



Dear Parents & Carers,

Today, at a Headteachers' training day with the Diocese, I took some time to reflect on the school community that we have at Pilgrims' Cross. I reflected on the importance of building good relationships- that **trust** is built slowly and can be lost quickly.

Over the last couple of weeks, I have met with a few parents and carers who have felt that, the school has not served them or their children well in recent years. It has been good to have face to face conversations, to reassure them that we are improving our provision in all areas- and to ask them to **trust** us, as we move forwards. It has been great to receive positive comments and emails about how we are listening and supporting you.

If you ever have any concerns about anything to do with school, or would like help and guidance, please do follow these steps:

- **Speak to your child's class teacher** face-to-face in the first instance
- If not resolved, after that, you can **grab me on the playground in the morning or afternoon** for a conversation, or **Mrs Hutchinson if it relates to SEND**
- **Contact the school office** to arrange a sit-down meeting, if you require further conversation

I am also looking in to re-instating the class email accounts, so that parents & carers who cannot see a class teacher face-to-face at drop-off or pick-up time can email in to their child's class teacher. More on this soon...

Lastly, it was the first week of housepoints! Our new House Captains announced the totals for the week in Celebration Worship this morning. The totals were...



Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

[admin@pilgrimscross.co.uk](mailto:admin@pilgrimscross.co.uk)

### Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...this week's theme was <b>Trust</b>	Love	Courage	Trust
<i>Sycamore</i>	Landen L		
<i>Maple</i>		Faye W	
<i>Hazel</i>		George L	
<i>Lime</i>			Louis H
<i>Chestnut</i>			Ivy P
<i>Elm</i>	Ada M		
<i>Ash</i>		Bonnie G	
<i>Beech</i>			Riley P
<i>Pine</i>			Laila-Grace C
<i>Hawthorn</i>		Dottie D	
<i>Aspen</i>			Spencer E
<i>Juniper</i>		Jemimah O	

## What we have been learning this week...

### Willow & Oak

Thankfully the weather turned much nicer towards the end of the week, meaning we got out a lot more than at the beginning of the week.

We were still focussing on the three little pigs and retelling the story in the correct order.

In phonics we learnt the sounds "ck" with the catchphrase "rock that sock", "e", "u" and "r". We also did lots of blending sounds so we can read words.

Our new tricky word was "l".

In maths we started to look at measure, capacity and weight. Comparing which objects were bigger, smaller, heavier, lighter, etc. We compared the weights and sizes of the pumpkins in the outdoor provision.

Finally, we started to talk about who is in our family and made a picture of the people who live in our house.

Well done Oak and Willow for another great week.

### Sycamore & Maple

In Maths, we have been finishing off our place value journey by comparing numbers, ordering numbers and using a number line. In English, we have finished off our big write. Our teachers are very impressed by our stories! In PE we have been looking at how to travel in different ways in gymnastics and balancing in outdoor PE. We also went on a walk around the school in Geography and made a map showing all of the different places!

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

### Lime & Hazel

This week in Year 2 has had a habitat theme. In Geography we found Kenya on our maps and discussed the similarities and differences - including the wildlife. In Science we delved into the woodland habitat and learnt all about foxes, hedgehogs and barn owls, we even went on a safari in Computing (a technology safari!) to find different types of technology and discussed their features. In Maths we've been comparing and ordering numbers and objects, with lots of counting in 2s, 5s, 10s, and even 3s. There have been so many skills in English that we will be using next week to write our retelling of the *Snail and the Whale* - we've been learning about adverbs and exclamation marks which has been really useful in our reading too. We're rounding out the week by making some 3D maps in Art, which is a fantastic way of reusing Miss Samuel's recycling! Thank you for another great week!

Miss Samuel and Miss Lavin

### Chestnut & Elm

Year 3 started their new week with a new learning journey in English and have rounded off their place value unit in maths, ready to start our new unit (adding and subtraction) on Monday! We're at the halfway mark of the half term and couldn't be prouder of how hard Year 3 are working!

Keep it up.

Miss Boyce and Miss Plaw

### Beech & Ash

What a week in year 4! We've enjoyed reading different types of poems and discussing what we like about them, we then practiced writing our own rhyming couplets. We have begun a new learning journey in maths and are learning all about addition and subtraction, the children have been really resilient when using the column method. We've started our geography and learnt all about rainforests, different biomes and the layers of the rainforest. Our minds were blown in music at the power of body percussion to make the sounds of a rainstorm and we had a go at recreating this as a class. Both year 4 classes have really loved earning points for their new houses this week, well done Ash and Beech for another great week!

Mrs Allison and Miss Collier

## Pine & Hawthorn

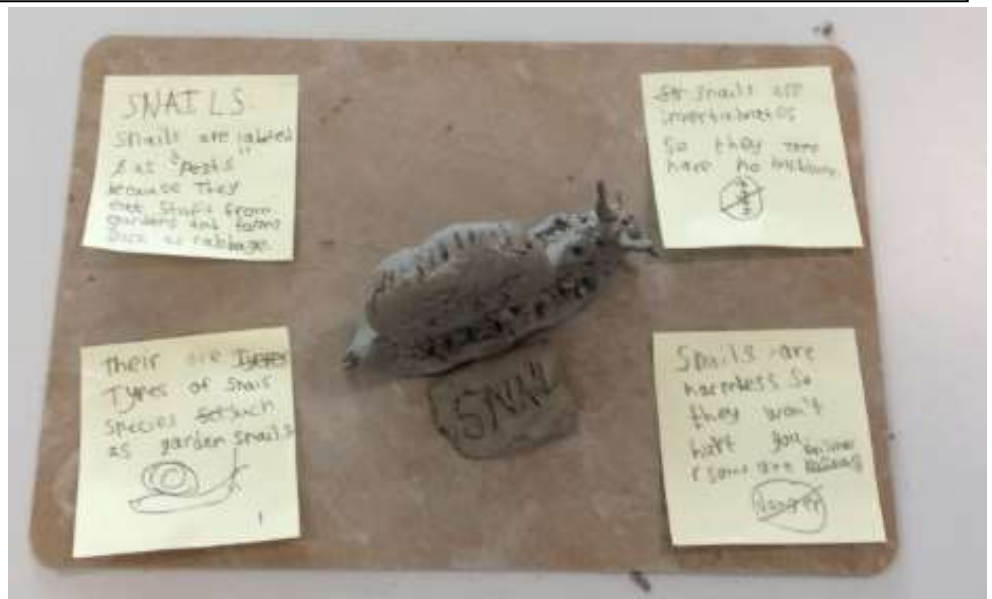
In Year 5 this week, we have begun our new Maths learning journey into addition and subtraction and the children have made a positive start when adding and subtracting numbers up to and over 5 digits. We have also planned the draft for our report on the Yeti in English, with the children identifying suitable levels of description and detail whilst using a formal tone with their writing. Finally, we have also had a go at composing our own music through identifying pitches of notes and beginning to read sheet music. Well done to all the children in Year 5!

Mr Childs & Mr Dookheran

## Aspen & Juniper

Year 6 have been exploring factors and multiples in maths this week, including finding common factors and common multiples of 2 numbers. We have also found out about, and applied, 'tests of divisibility' - handy ways of knowing if a number is in the 2, 5, 10, 3, 6 or 9 times tables! In science, we learnt about the characteristics of animals in some invertebrate groups (spiders, worms, insects and snails). We made models out of clay, and carefully labelled their features - they are creepily accurate!

Mrs Cocks, Miss Howick and Mr Osmond



## Book Fair

Yes, it's going to be Book Fair time again soon. We will be holding our Book Fair from 19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> November. It's a great opportunity to begin buying presents for Christmas as well as just re-stocking your child's library of quality texts.



## *Unveiling of HM Queen Elizabeth II*

In 2023, our Year 6's at the time were visited by local artist Amy Goodman. Amy had been commissioned to create a sculpture to depict the late Queen Elizabeth, to be displayed within the town centre to remember her by. The children were asked to create mini canvas paintings with ideas that they felt related to her reign as Queen. The children worked incredibly hard on these and one of these were chosen to be used on the final sculpture.

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September, the sculpture was officially unveiled and the school were invited to attend. The event involved an opening from the Test Valley Mayor and even the ITV news crew were there!

The incredible bronze sculpture can be located in the Town Mills green area to be enjoyed by all. A second sculpture will soon be added. Below, please find some pictures from the event.



## *School Photographers*

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, Tempest Photographers will be in school to photograph your children for their annual individual portraits. If you would like to have siblings photographed together we ask that you come to the school hall from 7.55am and this can be done. We will be unable to take sibling photographs during the day. If you have pre-school or older siblings you wish to have included then of course please bring those with you also for that 7.55am slot.

## *Timestable RockStars (TTRS)*

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding a Timestable Rockstar event for all children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a 'rockstar' and will have the opportunity to take part in an inter-class competition!

## *Attendance*

Attendance across the school this year to date remains at 97.3% which is excellent and we thank all parents and children for their efforts with this.

We are sadly seeing an increase in children coming in late via the school office. Please remember that the school day starts at 8.30 and that children need to be in class by then ready to start their days. We will be reviewing those persistent latecomers and contacting you to discuss this in more detail.

## *Paths- and coats!*

All children should have a shower-proof coat available every day. We will try and go out in most weathers! When you are picking up/dropping off your children, please can you keep paths clear, so other parents and carers can walk past without having to walk on the grass and the mud? Many thanks!

## Phonics at Pilgrims' Cross

On Monday at 5.30pm we would like to invite all parents of children in Years R & 1 along to an information share from our phonics lead Miss Miners.

Miss Miners will be able to provide helpful tips on how we teach Phonics in school so that you can help to support this learning at home with your child.

Please do come along on Monday and enjoy the opportunity to talk all things phonics!

# Pilgrims Cross Primary School

**Year R and Year 1  
Phonics Information  
Evening**



Come along to find out about what your children will be learning in phonics and how you can support them with reading at home.



**MONDAY 7TH  
OCTOBER  
5:30PM  
SCHOOL HALL**

## Harvest Festival

This harvest time, we are thinking of those less fortunate and collecting food donations for the Andover Foodbank. Please talk as a family about how we can show love to others in practical ways, like donating food. From Monday, please send your children in with donations of food, which can be brought in to the classrooms and

collected, ready for our Harvest Festival. Food will be collected on

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>**

**October**, with a non-uniform day on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> for all those who have brought in food donations (see right)...

PILGRIMS' CROSS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
**HARVEST  
APPEAL**  
**NON UNIFORM DAY**

**25TH  
OCTOBER  
2024**



**DROP-OFF LOCATION**

**SCHOOL RECEPTION  
14TH OCT - 18TH OCT 2024**

**HELP US FIGHT  
HUNGER BY  
DONATING  
NON-  
PERISHABLE  
GOODS**

Donations this year shall be made to our local Food Bank.



## Harvest 2024

*If you are able to donate, we would be grateful to receive*

Tinned fruit  
Tinned meat  
Tinned soup  
Tinned tomatoes  
Curry & pasta sauce  
Rice pudding & custard  
Baked beans  
Long life milk  
Treats (chocolate etc)

**Thank you!**



Foodbank logo © 2019 - 2024. All Rights Reserved. © England and Wales

## Parenting help

Struggling with defiant children or tricky teens? Here are some great resources to help you as parents/carers..

Would you like to improve communication with your teen?

# face2face



Get professional support to improve mutual understanding and respect

Two Part online course £60

Young people do not have to appear or speak on camera

**Advanced Communication Skills certificate for teens  
on completion of the course**

for more info and to book

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)



Are you looking for some new strategies for  
children aged between 5 and 12?

# Facing Defiance



Six week course: 6 online Teach sessions (one hour on Sundays)

plus applying the strategies at home during the week

£72 (1 or 2 parents can attend)

for more info and to book

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

### *Safeguarding- your data*

Can you please make sure that we are up-to-date with your contact details? If anything has changed, please can you contact the office to let us know.

### *Key dates*

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October – Year R & 1 Phonics Information Session – 5.30pm
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Flu Vaccine
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October – School Photographers in
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm – Parent Tour for Year R September 2025
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November- FOPS Fireworks Evening
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Year 5 Swimming (Letters to follow with more information)
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10am - Parent Tour for Year R September 2025
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm - Parent Tour for Year R September 2025
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 11am - Parent Tour for Year R September 2025
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024- INSET Day 3
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025- INSET Day 4
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025- INSET Day 5

Please check out our website calendar for all relevant dates:

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