



THE MINSTER SCHOOLS

THE NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

Executive Headteacher: Ali Silke

Chair of Governors: Brian Birch

THE MINSTER JUNIOR SCHOOL

Head of Schools: Laura Akhtar

Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of another school year, I am so proud of our school community and all we continue to achieve here at The Minster Church of England Schools. The end of the year always comes with mixed feelings as we all feel excited for the new adventures that lay ahead, but also this time of the year means saying goodbye.

I want to wish all of our Year 6's the best of luck as they move onto high school. You have all worked incredibly hard this year and I am sure you will continue your hard work in your next adventure at Secondary School.

This academic year, 2025 to 2026, has been an extremely successful one. I would like to share our draft academic outcomes with all of you as follows:

- 74% of children in Reception achieved a Good Level of Development
- 81% of children in Yr1 achieved the expected standard for the Phonics Screening Check
- 93% of children in Year 2 achieved the expected standard in the re-takes for the Phonics Screening Check
- Our Year 6 SATs results are the strongest outcomes for the school in many years as follows:

Y6 (69 children) Figures in brackets are National Average for 2025	Expected Standard	Greater Depth Higher Standard
	%	%
Reading, writing & mathematics Combined	80% (62%)	10%
Reading	93% (75%)	44%
Writing	80% (72%)	10%
Spelling Punctuation and Grammar	87% (73%)	30%
Maths	90% (74%)	54%

These results reflect the hard work of all our Yr 6 children and all staff who have ever taught these children since they arrived in Nursery or other Year Groups throughout the school.

All of the positive outcomes across the school would not have been achieved if it wasn't for your incredible support, as a parent body in terms of getting your children to school on time every day but also in the way you support them with their home learning.

In addition to our academic success, there are many other things to celebrate as follows: Sport and PE are an extremely important part of The Minster CofE Schools curriculum and enrichment opportunities.

As always, our performance was as strong as in previous years as follows:

Panathlon - Champions of Croydon in Jan 26

Sports hall Athletics - Champions of Croydon in Feb 26

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Bee Netball - Champions of Croydon in Feb 26

NFL - Champions of Croydon in March 26

Basketball - Champions of Croydon in April 26

Y3&4 Tennis - Champions of Croydon in May 26

Boys and Girls both won their football leagues for the season

Boys' football - Champions of Croydon in May 26

SDBE Muti Academy Trust Games at Dulwich College - champions in July 26 for the 3rd Year running

Year 5 boys' football champions of Croydon in July 26

We have also achieved a GOLD School Games Mark in June 26 which is an incredible achievement.

Other noticeable events and enrichment opportunities we have provided include:

- An outstandingly positive SIAMS inspection at the Infant school
- Mini-medical training - the whole of Year 5 received first aid training
- Former pupil and Premier League footballer visited the school - Andre Grey who plays for Brentford
- Represented the borough of Croydon 6 times this year at London Youth Games
- Year 5 and Reception took part in the BRIT School Dance workshops
- Let Your Feet Dance competition
- Various school trips when we are so grateful to parent volunteers as these trips couldn't happen without you

This year we say goodbye to a number of staff. I want to thank all of them for the dedication and care you have given to our community and our wonderful children over the years. I am sure you will join me in thanking them and wishing them all the best for the future and their next endeavours.

Miss Barry, Miss Johnston, Miss Yang and Miss Oldfield have been wonderful members of the teaching team and will be greatly missed. Mrs Sivachelvam is off on a very different adventure as she awaits the arrival of her first baby. We look forward to seeing mum and baby in the new year.

Mrs Akhtar our Head of School, joined us 18 months ago, she has been integral in leading Nursery, Infant and Junior schools with me, during a key time of transition as we continue to work as one school. I want to thank her for her steady leadership and endless positivity. Mrs Akhtar is off to take up the headship of St Leonard's Primary School in Streatham, another school in the SDBE Multi-academy trust.

I hope that the summer gives everyone a chance to recharge ready for the next academic year, where we are excited to see the children continue on their journey of learning and growing.

I thank you for your continued support and wish you a restful summer break. We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 7th September as our INSET days are the previous week.

Best Wishes

Ali Silke

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