



Spring at Katherines

Head's message

Dear Parents and Careers,

The first half-term in our new building has flown by, creating lots of moments to celebrate along the way. It was a pleasure to welcome you to our Reading Cafes in January and the positive feedback received about the building was greatly appreciated.

Now we are back together, there will be plenty of further opportunities for you to come into school, which I'm sure you and your children will really enjoy.

Thank you for all the support you have provided to the school this half-term and making the transition to the new building work so well for your children. Have a restful half-term and I will see you all back at school on Tuesday 25th February.

Across the school

Nursery



In Nursery, the children have been learning about Chinese New Year, exploring the traditions, dragon dances and special foods associated with the celebration. They also focused on People Who Help Us, discovering the roles of community helpers like doctors, firefighters and teachers. Through stories and activities, the children gained a greater appreciation for those who support us every day.

Reception



In Reception, the children enjoyed reading the story of Supertato, a fun and adventurous tale about a superhero potato. Afterwards, they discussed the superpowers they would like to have and shared their reasons why. The children came up with creative ideas, from flying to invisibility, and it was a wonderful opportunity for them to use their imagination while practising speaking and listening skills.

Year 1

In Year 1, the children enjoyed learning the story of The Three Little Pigs. After exploring the traditional tale, they got creative and worked on making their own versions, inspired by the original story. The children had fun adapting the characters and events, bringing their own unique twists to the classic, and sharing their imaginative retellings with the class.



Year 2



In Year 2, as part of our art topic on textures, the children experimented with paint to create a variety of interesting textures. They explored different techniques, such as layering, scraping, and sponging, to see how each method could change the feel and appearance of the paint. This hands-on approach allowed them to develop their creativity while gaining a deeper understanding of how textures can be used to enhance artwork.

Year 3

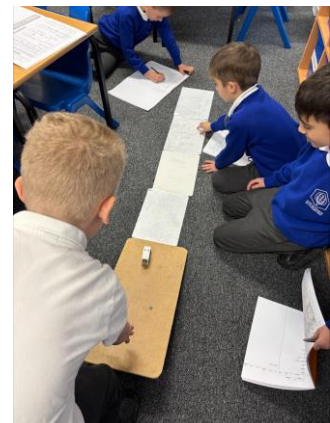


In Year 3, we had a great time exploring the new music room, where we learned how to play the glockenspiel. We enjoyed discovering the sounds and rhythms we could create with this tuned instrument. We also had a lot of fun during Number Day, taking part in a variety of exciting games and activities that helped us develop our number skills while having lots of fun along the way.

Year 3 / 4



In Year 3/4, the class have been exploring the topic of friction in science. They conducted experiments with different surfaces to observe how friction affects the movement of objects. By testing various materials, students gained a hands-on understanding of how friction can either slow down or speed up motion, and how it plays a role in our daily lives.



Year 4 / 5



In Year 4/5, the children have been learning about refraction as part of their science unit. They explored how light bends when it passes through different liquids, discovering how the angle of light changes depending on the type of liquid. Through hands-on experiments, students observed how refraction can alter the appearance of objects submerged in water or other liquids, helping them understand this important optical phenomenon in a fun and engaging way.



Year 5 / 6



In Year 5/6, as part of our exciting science unit, the children have been exploring the fascinating world of mirrors. They have been learning how different types of mirrors – plane, concave, and convex – work and how they affect light. The students discovered that a plane mirror reflects light in a straight line, creating a perfect image. They experimented with concave mirrors, which curve inward and can magnify images, making them useful in applications like makeup mirrors or telescopes. The class also explored convex mirrors, which curve outward and are often used in car side mirrors for a wider field of view.

Year 6



We were pleased to welcome the BBC to Katherines to publicise the school reopening to the wider community. Two of our Year 6 Pupil Advocates featured in the story and represented Katherines incredibly well.



Young Voices



On Friday 24th January, some of the children from our Year 5 and 6 classes attended the Young Voices Concert 2025 at The O2 in London. The day began with a delicious lunch at Nando's before they threw themselves into rehearsals, working hard to ensure they gave their best performance in the evening. The children were thrilled to see live

performances from MC Grammar and Urban Strides, and even had the chance to meet Tommy Blaize, the lead singer of the Strictly Come Dancing band. The concert was an unforgettable experience, as our choir joined over 9,000 young voices, creating a powerful and vibrant collective. With the help of top sound and light technicians, the performance was truly spectacular, filling the arena with an electric energy that will be remembered for years to come. It was a day of joy, confidence, and cherished memories. Thank you to Miss Crossingham and all the other staff and volunteers who made this experience possible.



Attendance

Good attendance increases a child's academic success and improves their life opportunities.

Our whole school target for attendance this year is **96.5%**.

Clubs

Our after school clubs have been a success and these will continue to run into the next half-term. Please see the details sent on the weekly email update to book your child a space.