

COMPASS

CHRONICLE

TERM 6 SPRING 2025



One Child
One Chance



Compass
Federation

From the Executive Head



As we come to the close of another vibrant and fulfilling academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we have shared across our Compass Federation schools: St Paul's, Dunton Green and St Edmund's.

This year has been filled with proud achievements, joyful moments, and growth for pupils and staff alike. From the outstanding progress of our children to the collaborative strides in curriculum development and enrichment, our community has continued to embody the spirit of our shared motto: One Child. One Chance.

Our Year 6 pupils across all three schools deserve special recognition. They have worked with focus and determination throughout the year, culminating in SATs results that are a testament not only

to their efforts but also to the skill and care of their teachers. Federation Day was a powerful reminder of the strength in unity—children came together to laugh, share memories, and prepare for the exciting journey into secondary education.

The many trips, performances and experiences have truly enriched learning. From Colchester Zoo to the National Gallery, from first aid sessions to pedal power in Bikeability, our pupils have learned through doing, experiencing, and exploring. Productions like *Cinderella & Rockerfella* highlighted not just talent, but courage, teamwork and joy—values we hold dear.

This year, our staff have gone above and beyond to ensure every child had access to opportunities that support their learning and well-being. The introduction of mixed-year curriculum planning, specialist CPD, and high-quality moderation—externally validated—are just some of the ways we've strengthened our educational offer. I thank each and every member of our team for their hard work, energy, and professionalism.

As we say farewell to some valued colleagues—including Reverend Sarah, whose 11 years of service at St Edmund's have left a deep and lasting legacy—we also look forward with excitement to the new energy and perspectives that September will bring.

To our parents and carers, thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and trust. Your partnership is essential, and we never take it for granted. And to our pupils—thank you for your curiosity, resilience, kindness, and laughter. You remind us every day why we do what we do.

Let's take time this summer to rest, recharge and celebrate. This year, we have grown stronger together. Let us return in September ready to build on all we have achieved—and to embrace the fresh opportunities that lie ahead.

Wishing you all a restful and joyful summer.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benjamin Hulme". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Benjamin Hulme
Executive Headteacher

From the Chair of Governors

As we approach the end of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past year and extend my thanks to all of you for your continued support and partnership.

It has been a year of growth, achievement, and resilience across our school community with many exciting developments being achieved. On behalf of the governing board, I would like to express our pride in the progress the Compass schools have made – both academically and in the wider development of our pupils.



We are incredibly proud of our pupils and our schools. Whether it's their accomplishments in the classroom, on the sports field, in creative arts, or through acts of kindness and community spirit, they continue to impress and inspire us. Our staff work tirelessly to improve the standards and learning experiences of our pupils, and all our schools are in a better place than they were this time last year.

As governors, our role is to support and challenge the school's leadership, help set the strategic direction, and ensure accountability. Over the past year, we have been closely involved in key developments, including the Ofsted visit at St Pauls, joining with Dunton Green Primary and the character curriculum work at St Edmund's. all aimed at enhancing the schools experience for your children.

As this academic year ends, we also say farewell to some of our families and staff members. To those moving on, thank you for all you've contributed to our school. And to our Year 6 leavers, we send our very best wishes as you take your next steps. We are confident you will carry with you everything you've learned and experienced at school.

I would also like to thank Lynne Mosely and Sarah Corey, two long standing Governors who have given so much to the schools in the Compass Federation over many years. They have both worked in the best interests of the schools giving time, thought and energy to ensure the schools are continuously improved and provide the educational standards expected by us all.

Finally, thank you once again for your ongoing encouragement and engagement with the school. Your involvement makes a real difference.

Wishing you and your families a restful and enjoyable summer break.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Strachan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Strachan
Chair of Governors





Birch to Colchester Zoo

Birch Class had a wild and wonderful day as our youngest learners set off on an exciting adventure to Colchester Zoo. With backpacks on and eyes wide with anticipation, the children were full of curiosity and joy from the very first moment.

The journey itself was an adventure, filled with chatter and songs. On arrival, the class was greeted by the sights and sounds of the animal kingdom—roaring lions, playful monkeys and even a sleepy sloth! Birch Class were thrilled to spot so many creatures they had been learning about in class, making real-world connections with their early science and storytime sessions.

One of the day's highlights was the walk through the lemur enclosure, where the children giggled as curious lemurs leapt overhead. Later, they enjoyed watching the penguins dive and dart through the water, and shared their packed lunches surrounded by the sounds of nature and the warmth of summer sun.

There was also time for some hands-on learning, as children explored animal habitats and asked thoughtful questions about conservation, caring for wildlife and what different animals eat. The zookeepers were impressed by Birch Class's knowledge and gentle enthusiasm.

It was a day of awe and discovery—of laughter, learning and lasting memories. Our Reception children returned tired but happy, their minds buzzing with all they had seen and their hearts full of wonder at the







Outdoor Learning for all

This summer term, the great outdoors became an extension of the classroom, as pupils across all year groups embraced the joys of learning in nature. With the sun shining and the grounds in full bloom, St. Paul's children took their lessons outside.

A standout feature of the term was our forest school transition sessions, where each class had the opportunity to spend time with children from the year group they'll be joining in September. Led by Mr Manning, these sessions offered a wonderful chance for pupils to get to know their new classmates in a relaxed, playful environment, while engaging in classic forest school activities. The children formed new bonds and built confidence ahead of the new school year.

Year 6 pupils also took to two wheels this term, as Ollie led his much-loved biking sessions. These action-packed lessons were not only a fantastic way to enjoy the outdoors, but also helped children develop vital cycling skills, road awareness, and independence in preparation for their next adventure in secondary school.

From Reception to Year 6, it has been a term full of fresh air, friendship and unforgettable outdoor experiences. We're proud of how every child embraced the opportunities, supported one another, and made the most of every moment in nature.



Maple Class took to the stage with sparkle and style as they wowed audiences with their end-of-year production of *Cinderella* and *Rockerfella*. With dazzling costumes, catchy songs and a script full of wit and wonder, our talented Year 5 and 6s brought this modern twist on a classic fairy tale to life with energy and flair.

Over the course of four fantastic performances—one to the whole school and three to their families—Maple Class shone brightly, filling the hall with laughter, music and well-deserved applause. *Cinderella* radiated warmth and charm, while *Rockerfella* oozed star quality. The Ugly Sisters had everyone in stitches with their outrageous antics, and the Fairies—complete with glitter and attitude—cast a theatrical spell over the entire show.

Backstage, the cast and crew worked together like pros—changing scenes, managing props and supporting one another with quiet confidence. Their teamwork and dedication were clear in every moment, both on and off stage.

A huge thank you goes to Mr Dickens for his brilliant direction and tireless enthusiasm, to Mrs Burns for her creativity and flair in crafting the costumes and props, and to Ms Champion for her wonderful support with the set design and build. Their hard work and encouragement helped bring the show to life in every way.

It was a week of joy, talent and theatrical magic—an unforgettable experience that celebrated creativity, confidence and the power of working together. Bravo, Maple Class!

Cinderella & Rockerfella







Sports Day

The sun shone brightly on the field as we gathered for a fun-filled afternoon of energy, excitement and team spirit at this year's Sports Day.

There were classic races that brought out the competitive edge and plenty of laughter—egg and spoon dashes, sack races and a water bucket challenge that had pupils sprinting (and splashing!) their way to victory. Each event was filled with determination, enthusiasm and support for one another.

One of the highlights of the day was the eagerly anticipated Year 6 vs Staff race—a fiercely contested relay that saw Year 6 claim a well-deserved win, to the delight of the crowd! Parents also got involved with their own set of races, showing great spirit and giving the children plenty to cheer about.

Congratulations to Matthew House, who proudly lifted the Sports Day Cup for 2025 after a brilliant all-round performance across the afternoon. It was a wonderful celebration of teamwork, resilience and joyful competition.

A heartfelt thank you to Miss Bracken for her outstanding delivery of our PE curriculum throughout the year, and for organising such a smooth, exciting and inclusive Sports Day. Her passion and dedication continue to inspire a love of sport and active living in every child at St. Paul's.



Year 6 to Folkstone

As a special end-of-year treat, our Year 6 pupils set off for a well-earned day of fun and adventure in Folkstone—a joyful celebration of their time at St. Paul’s and the friendships they’ve built along the way.

The day began with a visit to Lower Leas Coastal Park, where the children explored the vibrant play areas, raced along winding paths and soaked up the fresh sea air. Laughter echoed through the park as they made the most of the sunshine and the chance to simply enjoy time together.

Later, the group headed down to the beach for a relaxed picnic, with waves gently lapping in the background and the warmth of summer all around. With sandy toes and big smiles, the children paddled in the sea, collected shells and created moments they’ll remember for years to come.

It was a perfect day—filled with friendship, freedom and the kind of happiness that comes from being beside the sea with those who’ve shared your journey. As our Year 6s prepare to move on, the trip was a fitting way to mark the end of their St. Paul’s chapter—with fun, laughter and a little bit of sand between their toes.





Year 6 Shine Bright in Magical Production of Aladdin



The school hall was filled with excitement and pride as our talented Year 6 pupils took to the stage for their end-of-year production of Aladdin. With dazzling costumes, toe-tapping musical numbers, and a whole lot of heart, the performance was a spectacular celebration of creativity, teamwork, and growth.

From the very first note, the audience was captivated by the pupils' amazing singing and dancing. The cast brought the beloved characters of Agrabah to life with energy and enthusiasm, delivering lines with confidence and flair. It was truly wonderful to see every child come out of their shell, embracing their roles and shining in the spotlight.

But the magic didn't stop on stage. Behind the scenes, pupils took on new challenges and developed valuable technical skills, running the lighting and sound with professionalism and precision. Their hard work ensured that every scene change, spotlight, and sound effect added to the immersive experience.

The set, a vibrant and imaginative backdrop to the story, was a true team effort. Every pupil contributed to its creation, painting, crafting, and building with care and creativity. The result was a stunning visual feast that transported the audience straight into the world of Aladdin.

Parents were full of praise, with many commenting on how impressed they were by the talent and dedication on display. The school community thoroughly enjoyed the performance, and the pride on the faces of the pupils was unmistakable.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Macmillan, Mr Ford, and Mrs Long, whose tireless dedication, guidance, and encouragement made the production possible. Their support helped the pupils grow in confidence, learn new skills, and create memories that will last a lifetime.



Dunton Green Pupils Show Spirit and Sportsmanship at District Sports

Pupils from Years 3 to 6 at Dunton Green Primary School proudly represented their school at the recent District Sports competition, held as part of the Sevenoaks Partnership for medium-sized schools.

Accompanied by Mr Brockwell and Miss James, the children competed with enthusiasm, determination, and a fantastic sense of school spirit.

Throughout the afternoon, the pupils demonstrated the school's core values of teamwork and resilience, cheering each other on and giving their all in every event. Whether sprinting down the track, leaping into the long jump pit, or giving their best in the relays, every child showed commitment and courage.

While Dunton Green may not have taken home the overall trophy, there were individual successes to celebrate, with several pupils achieving personal bests and placing highly in their events. More importantly, the children had a brilliant time, enjoying the chance to compete, support their friends, and be part of a wider sporting community. The event was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to challenge themselves, try something new, and represent their school with pride.

A huge thank you to Mr Brockwell and Miss James for their support and encouragement throughout the day and a big thank you to all the parents that helped transport the pupils to and from the event.





There was huge excitement in the air as Reception class set off on their very own Grand Tour of Sevenoaks – and not just in any vehicle, but on a real double-decker bus! The adventure was made possible thanks to Andy, Eleanor’s dad, who kindly volunteered to take the children on a magical ride around the local area.

For many of the children, this was their first time riding on a double-decker bus, and the thrill was clear to see – wide eyes, big smiles, and lots of waving from the top deck! The tour took in all the local landmarks and attractions, giving the children a new perspective on the town they call home.

From spotting familiar places to discovering new ones, the journey sparked curiosity and conversation. The children were buzzing with excitement, and the experience became a hot topic of conversation for weeks afterwards.

It wasn’t just the children who enjoyed the day – the adults had just as much fun, sharing in the joy and wonder of the moment. A huge thank you goes to Andy for making this unforgettable experience possible. His generosity and enthusiasm gave the children a memory they’ll treasure for years to come.

What a wonderful way to explore our community – and what a ride!



Reception’s Grand Tour of Sevenoaks – All Aboard!



Orange



Apple

I love you

Sporting Spirit at Dunton Green

This term has been an incredible showcase of sport and teamwork at Dunton Green, with pupils across the school embracing a wide range of exciting opportunities to get active, compete, and be inspired.

We kicked things off with a very competitive Sports Day, where every pupil gave their all to represent their house with pride. The field was alive with energy as children sprinted, jumped, and cheered each other on. The day also featured the legendary parents' races, which brought out some serious speed and plenty of laughter, and the thrilling Year 6 vs Staff sprint relay, which had the whole school on its feet! It was a brilliant display of team spirit, determination, and encouragement, with every child playing their part in a fantastic day of fun and friendly competition.

Next, we were thrilled to welcome Jordan Butler, a professional footballer for Millwall Lionesses and a former England Women's U19s player. Jordan spoke to the children about her journey in football, shared inspiring stories, and even joined in with some training sessions. Her visit left a lasting impression and showed our pupils what's possible with hard work and passion.

To round off the term, we were lucky to receive coaching sessions from Chelsea Football Club. These high-quality sessions gave pupils the chance to develop their skills and learn from top-level coaches. We're incredibly proud that a number of our children were invited to a selection event for the Chelsea Academy – a huge achievement and a testament to their talent and dedication.

It's been a term full of inspiration, opportunity, and achievement, and we can't wait to see what next term brings. Well done to all our pupils for their enthusiasm and effort – you've done Dunton Green proud!



Learning to Save Lives: First Aid Training for All Pupils



As part of Child Safety Week, every pupil at Dunton Green – from our youngest in Reception to our oldest in Year 6 – took part in First Aid training, gaining vital life skills that could one day help save a life.

Led by the brilliant team at Mini First Aid, the sessions were hands-on, engaging, and age-appropriate. Pupils learned how to treat cuts and bruises, call 999 in an emergency, perform CPR, and even help someone who is choking. The children listened intently, asked thoughtful questions, and practised their new skills with great enthusiasm. The impact of the training was clear from the excitement and confidence shown by the pupils:

“I liked learning how to do CPR. It made me feel like a real-life superhero!” - Year 3

“Now I know what to say if I ever have to call 999. That’s really important.” – Year 1

“It was fun and serious at the same time. I feel like I could really help someone now.” – Year 6

We are incredibly proud of how all our pupils approached the training with maturity and curiosity. A huge thank you to Mini First Aid for delivering such a valuable and empowering course. These are skills that will stay with our children for life.



Teaching & Learning

The final term in school is always a busy one: trips, productions, sporting competitions, and transition events fill the calendar. Amidst all of this, our teachers have continued to work exceptionally hard to deliver the high-quality curriculum our children deserve. The end-of-term Show and Share events were a wonderful celebration of this dedication.

This term, our focus has been on laying strong foundations for the next academic year, with particular emphasis on professional development, curriculum innovation, and collaborative planning.

One of the most exciting developments this term has been the creation of a bespoke CPD offer, carefully tailored to meet the needs of our staff. Focus areas have been selected based on observations and insights gathered throughout the year, resulting in a programme that is both responsive and ambitious. It supports professional growth for teachers at every stage of their career while aligning closely with our strategic priorities.

We have also continued to make strong progress in refining our approach to writing assessment. This year, some of our Year 6 writing was externally moderated, and we are pleased to report that all teacher judgements were agreed. This outcome reflects the accuracy and consistency of our assessment practices and highlights the expertise of our teaching staff. This work is ongoing, and we will continue to keep you informed as and when further developments happen.

In preparation for September, we've also been working hand-in-hand with teachers and leaders to co-plan for the new academic year. A key part of this work has involved writing new curriculums for our mixed year group classes at Dunton Green. This has been a collaborative and thoughtful process, ensuring that every pupil receives a high-quality, coherent learning experience. The result is a curriculum that is both rigorous and flexible - designed to meet the diverse needs of our learners.









To complement their learning on growing, Year 2 visited Bore Place where they put their knowledge to the test.

Bore Place is a 500-acre regeneratively managed historic estate. Their focus is on organic and regenerative land management whilst supporting people to live happy, fulfilling, and sustainable lives, while offering a range of educational packages.

Our Year 2 pupils had a hands-on experience of understanding where food comes from and how it is grown in harmony with the natural world. They explored the basic structures of plants, what plants need to grow, and how adaptations need to be made to suit environments.

Although it was one of the hottest days of the year, this did not stop our Year 2 pupils from adventuring through the beautiful grounds, visiting the cows, exploring all of the different crops, and getting their hands very dirty whilst sowing seeds and planting their own peas to take home.

Throughout the day, children were encouraged to think like scientists and farmers, asking questions and making predictions about how different plants survive in varying conditions. The trip not only consolidated their classroom learning but sparked curiosity about food systems, sustainability, and caring for the planet. It was a truly enriching day that left pupils inspired, engaged, and a little muddy!

Crystal Class to Bore Place





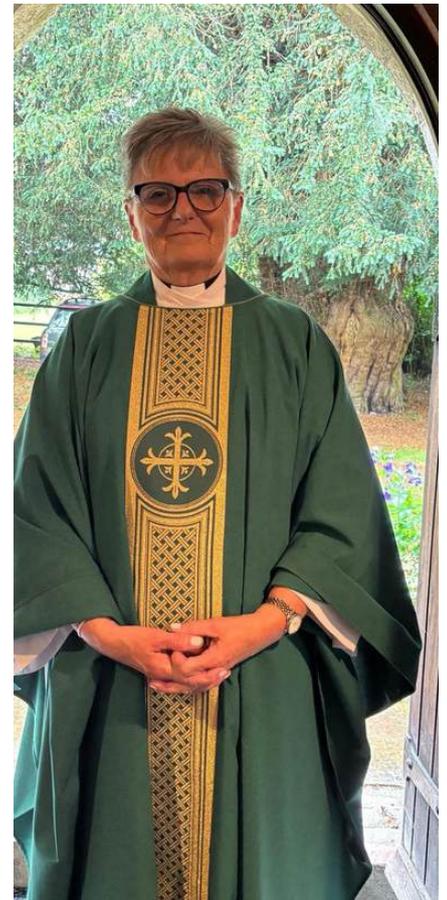
Farewell, Reverend Sarah

St Edmund's recently said a heartfelt goodbye to Reverend Sarah as she hung up her robes and stepped into retirement after 11 years of devoted service to our school and community.

While the day was tinged with sadness, it was also filled with warmth, gratitude and celebration. As a parting gift, Reverend Sarah presented our Year 2, 3 and 4 pupils with their very own Bibles—an act that perfectly captured her deep care and commitment to the spiritual growth of every child. This was followed by a moving worship, where each class offered songs, hand-made cards, and words of love and appreciation.

Reverend Sarah has been far more than our chaplain. She has been a compassionate listener, a wise guide, and a reassuring presence in both joyful and challenging times. Her sermons have inspired us, her prayers have lifted us, and her gentle smile has brought comfort to countless children and adults alike.

As she enters this new chapter, Reverend Sarah leaves behind a legacy of kindness, faith, and unwavering support. Her presence will be deeply missed, but her influence will continue to live on in the hearts of everyone at St Edmund's. We wish her a retirement full of peace, joy and well-earned rest.







First Aid Workshops

At St Edmund's, we believe in equipping our pupils not just with knowledge, but with life-saving skills they can carry into the future.

This term, all of our pupils took part in First Aid workshops—an invaluable opportunity to learn how to stay calm and take action in an emergency.

During the sessions, children learned how to assess a situation, call for help, and provide basic first aid. They practised how to apply plasters, dress burns, and use pressure to help stop bleeding. It was inspiring to see even our youngest pupils listen so attentively and approach each task with care and confidence.

Our older pupils took things a step further, exploring more advanced first aid techniques. They learned how to check for a pulse, put someone into the recovery position, and assess whether a person was breathing. Using medical manikins, they even had the chance to practise chest compressions and deliver effective rescue breaths—skills that could one day make a real difference.

Throughout the day, one thing stood out clearly: the sense of teamwork and empathy. Pupils supported and encouraged one another, showing maturity and compassion. We are proud that, in any emergency, you really can count on St Edmund's.







Emerald to The Royal Observatory

Emerald Class experienced a truly unforgettable day filled with history, learning, and cosmic curiosity during their visit to the world-famous Royal Observatory in Greenwich. With excitement buzzing in the air, the children embarked on an educational adventure that transported them through time and space.

Before the day's activities officially began, the class paused to take in the stunning panoramic view of London from the hill at Greenwich Park. From this perfect vantage point, they identified iconic landmarks on the skyline, impressing Mr Ledger with their sharp eyes and impressive knowledge of the capital city. From the towering Shard to the London Eye, Emerald Class proved themselves keen observers, already embracing the spirit of exploration.

Once inside the Observatory grounds, the real magic began. The class stood astride the Prime Meridian Line, imagining how it divides the world into Eastern and Western Hemispheres and connects explorers across continents and centuries. They marvelled at the Great Equatorial Telescope, one of the largest of its kind in the UK, and visited Flamsteed House, the original residence of the Astronomer Royal. Inside, they explored exhibitions on timekeeping, astronomy, and navigation, gaining insight into how scientists from the past charted the stars and measured the passage of time.

The day was truly one of awe and wonder, sparking new questions, ideas, and dreams. As they returned to school, many pupils found themselves pondering the nature of exploration—not just of the physical world, but also of ideas, time, and the universe beyond. Emerald Class left inspired, with their imaginations ignited and their minds reaching ever outward!





Our Reception class have had an exciting and energetic time recently as they zoomed into action with their brand-new balance bikes! The playground has been buzzing with laughter, determination, and the joyful sounds of little wheels in motion.

We are delighted to share that St Edmund's successfully secured funding through the national Bikeability scheme to provide specially designed cycling sessions for our youngest pupils. As part of this fantastic opportunity, the school also received six brand-new balance bikes and helmets, giving our children access to high-quality equipment that supports their physical development in a fun and engaging way.

Thanks to this initiative, Bikeability lessons are now being delivered to both the youngest and oldest members of our school community, offering a full-circle approach to learning about safe and confident cycling.

We are incredibly proud of our Reception class for their enthusiasm, resilience, and speedy progress. Whether it was their first time on a bike or they were already confident movers, every child embraced the challenge and showed just how much they could achieve with the right support and encouragement.

We look forward to seeing their cycling journeys continue to grow—one balanced step at a time!

Bikeability for Sapphire Class









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