



Dear Parents & Carers,

We've had a busy couple of weeks at Pilgrims' Cross! The children have been working hard to continue their learning journeys across the curriculum. They have also been out & about too- Year 5 currently enjoying their swimming lessons!

Over the last two weeks, one of the highlights for me has been meeting parents & carers at our consultation evenings. It was great to see so many of you there! I hope that you found the evenings helpful & that they gave you the chance to speak properly with your child's class teacher(s) and to hear how they are doing.

Don't forget, we have academic parent/carer consultations on the 9th/14th January- see the diary dates at the end of the newsletter.

A lot of things have changed at Pilgrims' Cross this academic year: whenever we have visitors in to monitor the progress of our improvements, it is always a delight for me to take them round the classrooms to view children who are highly-engaged in their learning. This week was no exception. Watching the progress that our youngest readers are making in phonics right up to our oldest learners, discussing passionately about workhouses in Victorian Andover, was such a joy for me!

We want to continue to improve, however. I would love it if you could help me by taking a few minutes to fill out a quick, anonymous, survey form by clicking this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/U20n0QhuDG> or by scanning the QR code.

Thank you for helping us to improve!

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk



Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	<i>Love</i>	<i>Courage</i>	<i>Trust</i>
<i>Oak</i>	Ashton L		
<i>Willow</i>	George B		
<i>Sycamore</i>	Alexander D		
<i>Maple</i>			Phoebe D
<i>Hazel</i>		Mason H	
<i>Lime</i>		Ruben O	
<i>Chestnut</i>		Millie S	
<i>Elm</i>			Addilyn S
<i>Ash</i>		Maxi C	
<i>Beech</i>	Jennifer S		
<i>Pine</i>			Harry S
<i>Hawthorn</i>			Samuel A
<i>Aspen</i>		Noah H	
<i>Juniper</i>		Sophiya E	

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

We've been comparing the past and present this week and how they used to use candles for light but nowadays we use electricity or batteries. Our nursery rhymes were *Jack be Nimble* and *Old Mother Hubbard*, thinking about rhyming words.

In phonics we learnt the sounds th, sh, ng and nk and in maths we thought about the different parts of 5. For example 1 and 4 as well as 2 and 3. There's a very good *Number Blocks* episode in series 1 about the different parts of numbers up to 5 which the children enjoyed watching.

We've also been very creative this week making cupboards and dogs in our junk modelling area and creating wax relief paintings using a wax candle or wax crayons and watered-down paint. They looked very pretty.

Great work this week Year R- keep going, it's not long until Christmas now!

The Year R team.

Sycamore & Maple

This week we have begun exploring the book 'Rapunzel' in English. The children have role-played and sequenced the story, which will help them to prepare for their own written retelling of the story in a couple of weeks' time. In Maths we finished off our learning about shapes. I wonder what 3D shapes you can find around the house? What shape is a tin of baked beans for example? In Science we completed another investigation, this time exploring which materials were waterproof to help the wizard keep his spell book dry. In Computing we furthered our learning about algorithms and debugging by following directions through a maze and spotting when one step was wrong and debugging it so that the algorithm works. During RE we talked about the Nativity story and the Christian symbols for God throughout - the star, gifts, the king of kings etc. The children have used this knowledge to help them further understand their Nativity songs during our daily practices! They are sounding amazing and I think you'll be really proud of them when you come and watch them in the final week.

Another super smashing week in Year One!

Miss Miners & Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

This week in Year 2 we have been working hard to upgrade our expanded noun phrases to help us in creating a missing poster for Little Red! We had fun making mazes and writing instructions as a form of algorithm in Computing. In Science we did some planning for our woodlouse experiment next week and discussed the skills that scientists use. In History we researched using different sources to complete an image of a modern classroom and one beyond living memory. Finally, in Maths we have been using all of our knowledge of addition and subtraction to complete different problems and compare number sentences!

Year 2 Team

Chestnut & Elm

This week in English the children got into role as one of the characters from 'Stone-Age Boy'. They imagined being in a cave, seeing cave paintings and meeting a bear; ready to think about writing in the first person. In maths, they have explored inverse operations and the use of 'bar models'. They have also applied this learning to solving addition and subtraction word problems. As part of our RE learning the children learnt about 'The Five Pillars of Islam' and thought about links between different religions, and compared different rules and guidance. The children were really excited to start our DT learning journey about food! They learnt about why food comes from different places around the world and are looking forward to preparing and tasting seasonal foods! Well done, Year 3!

Miss Plaw & Miss Boyce

Beech & Ash

It's been another busy week in year 4. We have enjoyed learning about children through time and the jobs that Tudor and Victorian children had to do- we're glad we weren't around back then! We've been working hard in English. This week we've looked at using inverted commas to punctuate speech and played some fun games to help us remember the difference between singular and plural possessive apostrophes. In maths, we've been recapping addition, subtraction and some of our times tables. We have continued to rock-out in music, whilst learning the hand jive and the song 'Rock around the Clock'. In PSHE we continued to look at some very important matters this week, focussing on what makes us happy and our emotions. We look forward to another brilliant week in year 4.

Miss Collier and Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week we have finished our Kennings poems about Grendel. The children used plenty of exciting and descriptive metaphors in their stanzas and made sure each line was exactly 3 words long. In Maths we have deepened our knowledge of fractions including adding two mixed numbers and identifying how to further simplify our answers. Finally, we have finished our History Learning Journey and evaluated whether the Vikings should be viewed more as traders, warriors or innovators. The children created some brilliant group projects using evidence and colour coding to help them come to a conclusion.

Mr Dookheran & Mr Childs

Aspen & Juniper

Another wonderful week this week from the Year 6's. They are tackling their learning with real zeal and enthusiasm and are particularly enjoying our workhouse theme - getting their teeth into (if you pardon the pun) The Andover Workhouse Scandal of 1845 - it made the national news at the time!

We have gathered key facts from this event in history, knowing it actually happened right here on our doorstep, and that the building still stands today - and it's also on one of our classroom windows!

Our fact-gathering will lead to the planning, drafting and skilful writing of this infamous event in Victorian history. We will then send our learning to the people who work at Andover Museum to firstly see if we've got our facts straight and second, to bowl them over with our knowledge and skilful crafting of this Information Report.

Watch this space and we may include some written examples on the school website later next week.

Mr Osmond, Miss Howick & Mrs Cocks



Advent challenge

Please see the attachment with this newsletter about an exciting Advent Challenge, created by two girls from the school- why not have a go, this Advent?

Arbor

We would like to invite all parents/carers to begin signing up to the Arbor Parent App. Please download the app from your app store and put in your email address which is associated with the current details that we have for you in school.

Click 'forgotten password' and you'll receive an email to set up a password.

Once you have done this, have a look around the app. You should be able to see your child(ren)'s details.

In the spring, we will begin using this for communications, trips, bookings and payments.



Job vacancy

Job/Person Summary

We are looking for a new member of staff to join our friendly and motivated school team as a Learning Support Assistant.

Our team are committed to ensuring that all children are able to achieve our school vision of being... "LOVING, COURAGEOUS and TRUSTWORTHY, so they can be talented role models and make A positive difference in God's world."

We can offer you a supportive and inclusive staff team of friendly, dedicated professionals, opportunities for professional development and a school full of amazing children who are a delight to work with!

Job role and responsibilities – Key requirements

- A team player
- A child-centred person willing to create, nurture and build trusting relationships, working alongside children, being a co-adventurer, communicating and facilitating learning
- Able to help children validate and manage their own feelings and those of others, appropriately
- Strong communication skills
- Good organisational skills
- Able to apply effective behaviour management strategies with a level of skill that demonstrates a caring, non-judgemental approach whilst remain clear and firm with expectations
- Experience working with or volunteering with children of Primary age
- An understanding of ways in which children learn and appropriate learning environments
- GCSE English and Maths A-C or equivalent
- Understanding of safeguarding responsibilities
- Committed and resilient

Application Procedure

If you think your skill set fits all or most of the above then please email recruitment@pilgrimscross.co.uk for an application form.

The LSA role equates to approximately **30 hours per week or increased to 32.5 with lunchtime duties** and is a fixed term contract from 1st January 2025 until 31st August 2025.

The salary can be negotiated based on experience at the point of appointment.

Successful candidates will be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks along with other relevant employment checks.

1-minute maths

Want something to keep your child 'simmering' in terms of their maths skills? Why not download the White Rose 1-minute maths app. Designed for use both in class and at home, our 1-minute maths app helps children build greater number confidence and fluency. It's all about targeted practice in engaging, one-minute chunks!

What's the app about?

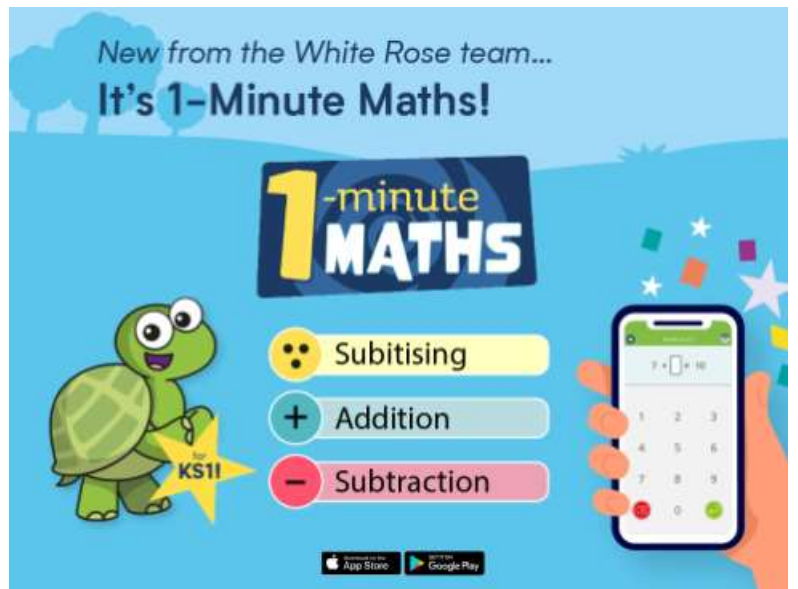
This first version of the app is aimed at Key Stage 1 pupils (ie, age 5-6 years). Individual one-minute tasks focus on adding and subtracting – and on 'Subitising', the skill of

instantly recognising the number of items in a group without counting. Multiplication and division topics are also now available!

How do you use it?

Children can choose any topic they want to try. They then answer a unique series of questions (so it's a different set of questions every time). If they're struggling with a question, a 'Hint' button will give a helpful clue by showing the question in a different but familiar way.

When the one minute's up, they'll see a feedback screen telling them how they've done.



Christmas Carol Singing

I have had a lot of parents asking about Key Stage 2 Christmas performances. This year, we are doing Christmas Carol Singing on the evening of 19th December. We will give you more details nearer the time, but please do plan to join us somewhere around Picket Twenty to join in the singing!

Kind donations

Not only have the church donated £500 for books for our classroom book corners, but also lots of supplies of consumables which helps us immensely. Many thanks!



FOPS flyers

Look below for announcement of events & requests from our wonderful PTA...



PILGRIMS' CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

We Are Looking For

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNWANTED/UNUSED BUILDING TYPE TOYS YOU COULD DONATE IF SO PLEASE CONTACT FOPS . THANK YOU

LEGO **K'NEX**
DUPLO
MAGNETIC TILES **MECCANO**
MATHS LINK CUBES



Rudolph Rave

WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER
£2 PER CHILD

YEAR R - 4-4.45PM - SNACK PROVIDED

YEAR 1, 2 AND 3 - 5-5.45 - SNACK PROVIDED

YEAR 4, 5 AND 6 - 6-6.45PM - TUCK SHOP AVAILABLE





Picket Twenty Christmas event...

Santa's celebration

14th December 2024
12pm to 4pm
Picket twenty sports pavilion

Entry:
Early bird price £1 per child
Must be booked by 23rd November
24th Nov to 30th November
£2 per child
30th November to 14th December
£2 per child

we can not guarantee
Your Child will receive the same gift as those
booked before 30th Nov
You can book online via our website
www.p20residentevents.co.uk

Disco fever is here!
A variety of pop-up stalls await!
Enjoy complimentary fun activities
Don't miss our exciting raffle!

Grab some tasty treats!
Swing by Santa's cozy
grotto for a jolly good time!

www.p20residentevents.co.uk

P20 RESIDENT EVENTS

Safeguarding- Snapchat

Before your child asks if they can have this app, please read the warnings...

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

SNAP STREAK
97 DAYS

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?

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.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises 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', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

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.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger 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.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

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 tap 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.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenger' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

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.



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

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 27.11.2024

Attendance

A reminder that advice on if you should send your child to school or not can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Please help us by encouraging your child to arrive at school punctually, and to enter the classroom with their friends so they don't miss any of their morning learning- thank you!

Andover fun!

Check out the exciting evening of Christmas-related activities and opportunities to do soon, in Andover!

ANDOVER TOWN CENTRE EVENTS
See what's coming up this Christmas

November

- 7 NOV** Winter Wellbeing Fair
9AM TO 12PM, CHANTRY CENTRE
- 10 NOV** Second Sundays
10AM TO 3PM, ANDOVER HIGH STREET
- 22 NOV** Andover Christmas Festival
8PM TO 8PM, TOWN CENTRE
- 23 NOV** **30 NOV** Christmas Grotto
10AM TO 3PM, CHANTRY CENTRE

December

- 7 DEC** **14 DEC** **21 DEC** Indoor Market
9.30AM TO 4PM, CHANTRY CENTRE
- 7 DEC** **14 DEC** **21 DEC** **22 DEC** **23 DEC** Christmas Grotto
10AM TO 3PM, CHANTRY CENTRE
- 6 DEC** **7 DEC** **8 DEC** Festive Film Pop-up
VARIOUS TIMES, CHANTRY CENTRE
- 8 DEC** Second Sundays
10AM TO 3PM, ANDOVER HIGH STREET
- 12 DEC** Christmas Carols
FROM 4PM, ANDOVER HIGH STREET
- 21 DEC** **22 DEC** Test Valley Brass Band
10AM TO 12PM, TIME RING

Find out more at
WWW.THINKANDOVERTOWNCENTRE.CO.UK

Key dates

- Friday 6th December at 11am - Parent Tour for Year R September 2025
- Tuesday 10th December- EYFS *Wriggly Nativity*, 2pm
- Thursday 12th December- Christmas Jumper Day (for Save the Children)
- Friday 13th December- EYFS *Wriggly Nativity*, 2pm
- Tuesday 17th December- KS1 Nativity- *Baaaarmy Bethlehem*, 9.15am
- Tuesday 17th December – Christmas School Dinner
- Wednesday 18th December- KS1 Nativity- *Baaaarmy Bethlehem*, 2pm
- Thursday 19th December – Christmas Party Lunch
- Thursday 19th December- Evening Christmas Carol Singing & Hot Chocolate
- Friday 20th December 2024- INSET Day 3
- Monday 6th January 2025- INSET Day 4
- **Thursday 9th January- Parent/carer learning consultations (3.00pm-6.00pm)**
- **Tuesday 14th January- Parent/carer learning consultations (3.00pm-6.00pm)**
- w/b Monday 16th June- Friday 19th June-Year 6 residential, Hooke Court
- 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/>