



# Learning as we grow. Growing as we learn. Rooted in Jesus. May Edition

Dear parents and families,

I can't believe we are just half a term away from the end of the year — and what a year it has been! It has been a real privilege to be part of such a warm, vibrant and caring school community, and I am so grateful for the support, kindness and enthusiasm shown by children, staff and families alike.

We are now in our official Ofsted window, so we are imminently expecting some important visitors. Please keep your eyes peeled for beads of sweat on our foreheads and a look of mild discomfort! In all seriousness, we are feeling positive and well prepared, and the children continue to make us proud every single day.

As things are very hectic in the build-up to the end of the year, I wanted to share some key dates with you:

- **Monday 1st June** — INSET, school closed to pupils
- **Tuesday 2nd June, 5.00pm** — Secondary school meeting for Year 5 parents
- **Wednesday 3rd June** — Magistrate Alvin Shaw in for Discovery Class
- **Monday 15th June** — Discovery Class trip to Otterden
- **Saturday 20th June** — Pet Show and Summer Fair

- **Tuesday 30th June** — New Year R parents and children in for Teddy Bears' Picnic
- **Wednesday 1st July** — Sports Day (weather permitting)
- **Friday 10th July** — Reserve Sports Day
- **Saturday 11th July** — FOCSS Camp Out
- **Tuesday 14th July, 1.45pm** — Year 6 performance
- **Wednesday 15th July, 1.30pm** — Open Afternoon for parents
- **Thursday 16th July, 7.00pm** — Year 6 performance
- **Tuesday 21st July, 9.20am** — Leavers' service
- **Tuesday 21st July** — School is out for summer!

We look forward to seeing you at these events and sharing in the celebrations, performances and special moments that make this time of year so memorable.

I would finally like to wish you all a wonderful and restful half term, hopefully in the sunshine.

Warm regards,

Mr T Wyatt-Hughes

May Newsletter 2026

## Gravesend Recorder Festival



On Friday 1st May, armed with vestiges of enthusiasm, I headed to Gravesend Grammar School for Boys to spend a lovely Friday afternoon listening to ten of our children practice recorders ahead of a concert performance. I must admit, I don't tend to select recorder music on Spotify as my music of choice, so I was unsure what to expect.

However, I had an amazing time and the children were absolutely brilliant. For many, it was the first of hopefully many opportunities to take part in an orchestral performance, and they were so professional and slick throughout. It was wonderful to see their confidence growing as they played with such focus and care.

Mrs Barton-Holman was an excellent conductress, guiding the group with warmth, precision and real musical flair. The whole event had a fantastic atmosphere from start to finish, and it was an all-round banger of a night.

A huge well done to every child involved for representing the school so beautifully and for embracing the experience with such enthusiasm.

## A very sad farewell



It is with a very sad heart that we say goodbye to Mrs Drury, who originally intended to step down from her teaching role last year, but was pipped to the post by Mr Ryan. We are incredibly grateful that she chose to stay with us for another year, giving me the gift of time to settle into life at St Margaret's and ensuring such a smooth transition into the new school year.

Her support has meant so much. From the very beginning, she has helped me find my feet in my new role, offering reassurance, wisdom and a steady hand whenever it was needed. I will be especially sad to see her leave, and I know many staff and pupils will feel exactly the same. She has truly become part of the heart of St Margaret's, and her presence will be greatly missed.

Mrs Drury has contributed enormously to school life in so many ways. She has headed Eco-council with great enthusiasm, inspired pupils to care for their environment, attended residential and shown unwavering commitment as a sterling and utterly reliable senior teacher. Her dedication, professionalism and warmth have made a lasting difference to our school community.

As she begins her semi-retirement, we shall all need to keep an eye out for any signs of a blue rinse when we spot her out and about — a sure indication, perhaps, that full retirement has materialised!

She is utterly unique and wonderful and cannot be replaced. We thank her for everything she has given to St Margaret's and wish her every happiness in this exciting new chapter.

## Knights and Princesses



Pippin and Russet classes have now concluded their unit of work on castles in the most exciting way possible — by hosting a splendid Knights and Princesses party! The children threw themselves into the celebration with great enthusiasm, bringing their learning to life through imaginative play and plenty of fun.

The field was full of action as there was lots of jousting about, with brave knights and elegant princesses taking part in the festivities. It was wonderful to see so much excitement and teamwork as the children enjoyed the activities together.

Of course, no celebration would be complete without a treat, and both classes were delighted to share jam tarts and cupcakes as part of the party. Sounds good to me!

The costumes looked fabulous, with shimmering crowns, colourful dresses, shining armour and heroic accessories making the day feel truly special. The children had a marvellous time, and their enthusiasm made the event a lovely way to round off a fantastic topic on castles.









# Year 5 Bikeability in the Sunshine





Year 5 have had a lovely couple of days doing Bikeability in the glorious sunshine. The pupils who took part in the course, have been busy building confidence and enjoying every moment along the way.

During Bikeability, children learn the skills and knowledge they need to be safe and skilled bike riders. From checking their bikes to understanding how to stay alert on roads and paths, they have been developing important habits that will help them cycle safely and independently.

The instructors praised the children for their sensible attitudes, perseverance and enthusiasm throughout. It has been a pleasure to see so many smiles, cheerful encouragement and growing confidence on every ride.

[Contact Us](#)



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