personally, they have grown into confident, capable young people who are more than ready for the next stage of their journey. It has been a pleasure to play even a small part in their educational lives, and we could not be prouder of who they have become. I look forward to the many success stories I am certain they will go on to create in the years ahead.

We were also pleased to welcome CRIBS into school last week for their Year 6 'Moving on Up' transition sessions. The children engaged positively throughout, taking the chance to talk about the feelings that come with moving into a new year school and the changes ahead. The work linked well to our values of community and responsibility, helping pupils think about how they support themselves and each other as they move forward.

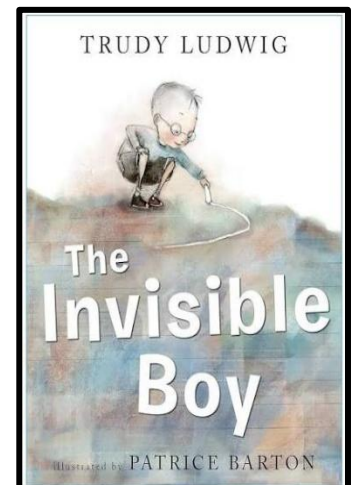


Assembly

In this week's assembly, we explored loneliness, belonging and community responsibility through the picture book *The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig. Using Brian's story as a gentle but powerful lens, children reflected on how small acts of noticing, including and reaching out can transform someone's experience of school.

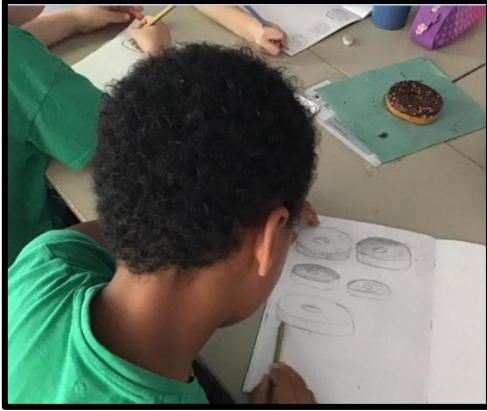
We linked these themes directly to our St Katherine's values, discussing how every pupil has a role in helping others feel seen, supported and part of our community. Please click on the [link](#) to access the assembly.

Pupil Voice: *"We loved the book! Some people believe that they don't belong until someone special comes along. This can add colour to their lives."* (Grace & Olive – Year 5)



Curriculum

Year 3 have been busy creating imaginative Foodscapes, transforming everyday snacks into surreal landscapes. They practised observational drawing, explored depth through colour, and painted with gouache watercolours to bring their ideas to life. The children then combined painting and collage to produce striking scenes - proving that creativity can turn even a doughnut into something special!



Pupil Voice: *"I enjoyed sketching the doughnut and painting the background. I selected my foreground to show the doughnut rolling down the mountain."* (Ed – Year 3)

Sports Update

Rugby Success

St Katherine's hosted its first rugby competition this term, with two school teams taking part and demonstrating the skills they've been developing through training. Both teams performed strongly, with one going on to win the event. Thank you to all pupils for their commitment throughout the term. I look forward to introducing lunchtime rugby in September and continuing to build a talented squad of players.

Athletics Achievements

Our Year 3 & 4 athletics team recently took part in a borough event and, as the only school that committed to attend on the day, ended up competing against one another! They approached the situation positively, demonstrated great sportsmanship throughout and returned to school proudly wearing a large collection of medals. Well done to all pupils who took part and represented St Katherine's so well.

Our Year 5 & 6 team competed against a number of other schools last week and displayed excellent skills and collaboration throughout. They performed strongly across all events and went on to win the competition against very competitive opposition. Well done to everyone involved for their effort and teamwork.



Community News

Tutoring

Holly's Education Hub is a nurturing learning space in Burham offering personalised tutoring for children aged 3–11. Holly provides small-group sessions in Maths, English, 11+ preparation, and Home Education, alongside engaging clubs such as Book Club and Maths in Motion. The Hub focuses on building confidence, enjoyment and purposeful learning - helping every child achieve their potential.

Find out more or book a place via the details below:

Email: hollyseducationhub@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/hollyseducationhub

Instagram: [hollyseducationhub](https://www.instagram.com/hollyseducationhub)

PRIVATE TUTORING

Holly's Education Hub

Hello, from Holly's Education Hub!

A nurturing learning space, in the village of Burham, where learning is personalised, purposeful and great fun, supporting children to build confidence and achieve their potential.

Holly

- Over 10 years experience teaching and tutoring
- Experience in independent, independent and SEN settings
- DBS checked and fully insured

The Hub

- Children 3 to 11
- Small groups - 4 maximum
- Maths, English, 11+ and Home Education

OUR SESSIONS

Book Club

Book Clubs are more than just reading - it's a chance to develop new skills, build confidence and develop a love of reading. We offer a variety of book clubs, from fiction to non-fiction, and we also offer a 'Book of the Month' club.

Maths in Motion

Maths in Motion supports children to develop into confident and capable mathematicians by making maths meaningful and encouraging talking and asking questions.

All things Home Ed

Monday and Tuesday are very exciting at Holly's Education Hub. We offer a variety of home education sessions, from individual lessons to small groups, and we also offer a 'Home Ed Day'.

11+ Preparation

You can expect quality, targeted and motivating lessons covering all elements of the 11+ examination, including expert techniques.

GET IN TOUCH

hollyseducationhub@gmail.com
facebook.com/hollyseducationhub
[hollyseducationhub](https://www.instagram.com/hollyseducationhub)

Limited Spaces | Book now to secure your child's place!

The Kent Country Show & We Love Dogs

The Kent Country Show returns to Quex Park, Birchington on 30th & 31st August 2026, promising two days of family fun, rural displays and all things canine! Expect dog agility, animal encounters, live shows, crafts, food stalls, and plenty of countryside entertainment. It's a great day out for all ages - and dogs are very much part of the celebration.

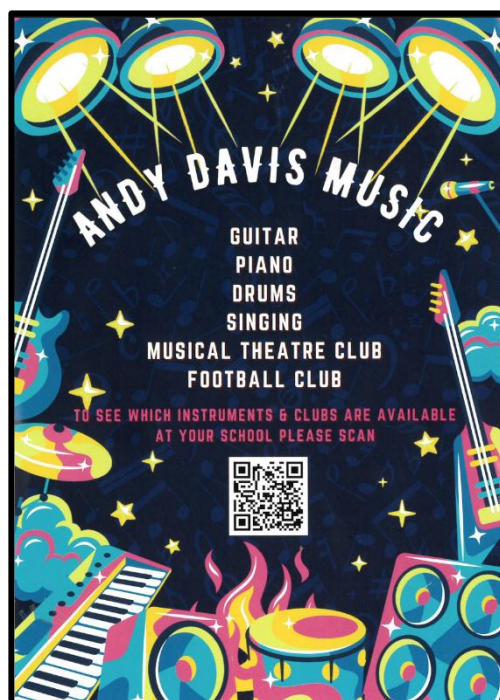
Find discounted tickets online at <https://www.thekentcountryshow.co.uk/>



Andy Davis Music

Andy Davis Music offers a range of instrumental and club opportunities for pupils, including guitar, piano, drums, singing and musical theatre. These sessions provide children with the chance to develop skills, explore interests and take part in enjoyable, structured activities.

Scan the QR code on the poster to see which instruments and clubs are available at your school.



Kent Quiz Trails – Free Family Competition

Looking for a fun summer activity? Kent Quiz Trails offer educational, history-based walks designed to make exploring local areas engaging for families. They've teamed up with What's On In Kent to give away a Kent Summer Holiday Adventure Pack, including a picnic hamper and free Quiz Trails. It's free to enter, and a great way to enjoy the outdoors while learning something new.

Find out more or enter via <https://www.quiztrail.co.uk/>.



Arbor Guidance

Please click on the following [link](#) to access a video to support parents with booking meals.

Parent E-Safety Information

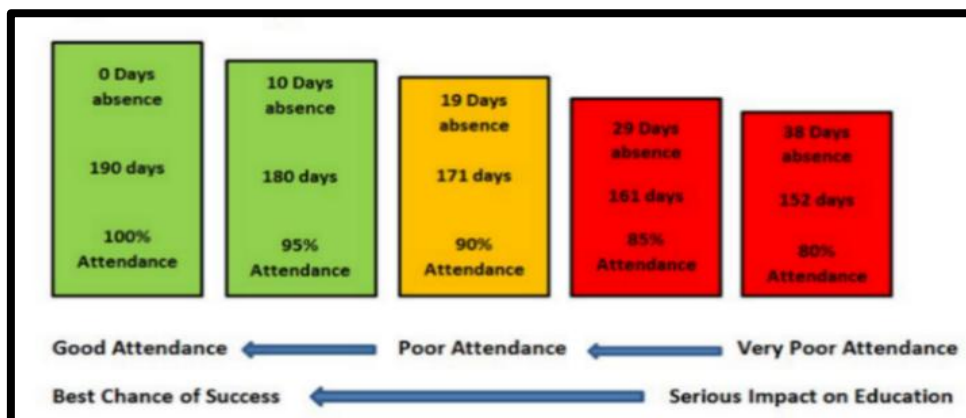
With the summer holidays fast approaching, we know many children will enjoy extra screen time in between days out and family activities. This parent guide offers simple, practical reminders to help children stay safe online over the break - from thinking before they post and keeping personal details private, to taking regular breaks, avoiding all-day gaming, and making the most of screen-free time.

It also encourages children to be kind online, use privacy settings, stay cautious on public Wi-Fi, and double-check stories to avoid fake news.

Please click on the [link](#) to access information about the key safety concerns around AI tools and expert advice for keeping young users safe.



Attendance Matters!



Yearly Attendance Statistics

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99.6%		
R	Bramley 96.5%	Gala 97.8%	
1	Peach 90.0%	Pear 96.0%	
2	Cherry 95.9%	Quince 94.4%	Damson 93.5%
3	Hazel 94.8%	Walnut 92.5%	
4	Spruce 94.0%	Fir 91.8%	
5	Cedar 89.6%	Teak 93.4%	Mahogany 95.3%
6	Ash 93.0%	Oak 93.1%	



School Target: 95%

Weekly Attendance

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

Events – Summer Term 2 2026	
EVENT	DATE
Start of Term	Monday 1 st June
Dance Through the Musicals	Monday 20 th July - 1.30pm
Year 6 Leavers Assembly to Parents	Tuesday 21 st July - 1:30pm
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 21 st July

Events – Autumn Term 1 2026	
EVENT	DATE
Start of Term	Wednesday 2 nd September
Meet the teacher – Reception to Year 6	TBC
Year 6 Kent Test Familiarisation Test PM Hall	Friday 4 th September
Year 6 Kent Test (11+) test	Thursday 10 th September
Year 6 Bikeability	14 th , 15 th , 16 th , 17 th , 18 th and 21 st September
Macmillan Coffee Mornings - run by Year 5	23/9/26 (am) and 24/9/26(pm)
African Dance Workshops – Reception to Year 6	Thursday 1 st October & Friday 2 nd October
Happy Shoes Day	Tuesday 6 th October
World Mental Health Day	Friday 9 th October
Parent Consultation Evenings	W/B 12/ 10/ 26 (Dates tbc)
Harvest Celebration	Wednesday 14 th October
Show Racism the Red Card	Thursday 15 th October
Last Day of term	Thursday 15 th October
Trust Wide INSET Day (no children in school)	Friday 16 th October

2026/27 Term Dates: Please see below the term dates for the academic year 2026/27, which were emailed out earlier in the year. Please click on the [link](#) to read a PDF version of the document.

Academic Year 2026 – 2027

Autumn - Term 1	
INSET Day	Tuesday 1 st September 2026 (children not in school)
Start School	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026
Last Day of Term	Thursday 15 th October 2026
INSET Day	Friday 16 th October 2026 (children not in school)
October Half Term	Monday 19 th October - 30 th October 2026

Autumn - Term 2	
Start School	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 th December 2026
Christmas Holidays	21 st December 2026 – 1 st January 2027

Spring - Term 3	
INSET Day	Monday 4 th January 2027 (children not in school)
Start School	Tuesday 5 th January 2027
Last Day of Term	Friday 12 th February 2027
February Half Term	15 th February – 19 th February 2027

Spring - Term 4	
School Starts	Monday 22 nd February 2027
Last Day of Term	Thursday 25 th March 2027
Bank Holiday Friday	Friday 26 th March 2027 (children not in school)
Bank Holiday Monday	Monday 29 th March 2027 (children not in school)
Easter Holidays	26 th March – 9 th April 2027

Summer - Term 5	
School Starts	Monday 12 th April 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2027
Last Day of Term	Friday 28 th May 2027
May Half Term	31 st May – 4 th June 2027

Summer - Term 6	
School Starts	Monday 7 th June 2027
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 21 st July 2027

Have a lovely summer holiday.

Mr Lang



Have a lovely summer holiday!