



Dear Parents & Carers,

Today's the day the teddy bears have their picnic...! How lovely it was to meet so many parents & carers at our EYFS Teddy Bears' Picnic. Lots of teddies on show- I even met a sparkly unicorn! It was a precious time: children getting to know each other, parents/carers enjoying meeting each other and school staff finding out about our newest learners.

Throughout the rest of the school, all our children went to their new classrooms and met their new teachers. I thoroughly enjoyed popping in to each room to see the excitement! Our new teachers needed **courage** today as well, as they met their new classes and learned new names.

With only one full week of term left, there is still such a lot to do. Please help us by trying to keep things as 'normal' for your children. Good sleep, arriving promptly to school, etc. will all contribute to a sense of calm. Please also remind your children that our values apply all the way through to the end of term- let's find opportunities to show **love**, **courage** and **trust** over these last few days of term.

Enjoy the football (if you are interested in that sort of thing) and have a lovely weekend,

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

admin@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...this week's theme was <i>Trust</i>	<i>Love</i>	<i>Courage</i>	<i>Trust</i>
<i>Willow</i>			Dottie D
<i>Oak</i>			Ellie-May M & Dylan DM
<i>Sycamore</i>			George L
<i>Maple</i>			Elijah CR & Finley E
<i>Lime</i>			Florence W
<i>Hazel</i>			Liv H & Mason B
<i>Chestnut</i>			Daniel H
<i>Elm</i>			Ellie H
<i>Beech</i>			Jude S
<i>Ash</i>			Max D & James B
<i>Pine</i>			Jemimah O
<i>Hawthorn</i>			Spencer E
<i>Aspen</i>			Bobby W
<i>Juniper</i>			Jake W & Harrison H

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

This week Oak and Willow have been focusing on spiders. We learnt where they live, what they eat and what they look like.

In Maths, the children have been recapping their previous learning. We have been continuing to practise number bonds to 10 and using our mapping skills to create 3D buildings for our maps and then driving around our map with toy cars.

In Phonics, they have been re-capping our previous learning, looking for digraphs (ee, or, ai, etc) and trigraphs (igh, air, ear) in different words. As well as looking at our teicky words

For Welly Wednesday, we went outside and looked for spiders and spider webs. We found quite a few spiders webs, but the spiders appeared to be hiding from us! We did find one in the classroom, and we put him outside to keep safe.

Finally, we made mug cakes in the microwave. They were absolutely delicious, and the children really enjoyed making them.

Another fabulous week where the children did us proud, once again, on our transition afternoon. They were all very excited to know who their new teacher is. Well done, Oak and Willow!

Sycamore & Maple

This week in Sycamore and Maple, we have been getting ready for sports day with additional PE lessons. We have loved practising for our individual and team events; including the egg and spoon race, sprint events, beanbag toss and relay races! We have been doing some wonderful writing about Grandad's island this week. We have been thinking about how the characters are feeling at different times in the story. We thought of questions we would like to ask Grandad about his time on the island and we role played this with our friends. In maths, we have been learning how to tell the time. We really understood telling the time to the hour and the half hour. Fantastic work this week, team!

Miss Miners & Mr Till

Lime & Hazel

In Year 2 this week, we have been working on our related facts knowledge in Maths and have written a letter to our new teachers in English- we hope they enjoy reading them and getting to know us! We also learnt more about the different types of monarchs in History and used pastels to create some images of castles in Art. We are so excited for next Friday because we will be having our Banquets - we can't wait to see everyone dressed up as Kings and Queens!

Miss Samuel & Miss Plaw

Chestnut & Elm

We have been exercising our creative minds this week in Year 3. In Maths, we continued our learning about shape. This time, we looked at 2D shapes. We learnt about the properties of polygons and had a go at creating these using rubber bands and geo boards. In English, we began to plan out our non-chronological reports all about Ancient Egypt- we have included a description of inside a tomb and the steps of how to mummify a dead body. Our curriculum subjects were a lot of fun. In Art, we made 3D abstract sculptures and we even tried a bit of sewing, sewing on appliques and doing a bit of cross-stitch.

Miss Niebele and Miss Bishop



Beech & Ash

This week in Ash and Beech Class, we have been finishing our pieces off and publishing our retellings of *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. In DT we designed the body of our cars, taking into account how air resistance contributes to the speed of the car, which we are looking forward to next week. We have revisited division in maths to strengthen our understanding ready for year 5. Although we were disappointed that Sports Day was postponed, we have used the extra time to practice our skills ready for next week.

Miss Collier & Miss Methley

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week, we have completed our Mayan reports. We added colour and presented them, leading to some high-quality reflection and reviews. We also completed our unit on volume and capacity. We were even able to use our new knowledge and resources to estimate the volume of objects around the classroom! In the afternoons, we also had our first attempts at building and improving doodlers to create a pattern. We experimented with many components including writing utensils and motors. Overall, we have had a very successful and practical week in both Pine and Hawthorn.

Mr Childs & Mr Dookheran

Aspen & Juniper

Book amnesty

We need to collect in all library books and *Little Wandle* reading books. Could you please bring in as many school books as you can find around the house, under the sofa, behind the fishtank, etc...? We are conscious that some children have been taking library books out without first scanning them out. We will have a no-judgement amnesty- please just bring them back in!

It is **really important** that we get as many of our reading scheme books back as possible. These are our *Little Wandle* phonics scheme books. Again, we are having a no-judgement amnesty!

Reports

On Wednesday 17th July, you will be receiving your child's school report. This year, we will be sending them to you electronically. Please look out for the email in your inbox! If you would like to discuss anything in the report with your child's class teacher, please either make an appointment via the school office or grab your child's teacher at the beginning or end of the day to arrange this.

Requests for Leave of Absence

Attendance regulations state that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is important to note that Head Teachers can determine the length of the authorised absence as well as whether absence is authorised at all. The fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' **are rare, significant or unavoidable which means the event could not reasonably be scheduled at another time**. There are no rules on this as circumstances vary from school to school and family to family. There is however, no legal entitlement for time off in school to go on holiday and **in the majority of cases, holidays will not be authorised**. Parents/Carers wishing to apply for leave of absence will need to fill in an application form available either on our website or from the school office, in advance and before making any travel arrangements.

If term time leave is taken without prior permission from the school, the absence will be unauthorised and if the number of sessions absent hits the threshold set down in Hampshire's Code of Conduct, Parents/Carers will be issued with a fixed penalty fine, or other legal action may be taken in accordance with the code.

Taking holidays in term time will affect your child's schooling as much as any other absence and we expect Parents/Carers to help us by not taking children out during school time.

Support for Provision Map for parents

At the start of the Summer term, we sent out information about how we will be sharing targets and support for our pupils on the SEN register with families moving forward. We are now using a system called Provision Map (provided by Edukey) to share Learning Plans and to enable families to interact with them directly. We will shortly be launching Pupil Passports through Provision Map too.

To help anyone who is finding this difficult to navigate or if you would simply like a demo and further information I will be available to go through this with you at the next coffee morning (Tuesday 16th July). There will be a few laptops set up so that you are able to have a go at logging and troubleshooting any problems.

Kind Regards

Mrs Clark

Rescheduled Sports Day

The rescheduled Sports Day is set for Tuesday 16th July, with our fingers crossed for better weather. The predicted forecast for Tuesday has been changing throughout this week, so a decision will be made by lunchtime on Monday as to whether our Sports Day can go ahead. We thank you for your patience and understanding. Mr Osmond

School Dinner Debts

There is a large amount of outstanding unpaid school dinner debt. Please make sure that you pay this *before* the end of term. Thank you!

School uniform

I have seen quite a few children not wearing school uniform, especially trainers (rather than school shoes), branded tracksuit trousers for PE and t-shirts with logos. From September, please could you ensure that your child comes in to school with the correct uniform? We will kindly 'turn a blind eye' for the final few weeks, but will be insisting on this from September, to allow everyone time to purchase the correct uniform.

Attendance

At Pilgrims' Cross we value the importance of regular and punctual attendance and remind parents of the importance of ensuring your child in school as much as possible and to think carefully before keeping your child off school. Guidance can be found on <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Whole School Attendance this week: 95.1%

Lateness: 574 minutes of lost learning this week

Classroom doors are open from 8.20am and 8.30am for morning drop off and 2.50pm – 3pm for end of day collection.

Resources

Please see attached below information about this year's Carnival being held on Sunday 21st July



INSET days

Governors have agreed the INSET days for the academic year 2024/25:

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Friday 20th December 2024
- Monday 6th January 2025
- Friday 20th June 2025

Safeguarding: Snapchat

Does your child have a phone, or access to one? Before you let them use Snapchat, please look over our helpful guide to keep them safe...

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SN PCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCAMS AND BLACKMAIL

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages feature by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them (regardless of whether it is true or not) and will share them online unless they send them money. Teens then (understandably) panic and worry about the long-term consequences. Snapchat's own research found that 55% of teenagers had experienced this – either on this app or others.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight'. It claims the content shown here is relevant to each user, but it could also be seen as an easy way to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore,

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

A feature called 'SnapMaps' highlights your device's exact position on a virtual map, which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, selected friends or just you. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to help friends keep track of each other – but it could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET CONTROLS VIA FAMILY CENTRE

Snapchat has parental controls called 'Family Centre'. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. This allows you to view their friends list, see who they have chatted with in the last 7 days (but not to view the specific messages), and report any concerns.



TALK ABOUT REAL LIFE SCAMS

If a young person is mature enough to have a conversation about scams, nudes and blackmail. Have this discussion before you let them join. Share some real-life examples. Discuss the importance of never adding strangers and discourage them from sharing nudes. If they are lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately, then block and delete the predator and screenshot any evidence.



DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage children to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.



CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind children that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up – and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some 'challenges' which become popular on the platform may have harmful consequences.



KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone a user adds unless they change their settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled. It's safest for a child to avoid adding people they don't know in real life – especially since the addition of My Places, which allows people to see where users regularly visit.



BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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Key dates

- Monday 15th July- Year 6 Graduation
- Tuesday 16th July – Reserve Sports Day

- Wednesday 17th July- School reports go 'live' to parents/carers
- Monday 22nd July- Year 6 Leavers' Worship- 1.45pm
- Tuesday 23rd July- Non-school uniform day
- Tuesday 23rd July- Last day of term & Year 6 Leavers' party
- Wednesday 24th July- Sunday 1st September- Summer holidays
- Monday 2nd September- INSET Day 1
- Tuesday 3rd September- INSET Day 2
- Wednesday 4th September- First day of new academic year
- Friday 20th December 2024- INSET Day 3
- Monday 6th January 2025- INSET Day 4
- Friday 20th June 2025- INSET Day 5

Please check out our website calendar for all relevant dates:

<https://www.pilgrimscross.co.uk/diary/grid/2024/06/>