



Dear Parents & Carers,

**Courage** and **trust** were demonstrated today, as our children conducted their first fire drill of the academic year- please ask them about it! At 10am, the children left their learning (including PE in the hall!) and walked quietly to the muster point in the playground to be registered. We did it in under our specified evacuation time- well done, everyone!

The theme of **love** was thought about in our Collective Worship times this week, as Reverend Lauren encouraged us to think about this through the theme of trees. Roots are important: they suck up water and nutrients, making the branches, shoots and leaves strong and healthy. What we feed ourselves on (physically, socially, spiritually, etc.) has an impact on how we grown and turn out. Our vision is that our children *become positive role-models in God's world*. In order to become these role-models, our children need to be nurtured- and nurture each other.

Lastly, our children demonstrated their rockstar credentials, as they joined in eagerly with Mrs Cocks' TT Rockstars day- well done, everyone! Don't forget **Class Celebrations next week**, - to which you are warmly invited!

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 <i>Trust</i>	<i>Love</i>	<i>Courage</i>	<i>Trust</i>
<i>Sycamore</i>			Dottie P
<i>Maple</i>			Isla M
<i>Hazel</i>	Sara G		
<i>Lime</i>		Scarlett O'G-J	
<i>Chestnut</i>			Wilfred T
<i>Elm</i>		Faith P	Joshua S
<i>Ash</i>		Daniel H	
<i>Beech</i>		Oliver P	
<i>Pine</i>			Mayci I
<i>Hawthorn</i>	Jesse R		
<i>Aspen</i>			Julia S
<i>Juniper</i>			Jack J

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

### Willow & Oak

All of the Year R staff have loved getting to know a little bit more about all of the children this week when they shared their favourite objects. They confidently stood in front of their classmates and shared their objects, telling us what it was and why they loved it, so thank you all for sharing.

In phonics we have been recapping our sounds from *Little Wandle*. Remember, if you want help pronouncing the sounds then look at their website. It's fabulous!

In maths we have been focussing on the numbers 1-3 including a skill called subitising. This is where children look at a picture and just know it's 1/2/3 for example when you look at a dice and just know there are 3 dots equalling the total 3.

The children really enjoyed making and eating their toast. They even learnt how bread is made. We learnt how to carry and use scissors safely- but this is a skill we would love you to continue practising at home with them. For Welly Wednesday we made houses for hedgehogs so they can hibernate over winter. We learnt a very important fact as well. You must NEVER feed a hedgehog bread and milk as their little tummy cannot digest it. So if you would like to help the hedgehogs, give them water and cat food!! They really like that.

**A note for after half term:** We would like the children for the first day back to dress up as their favourite fairy tale character and bring in a **HARD BOILED** egg please. We won't spoil the surprise but it will make for a fun first day back for all the children.

Well done children. You've worked really hard this week!!

### Sycamore & Maple

This week in English we have been looking at adjectives. We have identified them in reading texts and writing them in sentences. In Maths we have been looking at fact families. We have worked hard to think of all the number sentences that go along with a part whole model. In PE we have been practising our footwork skills by going on a pirate adventure. We had a lot of fun walking the plank and side-stepping. We finished off our Geography learning by designing a new playground for the school. A very fun and exciting week!

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

### Lime & Hazel

This week in Year 2 we have delved into our new English Learning Journey and have been using recurring rhythmic language to practice our own Busy Day poems. In Maths we have been using number bonds (even up to 100!) to help us with our addition and subtraction. At the beginning of the week we decided where we wanted to go on holiday based on what we now know about hot and cold places in Geography. In Art we made some awesome abstract maps with different colour cellophane. We're really looking forward to our Class Celebration on Monday and our Class Treats to end the half term on Friday!

Miss Samuel & Miss Lavin

### Chestnut & Elm

As we're coming up to the end of term, Chestnut and Elm class have been working hard all week to create their own book illustrations for the new book we are looking at in English, 'The pebble in my pocket'. They have been also working on their addition skills to add 1's across multiples of ten and begun to look at adding 10's across 100's. Rockstar Day on Thursday meant we got to see the Year 3's brilliant costumes and watch them take on each other and other classes in multiplication challenges. With the end of term fast approaching, we can't wait for them to continue with their hard work for one more week- before a well-deserved rest!

Miss Boyce and Miss Plaw

### Beech & Ash

We've had a great week in year 4! We have loved learning about non-chronological reports and thinking about writing our own one. We can't wait to get our ideas into our writing. In Maths we have started learning about what area is because we have finished our learning about subtraction.

We have had such an artistic week creating collages, using charcoal to show proportion and making our very own wax resists. We played glockenspiels to create rainforest music so we can put that with our body percussion to create a whole piece. We can't believe it's almost the end of term, well done Ash and Beech class for all your hard work. Keep it up next week!

Miss Collier & Mrs Allison

## Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week, we have begun to investigate multiples, common multiples and factors. We have used our times tables knowledge, which we refined on our TTRockstars day, to discuss whether a multiple appears in two or more times table sequences. In English, we have been discussing and practising the rules of dialogue, with the children creating posters and interesting sentences using the skills they have learnt. This will help us when we write our scenes next week. During science we have completed practical experiments around mixtures and discussing what truly creates a mixture, with the children working in groups using different materials and seeing if they 'mix'. Finally, we are planning some fieldwork next Wednesday for our Geography learning which will involve walking around Picket Twenty and comparing our town to that of Innsbruck in Austria. Well done!

Mr Childs and Mr Dookheran

## Aspen & Juniper

This week Year 6 rounded off their music learning journey for the half term, which has been based around the theme of 'waves'. We have focussed on the musical elements of dynamics, texture and pitch and the children did an amazing job of applying these in small groups (each with its own conductor). The group performances were then performed to the backdrop of 'Fingal's Cave' by Mendelssohn to create an amazing class composition!

Maths has been all about division this week, with the children revising short division and learning the method of long division! They've shown amazing resilience with this. It has highlighted the importance of fluency with times table facts so please ensure your child gets regular practise on TT Rockstars!

Mrs Cocks, Mr Osmond & Miss Howick

**\*Year 6 will be doing a local walk/ fieldwork on Monday – this is just around the Picket Twenty area\***

## 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- **they make GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!** 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.

*Link to Parent Feedback Flu Vaccine :*

<https://forms.office.com/pages/parentfeedback>



## 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.

## TT Rockstar Day

KS2 ROCKED on Thursday for our TT Rockstar Day! KS2 gathered in the hall at the start of the day, all looking awesome in their rockstar outfits! Mrs Cocks shared the importance of knowing our times tables because they are such an important building block for further maths learning.



Every child had the chance to play TT Rockstars during the day and compete in a KS2 tournament based on number of correct answers.

Here are the results...

- 1st - Aspen
- 2nd - Pine
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Beech

Remember to log on and play regularly at home. There will be special awards each week in celebration worship.

Mrs Cocks



## Shoe Box Appeal

# Rotary Shoebox Scheme

*"Spreading a Little Happiness"*

We will be supporting the Rotary Shoebox Scheme again this year, spreading a little joy amongst disadvantaged children and adults in Eastern Europe. To take part, please collect items for your shoebox- to be returned **before 25<sup>th</sup> October**.

## Class Celebrations

All parents & carers are invited to our Class Celebrations of learning next week. If you can, join us to celebrate the learning which has happened in your child(ren)'s class this half term...

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October: 8.45am - Year 5 and 2.15pm - Year 2

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 8.45am – Year 4 and 2.15pm - Year 1

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: 2.15pm - Year R

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October: 8.45am – Year 6 and 2.15pm - Year 3

## Harvest Festival

Please bring in any of the food on the list below, to donate to our Harvest Festival Appeal. Food can be brought in to the office this week, up to next Wednesday. In exchange, children can wear **non-uniform** on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

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!**



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## Phonics at Pilgrims' Cross

Following our successful first phonics workshop recently, we'd like to offer parents/carers who missed it the chance to come and learn about phonics at Pilgrims' Cross & how to support your child.

On Tuesday at 8.30am 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!

## Safeguarding- fire safety

One mistake with fireworks, electronics or open flames can have catastrophic consequences: damage to property, serious injury or even worse. Please have a read and speak with your children.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

## 1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

## 2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any firework activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

## 3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

## 4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

## 5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

## 6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

## 7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"

Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

## 8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES

Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

## 9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are **not** toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

## 10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

## Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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

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## *Communication*

I am aware that, on occasions, parents & carers might not be able to get in to speak to class teachers. Although face-to-face is always preferable to emails, I do want to allow parents/carers who cannot get on to the site in person due to work commitments a chance to communicate with their child's class teacher. From after half term, I will be setting up class email accounts, so that you can do this. These email accounts will be checked once a week and will provide a way for this to happen. Watch this space!

## *Homework*

After half term, homework will be set for pupils, at an age-appropriate level. I will outline what you can expect- and the role that *you* play in supporting your child.

## *Library helpers*

Have you ever fancied being a librarian for the day? We would LOVE any parents/carers who have an hour to spare next week to contact us- [adminoffice@pilgrimscross.co.uk](mailto:adminoffice@pilgrimscross.co.uk) and let us know when you could come in. We are re-vamping our library, which will re-open after half term. We desperately need a few parents/carers to sort books, bleep new books on to our system and generally make it all lovely and sparkly again. Coffee and biscuits provided!

Also, PLEASE BRING BACK IN ANY LIBRARY BOOKS YOU HAVE AT HOME NEXT WEEK. You may receive a letter about **outstanding books** that your child has on their library record too...

## *Staff & Governor news*

Lastly, a few pieces of staff and governor news...

Next week is **Mr White's** last week- please do grab him on the gate and say 'thank you' for over 10 years of dedicated service to our school, site and pupils.

**Mrs Timbrell** and **Mrs Tivey** will be leaving us at the end of the autumn term. We want to thank them for all their hard work and dedication- they will be missed.

I am happy to announce that **Mr Edgington** will be joining us in January, teaching in Willow Class. He is a very experienced EYFS teacher, currently teaching in another Andover school. He will be popping in over the second half of the autumn term, to get to know the children in Willow.

We are pleased to announce that **Mrs Hathaway** has been recruited as our new Child & Family Support Worker. She will be starting in this role in January.

We are also delighted to announce that **David Rawlins** has been elected as our new Parent Governor. Congratulations, David, and thank you to all the candidates that put themselves forward.

## *Key dates*

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October – School Photographers in
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October- KS1/EYFS parent/carers phonics workshop- 8.30am (hall)
- 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
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June- Year 6 residential, Avon Tyrrell
- 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/>