



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back- and welcome to all our new parents and carers of children in Early Years. I hope that you had a fabulous summer. Although the rain has definitely dampened the environment, the mood of the children has been super-positive, as they returned to school this week, showing great **love** for being back. I have heard lots of lovely tales of summer activities and experiences.

In case you have never read this before, this is the weekly Newsletter! I have asked the office to print everyone a paper copy but from next week the Newsletter will come to you via a **weekly email**. You can also find the latest copy **on our school website**. It is really important that you read and digest the week's school news- as all of our important communications will be contained inside, as well as pictures and details of the week's classroom learning. Please begin the new term, getting in the habit of reading it each week, thank you. I **trust** you to do this!

As well as our new learners in Oak and Willow class, we also have some new teachers. Mrs Edgington joins us in Sycamore Class, Miss Boyce in Chestnut, Miss Lavin in Hazel and Mrs Allison in Beech- we wish them all the best as they exercise **courage** and settle in.

Lastly, please come in next week and meet us all! On **Thursday 12th**, all the teachers will be in their classrooms for a "Meet the Teacher" session, **straight after school, until 3.30pm**. If you can, rather than scooping up your child and going home straight away, why not pop in to the classroom for an informal meet & greet with their new teacher? If you have children in multiple classes, please feel free to go from room to room.

Here's to a fantastic new academic year!

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

admin@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

As we have only been back 3 days, there were no Vision certificates awarded this week. These will begin next Friday...

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

The new year R children have been absolutely amazing this week! We have loved getting to know them and can't wait for the year ahead. We have had a focus on dinosaurs and Julia Donaldson books including *The Gruffalo*. Children have also had the opportunity to paint and go across an obstacle course. They have enjoyed making the staff tea and cakes in the home corner and playing with the puzzles.

We can't wait to get to know them even better and see them grow into wonderful young learners.

Well done Year R!

Sycamore & Maple

We have had a brilliant first few days in Year 1! We have had time exploring our classroom, getting to know new friends and learning new routines. We have made our class charter, looked at our class trees and made birthday cards. We have also been doing some writing about ourselves! Well done to all the children for being so courageous and resilient this week!

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

Welcome back Year 2! This week we have been spending time with *The Colour Monster* and doing lots of fun artistic and writing activities to help explain our feelings. We have made our class tree out of heart-shaped Lime tree leaves as well as explored our outside area. We're looking forward to Monday as that is our launch day for our Learning Journey: Our Wonderful World! Miss Lavin and Miss Samuel

Chestnut & Elm

This week, Year 3 have thought carefully about their roles and responsibilities in their new classes and created their class charter. In maths, they have been looking at 2-digit numbers and how these are represented. In PSHE, we have talked about different types of families and how they help and care for each other. The children enjoyed a variety of creative activities as part of the launch for our new learning journey which includes finding out about volcanoes!
Miss Plaw & Miss Boyce

Beech & Ash

We have had a fantastic three-day start to year 4! We have been really happy to see the children's enthusiasm about starting a new year and watched them settle quickly into the routines of a new year group. We have enjoyed making birthday cards and other artwork inspired by the book 'Journey on a Cloud'. For our Launch Day of our rainforest learning journey we recapped our prior knowledge, discussed and drew what we would need to take with us for a trip to the rainforest and created top trumps for some of the creatures you might find there. In the afternoon we created rainforest insects using pegs and other materials, the children were very pleased with how these turned out! Miss Collier & Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

It's been wonderful welcoming the children into Hawthorn and Pine classes for the new school year! We have created some thoughtful and detailed class charters and the children have all helped each other settle in well. We have also begun our learning journey into the Amazing Alps, creating some cracking artwork detailing areas and places in the mountains. Well done to everyone in Year 5!
Mr Childs & Mr Dookheran

Aspen & Juniper

In Juniper this week we have been discussing the importance of the school values and each other and how we can make a positive difference to one another, the year group and the school as a whole, by being role-models for all. We have shared our aspirations for this year and in the future and have been researching facts and details concerning Juniper and Aspen Trees and their significance in the world - creating detailed sketches and looking at their distribution around the world. Did you know that most pencils are made and produced from juniper wood and that chopsticks are often made from Aspen, as it is flexible and doesn't splinter easily?
Mr Osmond, Miss Howicks & Mrs Cocks

Breakfast Club

We run a breakfast club every morning, from 7.30am-8.30am. Payments must be made in advance through Scopay, at £5 per session. If you require additional sessions (as we know "life happens"), please put this request, 48 hours before, to breakfastclub@pilgrimscross.co.uk

PE and Library days

Here are the PE and library days for all classes- children are to come in to school in PE kit on PE days, please. The library will be open in a week or two, as we are refreshing our book stock and making it a beautiful place to relax and read again.

	PE	Library
Monday	Hawthorn, Ash, Beech, Hazel, Lime, Aspen	Pine, Hawthorn, Ash
Tuesday	Sycamore, Maple, Hazel, Juniper, Chestnut	Hazel, Lime, Oak
Wednesday	Chestnut, Elm, Lime, Oak, Willow, Sycamore	Beech, Willow, Juniper
Thursday	Pine, Hawthorn, Maple,	Sycamore, Maple, Aspen
Friday	Pine, Ash, Beech, Elm, Aspen & Juniper-swimming	Chestnut, Elm

School uniform

Thank you for beginning the term so well, with the children looking so smart in their school uniforms. Let's keep it up!

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.

There is new guidance for attendance and further information on this will come out next week so please ensure you read and understand this – we will be available to answer any questions about this should you need more information.

Safeguarding: punctuality

Our school classroom doors close promptly at **8.30am**. Please make sure that your child is here by then. If you are late, you will have to sign-in at the office, please. We will not be letting any pupils in via the classroom doors after 8.30am so that our electronic class registers are correct.

Key dates

- Friday 13th September – Year 6 Swimming lessons begin
- Thursday 7th November- FOPS Fireworks Evening
- 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/>