



# Lady Boswell's C.E. (Aided) Primary School

Learning Together  Learning For Life

Co- Headteachers: Mrs Hannah Pullen BA Hons, PGCE (NPQH) and Mrs Sharon Saunders B.Ed Hons (NPQH)

Plymouth Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3RW



01732 452851



headteacher@ladyboswells.kent.sch.uk or office@ladyboswells.kent.sch.uk

22 July 2025

Dear parents, carers, governors and staff

Having reached the end of the academic year, we write to you to reflect on what has been a truly memorable year at Lady Boswell's School and to take a glimpse of what lies ahead in the next academic year.

As you are already aware, we continue, across 2025, to mark a significant milestone in the history of our School: our sesquicentennial anniversary. This has been a time of celebration and reflection, honouring the remarkable legacy of our founder, Lady Margaret, whose vision and values continue to guide our School community to this day. Throughout this calendar year, we have looked back with gratitude and pride, and now we take a moment to look back at the most recent chapter of that history, the 2024–2025 academic year.

This year has been filled with learning, growth, achievement, and joy. Our pupils have embraced challenges, deepened their understanding, supported one another, and lived out the School's values with integrity and kindness. From inspiring classroom projects and sports events, to concerts, trips, and our 350th celebrations, the life of the School has been vibrant and rich.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils who, through their hard work and determination, have achieved strong outcomes in this year's SATs (Standardised Assessment Tests). Their results reflect not only their academic progress, but also the dedication of our talented teaching staff and the unwavering support of you, their parents and carers. We thank you sincerely for partnering with us in your child's education.

As we look ahead to the summer holidays, we know that for many, this will be a welcome time for rest, fun and family. At the same time, we are mindful of those for whom the break brings additional challenges — whether in managing work commitments or navigating personal hardship. Please continue to hold all members of our School community in your thoughts and prayers.

## CHRISTIAN LIFE

Our school values—faith, respect, honesty, kindness, forgiveness and love—have shone throughout the year. It has been a joy to see them lived out by our children, staff and families across the seasons of the Church calendar.

We began the year with our whole-school service, giving thanks and praying for God's blessing on the academic year ahead. During Harvest, pupils reflected on God's generosity and our families gave generously in support of FOM (Farming for Orphans in Mozambique). In November, we gathered in silence and prayer for Remembrance, honouring those who have given their lives in service.

Advent was marked by daily reflections and culminated in a beautiful KS2 Carol Service, while our Reception and Year 1 children delighted us with joyful nativity performances: 'The Bossy King' and 'It's a Party'.

Our 350th year has been especially meaningful. A highlight was our Thanksgiving Service in January, with celebrations due to conclude with a service at Rochester Cathedral in October. During Lent, we reflected on the theme of service, launching our ongoing Acts of Service initiative. Our Easter worship was a joyful celebration of the risen Christ and the hope He brings.

This term, we have continued to nurture spiritual growth through services such as our Pentecost celebration, a thoughtful Mother's Day service, and last Friday's heartfelt Friendship Service, celebrating the special bond between Year R and Year 6. Yesterday, we concluded the year with our Leavers' Service, giving thanks and sending our pupils forward with love and prayers.

A treasured moment in our calendar was our annual Prayer Day, when pupils engaged in a carousel of themed prayer stations; a special time to pause, reflect and be still with God amidst the busyness of School life.

## **LEAVERS, JOINERS AND STAFFING**

Yesterday's Leavers' Service was a truly poignant occasion. Watching another generation of our children prepare to move on to secondary school is always emotional for us all. We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children: it has been a privilege to watch them grow and flourish during their time with us. We send them on their way with our love, prayers, and every good wish for the exciting journey ahead.

This week also brings some staff farewells. We say a fond goodbye to Mrs Jane Gillhouley, who leaves us after her valued service as a Class Teacher. We thank her sincerely for her dedication and professionalism, and we wish her every happiness for the future. We also extend our thanks and best wishes to staff members, Mrs Emma Binskin (Finance Team), Miss Natasha O'Connell (TA) and Mrs Julie Hinks (Orchard) who are moving on to new ventures.

We are delighted to share some happy news as well: Miss Stephanie Fuller and her fiancé, Jason, are looking forward to their wedding this summer. We wish them every joy for their special day and in the years to come. Miss Fuller will return in September as Mrs Kitcat. In September, we also very much look forward to welcoming back to the fold, from maternity leave, Mrs Becki Freeman, with Mrs Wyatt returning just before Christmas and Mrs Scott later in 2026.

## **CURRICULUM AND ENRICHMENT**

At Lady Boswell's, we are committed to providing a rich, varied, and inspiring learning experience for every child, and this year has been no exception. While our broad and ambitious curriculum provides strong foundations, it is the wealth of enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom that truly bring learning to life.

Our passion for literature shone once again with January's much-anticipated Book Fortnight, featuring a visit from poet and author, Joshua Seigal. Every class took part in daily "DEAR" sessions (Drop Everything and Read), book swaps, and the shared joy of reading. Highlights included the PTA's cosy "Bedtime Read" for Reception and Year 1, and our vibrant World Book Day celebrations. We also thank the many parents who surprised classes throughout the year as part of our thriving Surprise Readers initiative.

Educational visits continued to deepen understanding and spark curiosity. Year 5 and 6 embarked on outdoor adventures at Stubbers and Overstrand, whilst pupils across the School enjoyed curriculum-linked trips to castles, cathedrals, theatres, museums, zoos, shops, the seaside and more. These experiences connected learning meaningfully to the wider world.

Back in School, immersive workshops and themed days transformed classrooms. Children explored the worlds of the Ancient Greeks, Ancient Egyptians, Romans, Mayans, Vikings, and WWII evacuees. They researched the Great Fire of London, studied geology and rock formations, and delved into the history of our own School and marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Other experiences included Lunar New Year celebrations, explorations of Black history, Baptism re-enactment, and thoughtful transition sessions for our older pupils. Our Year 5 children also had the opportunity to complete Bikeability training, developing valuable road safety and cycling skills.

A highlight of the year was our exciting STEM Week, filled with hands-on experiments, engineering challenges, mathematical investigations, and visits from parents working in STEM fields. Our thanks go to Sevenoaks School and Walthamstow Hall School for welcoming our pupils to related events through their generous outreach programmes. We were proud to once again be awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark Outreach Award, the highest level of the PSQM which recognises both the excellence of science teaching at Lady Boswell's and our local and national STEM outreach.

We were also honoured to receive the WIRE Award (Widening Inclusivity in Religious Education), in recognition of our inclusive and thoughtful approach to RE.

Throughout the year, we have marked national awareness days that encourage compassion and reflection, including Anti-Bullying Week, Armed Forces Day, Children's Mental Health Week, Safer Internet Day, and World Book Day—each sparking important conversations across the School.

Finally, a true highlight came as our Year 5 and 6 pupils took to the 'big stage' with their spectacular production of *Annie Jr.* at The Stag Theatre. Their confident and polished performances amazed audiences and showed just how much children can grow through creativity, collaboration, and performance.

## **FOREST SCHOOL**

One of the great blessings of our beautiful School grounds is the dedicated Forest School area, which has become such a valued part of learning at Lady Boswell's. This year we have continued to grow and enrich our Forest School provision, led by our trained and accredited staff. Across the seasons, children from a range of year groups have stepped outside the classroom to experience regular Forest School lessons. Come rain or shine, they have embraced the chance to explore, create and discover, building confidence, resilience and problem-solving skills whilst learning how to assess and manage risk in a safe and nurturing environment.

Looking ahead, we are excited to maintain this offer of structured sessions for a number of year groups, whilst also encouraging all classes to make informal use of the Forest School area whenever possible. It remains a truly special way for our pupils to learn and play together.

## **MUSIC**

This year, we have continued to grow and enrich our music and arts provision across the school, providing pupils with opportunities to develop their creativity, confidence, and love for performance.

Within the classroom, Year 2 pupils have enjoyed learning the ocarina, Years 3 and 4 have made great progress with the recorder, and Year 5 have taken on the ukulele. A real highlight of the spring term was our Spring Concert in which many of our young musicians had the chance to showcase their developing talents. It was a joyful celebration of music and a testament to the hard work of both pupils and music teachers.

Our Orchestra, KS1 Choir and KS2 Choir have all gone from strength-to-strength this year. Each group has enjoyed opportunities to perform, whether at the Summer Fair, in school assemblies, or at other special events. We extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Bragg (Orchestra), Mrs Clark (KS2 Choir), and Mrs O'Prey (KS1 Choir) for their expert guidance and infectious enthusiasm.

We are also grateful to our talented peripatetic music teachers, whose pupils have brought so much enjoyment to the whole school community through morning music assemblies. These performances have helped to help to inspire our young musicians and start our days on a high note.

## **SPORT**

Lady Boswell's children have always embraced the excitement and challenge that sport brings, and this year has been no exception. From inter-house competitions to inter-school fixtures, our pupils have once again demonstrated not only skill and determination, but also sportsmanship, teamwork and resilience.

Our ever-popular inter-house events continue to teach valuable life lessons: how to celebrate success with humility and accept defeat with grace. Sports Day was a particular highlight, with its carousel of inclusive and engaging activities. Every child had the chance to participate alongside their house teammates, experiencing the joy of friendly competition and the fun of trying something new.

Our Key Stage 2 pupils have completed their swimming programme, further developing vital water safety skills and confidence in the pool. Beyond the curriculum, our sports calendar has been brimming with fixtures and festivals. This year, our children have taken part in competitions across a wide range of sports, including football, netball, tag rugby, kwik cricket, tennis, Boccia, hockey and infant agility. Our dancers also shone at the Love2Dance showcase, where they represented Lady Boswell's with energy and pride.

It has been a year filled with sporting success. Our trophy shelves are now bulging with the addition of 1<sup>st</sup> place silverware won at the District Swimming Gala, Tag Rugby Festival, Year 4 Kwik Cricket and Year 6 Football. This is a real testament to the children's talent and tenacity.

Lady Boswell's has once again been awarded the School Games Mark Gold Award. This prestigious, government-led award recognises schools for their commitment to delivering high-quality physical education and promoting competitive sport both within school and across the wider community.

We remain deeply proud of the rich sporting curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities we provide. It is our goal to inspire every child to discover new interests, develop new skills, and gain confidence through challenge—broadening their horizons both in and beyond the classroom.

## **CLUBS**

We are pleased to reflect on the fantastic range of extra-curricular opportunities offered through our School Clubs and 'Activities Extra' programme. Throughout the year, these clubs have continued to provide our children with a rich and varied selection of activities, encouraging them to discover new interests, develop skills, and build friendships beyond the classroom. We are immensely grateful to our dedicated staff members who share their energy and passion to lead these clubs. Their willingness to share their own talents and interests has inspired and engaged the children in such meaningful ways. As always, we remain committed to broadening the range of opportunities available and ensuring that children from across all ages have access to clubs that excite and inspire them. We look forward to building on this year's successes and exploring new ideas and possibilities in the year ahead.

## **WELLBEING**

The wellbeing of our children, families and staff continues to be a cornerstone of life at Lady Boswell's.

We have been delighted to benefit once again from the ongoing support of the NHS-appointed Emotional Wellbeing Team, who have continued to deliver a series of informative and engaging parent workshops, both in person and online. These sessions have been an invaluable resource in helping families understand and support emotional health and resilience at home.

Within school, we have continued to use the RULER 'toolkit', encouraging the development of emotional intelligence amongst our children. This has helped them better recognise, understand, and manage their emotions in positive and constructive ways. This year, we have also added further strength to our provision by implementing the *Thrive* programme, led by our three accredited *Thrive* practitioners. This developmental approach has had a tangible and positive impact across all year groups, supporting both individual needs and the wider emotional health of our School community.

Our Family Support Worker, Ms Anna Pullen, has played a key role in our whole-school wellbeing approach. As well as providing tailored support for families across the School, she has led focussed workshops to equip parents with practical techniques that align with those we use in school—creating valuable consistency between home and classroom environments.

Continuing with our family liaison offer, we are the only School in Kent to have been presented with a Certificate of Commitment to Parental Engagement from KCC, an achievement of which we are extremely proud.

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS

We are immensely proud to share that, this year, we have again been placed 209th out of 16,764 primary schools nationwide in the Sunday Times 'Parent Power' List 2025, placing us within the top 2% of schools nationally. This recognition is one that reflects the hard work and dedication of our pupils, staff, and families. It is a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing a carefully sequenced, knowledge-rich curriculum that nurtures curiosity, intellectual confidence, and a life-long love of learning.

We are delighted to share with you below the outcome of recent external examinations, which demonstrate the strength of teaching and learning throughout the School. As you will see, our pupils have once again risen to the challenge with focus and enthusiasm, and their results reflect their hard work and the high expectations we uphold.

### KS1

Year 1 Phonics Check	Lady Boswell's 2025	National Average 2024*
% Pupils at reaching the expected level	95%	80%

Year 6 SATs		Lady Boswell's 2025	National Average (provisional)
<b>Reading</b>	% Pupils reaching the expected level	90.6%	75%
	% Pupils exceeding the expected level	71.9%	33.3%
	Average Point Score	110.5	106
<b>SPAG</b>	% Pupils reaching the expected level	95.3%	73%
	% Pupils exceeding the expected level	43.8%	29.6%
	Average Point Score	108.9	105
<b>Writing</b>	% Pupils reaching the expected level	92.2%	72%
	% Pupils exceeding the expected level	25.0%	12.8%
<b>Maths</b>	% Pupils reaching the expected level	90.6%	74%
	% Pupils exceeding the expected level	42.2%	26.3%
	Average Point Score	107.9	105

\* Please note that the 2025 national average phonic score has not been published yet.

This achievement serves as a springboard, not a finish line. We remain ambitious and forward-looking, constantly striving to raise standards and support every child in reaching their full potential.

## **THE ORCHARD BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

The Orchard has continued to flourish this year, offering our families a wrap-around care provision that is both reliable and enriching. Under the guidance of a wonderfully creative and imaginative team, for whom we are truly grateful, the children enjoy far more than simply care before and after school; they are given daily opportunities to explore, make, build and play, often through projects that echo and extend themes from our School curriculum.

A particular highlight this year has been the introduction of our new *Orchard Prefect* scheme. This initiative has given our older pupils the chance to step into a role of responsibility, supporting younger children with activities and helping to create a warm, nurturing atmosphere that everyone can enjoy. The Orchard's sense of community and service has also shone through. In March, as part of Food Waste Action Week, the children took part in an *Orchard Pantry Spring Clean*. Together they collected and donated items to a local foodbank, showing generosity and care for others beyond our School.

## **PTA**

We extend our sincere thanks to our dedicated PTA, whose tireless enthusiasm and hard work continue to enrich the experience of every child and family at Lady Boswell's. With school budgets under increasing pressure, the funds they raise are more vital than ever in enhancing our children's time at school.

We are deeply grateful to all PTA members for their commitment, especially those who have led major events such as the Christmas Fair and Summer Fair. A special thank you goes to Mrs Rebecca Rushton, who has, once again, played a key role in guiding the Committee with vision and dedication.

This year saw the hugely successful launch of the PTA Colour Run, already set to return in September. The Committee has delivered a vibrant calendar of events including the Christmas Wreath Workshop, Christmas Market, Year R & 1 Bedtime Read, Film Night, Mother's Day Pop-Up Shop, Break the Rules Day, School Discos, and more. They also played an important role in our 350th Anniversary celebrations, producing commemorative tea towels, bunting (thanks too to Grandmother, Dr. Fellowes), and pins for every child.

Beyond fundraising, their Pre-Loved Uniform sales have supported many families, and their presence at events such as Open Morning has been invaluable.

The PTA will be sharing its own newsletter soon, outlining how your generous support has benefited the School. New members are always welcome—whether you can offer a little time or a lot, every contribution matters. To get involved, please email: [ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com](mailto:ladyboswellspta@googlemail.com).

## **LOOKING OUTWARDS AND SUPPORTING OTHERS**

We are also proud to maintain our longstanding support of The Royal British Legion through the sale of poppies during the Remembrance period. In addition, many of you contributed to our Christmas shoebox appeal for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, helping to bring joy to children around the world.

As ever, it has been a great privilege to work with the Lady Boswell's community to support our friends at FOM. Your generosity in donating at Harvest, Christmas, and Easter continues to make a meaningful difference to the lives of others.

Beyond FOM, our School Council has shown remarkable initiative this year in leading the way on a number of charitable endeavours. With the support of the whole School community, they have raised funds for Children in Need, Guide Dogs for the Blind and as a part of our Inclusive Sports Week, Whizz Kidz. Their energy and compassion have been a true inspiration.

Closer to home, our staff team once again rallied around the Macmillan Coffee Morning, sharing in an abundance of cake and conversation in aid of a cause that is deeply important to many of us.

Finally, we have continued to nurture our special inter-generational relationship with Weald Heights Care Home. The joy of connection across the generations remains a treasured part of our School's outreach, and we look forward to further opportunities to grow this bond in the coming year.

## **LOOKING FORWARDS**

Looking ahead to the autumn term, we are excited to continue celebrating a significant milestone in the School's history, the 350th anniversary of the School's inception. We very much look forward to sharing more details about our upcoming Service of Thanksgiving at Rochester Cathedral in October, which promises to be a memorable and meaningful event for the entire School community.

As we reach the end of the academic year, we also take this opportunity to review our progress and prepare for the year ahead. As outlined by our Governors during the Governor Forum earlier this year, the School's development is guided

by a set of Strategic Pillars. These pillars provide a clear framework for decision-making and ensure that we remain focused on our core purpose — to offer a rich, rigorous, and well-rounded education that enables every child to thrive.

The voice of our community remains central to our planning. The feedback you provide through our annual governor survey, alongside that of our pupils and staff, plays a vital role in shaping our School Improvement Plan (SIP). We are extremely grateful to all of you who have taken the time to share your thoughts with us. Drawing on this feedback, as well as a range of performance data and internal evaluation, we have developed our SIP for the 2025–2026 academic year. This plan outlines our key priorities for improvement and development and ensures that our strategic vision continues to translate into meaningful action in the classroom and across school life.

We are pleased to share a summary of the Pillars within the SIP with you below:

<p><b>Pillar 1: Ethos</b> - a clear Christian ethos underpinning all aspects of School life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Prepare a <b>Climate Action Plan</b> that sets out the School's journey to net zero.</li> <li>✓ Ensure that the school's <b>350<sup>th</sup> Celebrations are marked in a way that further embeds the schools' Christian Ethos</b></li> <li>✓ Deliver <b>enhanced safeguarding training</b> to all stakeholders, including Anti-Racism training and training in Adverse Childhood Experiences.</li> <li>✓ Embed our approach to <b>spirituality</b> in policy and practice</li> <li>✓ Ensure all stakeholders understand how the story of Lady Boswell links to our bible story of The Good Samaritan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pillar 2: Education</b> - an outstanding education available to all pupils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Prepare the <b>Computing schemes</b> for 2026/7</li> <li>✓ Prepare a bespoke <b>PHSE curriculum</b> that embeds the school's approaches to wellbeing, including Thrive and the updated RSE requirements.</li> <li>✓ Prepare an action plan for the long-term further development of <b>writing</b> at Lady Boswell's</li> <li>✓ Continue to <b>build on last year's curriculum development in foundation subjects</b>, including: adjustments to planning where necessary, identification of curriculum efficiencies and ensuring that there are opportunities for extended writing in foundation subjects.</li> <li>✓ <b>Continue to build SEND capacity</b> through further CPD in high incidence SEND and adaptive teaching for all staff.</li> <li>✓ Further improve the school's <b>Online Safety curriculum</b> offer to ensure that it meets the demands of the school's unique environment.</li> <li>✓ Formally review the school's <b>homework policy</b>, with particular attention to online homework.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pillar 3: Staff</b> - recruitment, development and retention of an excellent staff team</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Conduct our biannual <b>workload reduction review</b> &amp; continue to focus on the <b>reduction of administrative workload</b> for teaching staff.</li> <li>✓ Implement the new <b>appraisal system for support staff</b>.</li> <li>✓ <b>Expand the developmental observation</b> approach to involve TAs</li> <li>✓ Explore the effective use of AI in schools and develop a clear strategy for the use of AI at Lady Boswell's</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pillar 4: Finance</b> - strong financial position, sustained through robust resource management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Continue to explore <b>increased revenue streams</b> to support financial stability.</li> <li>✓ Plan for LCVAP funded projects to maintain and <b>enhance the school environment</b>.</li> <li>✓ Ensure <b>PAN is reached and maintained</b> in all year groups through a range of strategies.</li> <li>✓ Maximise opportunities within the Community of Schools model for <b>SEND funding</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pillar 5: Wellbeing</b> - supporting positive wellbeing amongst all members of the school community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Explore development opportunities for <b>outdoor play</b></li> <li>✓ Roll out <b>Thrive</b> to final stage through Curriculum and whole school processes.</li> <li>✓ Implement CPD on <b>regulation strategies</b></li> <li>✓ Deliver annual staff wellbeing training – with a specific focus on menopause awareness.</li> <li>✓ Work with external organisation '<b>Smartphone Free Childhood</b>' to ensure that all stakeholders are aware of the impact of smartphone use on pupil mental health.</li> <li>✓ Embed the role of FSW as part of our wellbeing offer</li> <li>✓ Embed a clear strategy for <b>lunchtime nurture</b></li> <li>✓ Embed a process for parental wellbeing signposting</li> </ul>

## **FINALLY ...**

As we draw this academic year to a close, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to all who make Lady Boswell's such a vibrant, forward-looking, and caring School community.

Our dedicated teaching, support, and administrative staff bring professionalism, care and passion to their roles, helping each child grow in confidence, character and compassion. We are also grateful for the strong Home-School partnership we share with you, our parents and carers. Your trust, involvement and encouragement are invaluable.

We extend our thanks to our Governing Body for their steadfast guidance and oversight, and to our class reps and parent volunteers who give their time so generously. Whether supporting learning, organising events, or simply being present, your contributions make a real difference.

We are thankful, too, for our Parent Prayer Group and the Lady Boswell's Parent Support Group, whose presence and care continue to nurture our community in quiet, yet powerful, ways.

As the summer break begins, we wish you a peaceful and joyful holiday filled with rest and togetherness. We look forward to welcoming most of you back on Wednesday, 4th September (Year R start date varies), and we send our love and best wishes to our Year 6 and staff leavers as they step into new adventures; they will always be part of the Lady Boswell's family.

Please join us in this short prayer of thanksgiving:

### **Loving God,**

We thank You for Lady Boswell's School and for over 350 years of learning, growth and care.

Thank You for all who have shaped our School community with their gifts and service.

We celebrate the blessings of this past year: joy, discovery, friendship, and growth.

We especially lift to You our Year 6 leavers and staff leavers.

Go before them, protect them, and fill them with hope.

Guide us into the next chapter of our story, that we may continue to shine Your light in all we do.

**In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

With our deepest thanks and warmest regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Saunders & Pullen'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends under both names.

Hannah Pullen and Sharon Saunders  
Co-Headteachers