

2025 Highlights

There are far too many 'highlights' to describe on one sheet of paper. Here are just a few.

- We are, officially, the Sunday Times 'Primary School of the Year' – a huge accolade.
- Sustaining the positive ethos, culture and overwhelming calmness of the school – commented upon by our many visitors and the effusive views of a large and diverse number of individuals – contained within the 2025 'What They Say' folder.
- Progress made by pupils from across the school.
- For long periods this year attendance was 97%.
- The success of the 2025 Mathematics Challenge initiative – some quite remarkable scholars – a remarkable achievement.
- SATs – hard to comprehend that it is 2025 and after all these years, nothing has replaced it. But, and it's a massive 'but', we have done what we do best – turn an unpalatable situation on its head and make it work for us on our terms. It is no exaggeration to describe the Year 6 scholars' assiduous approach to learning and aspiration as humbling.
- Both Sports Days were sublime – evocations of Thomas Jones' pupils and families at their absolute best.
- Pupils continue to excel in violin, cello, piano and drama, culminating in Year 6's staging of Treasure Island in July, Year 2's Harvest play The Little Red Hen in October and both of last week's Christmas concerts – all superlative.
- Nursery's Teddy Bears' Picnic in July.
- The reinstating of the Quiet Area amphitheatre, the installation of the artificial grass in the EYFS space and the landscaping of the raised beds in the Key Stage One playground – a transformation – affording opportunities for play and interaction.
- The 2025 School Journey – for Year 6 a magical experience – archery, abseiling and raft building, and a unique sense of camaraderie, that only a residential visit of this kind can afford.
- The fact we remain financially robust. At a time when many schools are struggling to fill places, we continue to be oversubscribed, with long waiting lists for every class.
- Continued involvement of the Grenfell Wellbeing Team has supported pupils in focussing on their emotional health.
- Last term's inter-schools' chess tournament – we did not win; we were not runners up - but we were singled out for praise for our composure and the manner in which we accepted losing – with dignity and grace – rare qualities.