



# THE GATEWAY NEWS

Keeping you informed

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## NEWSLETTER 7

13<sup>th</sup> July 2026

It's been a very busy time for the children since the last newsletter. The summer term is always filled with classes going on trips; visitors coming into school; our new Reception children coming in for the first time and our Year 6 preparing to leave us.

### SCHOOL FAIR

A big thank you to all parents and staff who helped to ensure our fair was a great success. The fair this year raised £1,992.00. This year saw the introduction of a fabulous Human Fruit machine.



### SPORTING EVENTS

#### Swanley Small Schools Football Tournament

Congratulations to our Year 5 and Year 6 football team, who were crowned Swanley Small Schools Champions 2026 after an outstanding tournament. The team played some fantastic football throughout the day, topping their group and reaching the final unbeaten thanks to their skill, teamwork and determination.

They carried that momentum into the final, scoring some excellent team goals to secure the title. An incredible achievement was that they did not concede a single goal throughout the entire tournament.

Congratulations to Nathan, Yousef, Hector, Dominic, Arsen, Rebecca, Kingly and Ryan.

### World Cup Festival

Our pupils recently took part in a football festival celebrating the World Cup, with teams from across Dartford coming together for a fantastic day of sport. Having been drawn to represent **Scotland**, the children proudly wore their colours and played

a number of matches against teams representing other nations. It was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy competitive football while celebrating teamwork, friendship and fair play.

The children were a credit to the school throughout the event and were praised for their enthusiasm, positive attitude and encouragement of all participants. They showed great sportsmanship in every match and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Well done to everyone involved for representing the school so brilliantly!

### SPORTS DAY

Our annual Key stage 1 and 2 Sports Day were a great success again this year. In Key Stage 2 the children did extremely well in a range of events and the support they showed for each other was amazing. Congratulations to Green Team who were the overall winners this year.



The afternoon was just as exciting with Reception and Key Stage 1 children giving it everything in the sun. It was wonderful to see so many parents and friends supporting the children as they showed great determination and teamwork throughout the afternoon.

### CENTRE STAGE PERFORMANCE

Recently, 16 children from Years 1 to 6 had the exciting opportunity to perform at The Orchard Theatre in a production called **Lights, Camera, Action!**

The show took the audience on a journey through different aspects of theatre and stage production, with the children acting out a variety of roles and learning about everything that



goes on behind the scenes. From exploring stage lighting to working with cameras and performance techniques, the children showcased their enthusiasm, confidence and creativity throughout the production.

They represented the school brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed performing on a professional stage in front of an audience. Well done to everyone involved!

### **CLASS VISITS**

#### **SWANS - FARM**

Swans Class had a wonderful time on their visit to the farm at Northfleet School for Girls. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting a wide variety of animals and learning more about them. Outside, they saw sheep, alpacas, ducks, goats and many other farm animals. They also visited the animal classroom, where they had the exciting opportunity to meet guinea pigs, tortoises, snakes, rats and even giant snails! It was a fantastic morning filled with fun, learning and memorable experiences.



#### **HERONS - SEALIFE CENTRE**

Hérons Class enjoyed a fantastic trip to Sealife Adventure in Southend. During their visit, the children explored a fascinating range of marine life, including starfish, seahorses and sharks. They also had the opportunity to meet a variety of other animals, such as monkeys, meerkats and Humboldt penguins. It was a wonderful day of learning and discovery, with lots of excitement along the way!



#### **KESTRELS - GRANGEWATER ACTIVITY CENTRE**

Kestrels had an action-packed day at Grangewater. They enjoyed climbing, abseiling and the leap of faith but by far their favourite activity was the zipwire at the end of the day. It was incredible to see so many children challenge themselves and

achieve things they didn't think they could do. Kestrels demonstrated excellent teamwork really pulled together as a team and showed each other incredible support and encouragement. It was definitely a day to remember!

#### **EAGLES - PGL**

Eagles' annual residential visit to PGL Windmill provided many memorable first experiences for both the children and adults alike. Some of the highlights the children have been excitedly talking about include fencing, raft building and abseiling, to name just a few.

Throughout the visit, the children showed great determination as they challenged themselves to step outside their comfort zones. They worked brilliantly as a team, encouraging and supporting one another to take part in every activity and make the most of the experience.

#### **EAGLES - CRIBS MOVING-UP**

CRIBS: an organisation who provide teaching and wellbeing support to schools, carried out a work shop called 'Moving-Up' about transitioning from primary to secondary school and gave Eagles lots of opportunities to ask questions, explore solutions and support one another on the upcoming changes in their lives.

#### **SAFETY IN ACTION**

Eagles also took part in this year's Safety in Action workshops. This was a very useful event which once again has supported Eagles with the skills they will need to be independent and to successfully and safely transition to secondary school. Experts from the police service, power networks, RNLI, community wardens group and South Eastern Railways were amongst some of the people who gave up their time to support us. Eagles Class were judged on their behaviour and scored an excellent grade.

#### **BIKEABILITY**

Eagles who participated in Bikeability Training this term have worked incredibly hard and been commended on their sensible behaviour by their instructors. The children have enjoyed their experience and feel



more confident riding on local roads now.

## **CLASS STRUCTURE**

### **September 2026**

| <b>Class</b>   | <b>Teacher</b>           | <b>Teaching Assistant</b>   |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Swans Rec      | Mrs Rafter               | Miss Cleary<br>Mrs Mahoney  |
| Herons Y1      | Mrs Edwards              | Ms Healy                    |
| Kingfishers Y2 | Mrs Roden<br>Mrs Powell  | Mrs Taylor<br>Miss Hamblett |
| Swallows Y3    | Miss Thompson            | Mrs Hogg<br>Mrs Hatherly    |
| Woodpeckers Y4 | Mrs Barrett<br>Mrs Acres | Mrs Platt                   |
| Kestrels Y5    | Mrs Webb<br>Mrs Metawea  | Miss Platt                  |
| Eagles Y6      | Mrs Jandu                | Miss Reeves<br>Mrs French   |

We welcome Mrs Edwards to the school as Year 1 teacher.

Miss Boughey will continue to work across KS1.

The children will have the opportunity to meet their new teachers and see their new classroom on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July**.

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Don't forget to let us know if you require a place in our breakfast club in September. The club runs from 7.45am every morning and includes breakfast at a cost of £3.00 per session from September. Payment must be paid in advance at the beginning of the week.

Please call into the school office and collect a form if you are interested in sending your child.

## **SCHOOL MEALS**

We are pleased to let you know that the cost of a school meal will remain at **£2.60 per meal** from September.

Please remember to pay for school meals in advance via **Arbor**. If your child would like to change from a packed lunch to school meals, or vice

versa, we would appreciate it if you could let the school office know before the end of term.

We would be grateful if any outstanding meal balances could be settled by **Friday 17 July 2025**. Thank you for your continued support.

**If your child is going into Year 3 then please be aware that you will need to pay for your child's school meal. You will receive a letter soon with more details.**

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Any new orders received now may not be fulfilled until September, we are awaiting our new delivery to fulfil existing orders, parents will be contacted.

**Please remember to label it!** Please could you remember that black school shoes are part of our uniform. Trainers or boots are **NOT** acceptable.

## **BOOK BAGS**

No books will be sent home from **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**. Your child's book bag will remain in school and passed on to your child's next teacher. It will be refreshed with new books and reading log in the first week of term.

All library and reading books need to be returned by **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July**.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

|                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 15 <sup>th</sup> July | After school Parents Consultation |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> July | Y6 Performance - 6pm              |

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July is the last day of term at 3.15pm for KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2.**

**Children return to school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and new Swans Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

**Wishing you all a happy and safe summer!**

