



Dear Parents & Carers,

A warm welcome from Mr Osmond greeted parents and carers, as they arrived for our Christmas Fair on Thursday! Packed with enticing stalls and fun activities, the Fair was that chance to gather as a community and have fun. Staff members ran stalls, as did volunteers and members of the Friends of Pilgrims' Cross (FOPS). A very big thank you to all the FOPS team for putting on such a great event. We do, however, need more parents & carers to offer to help, as it is noticeable that there are a few who do such a lot for us. If everyone volunteered just a little time and effort, it would go a long way! Watch out for the next opportunity to get involved.

I want to thank you for your overwhelmingly positive comments in the recent parent/carer survey about the recent consultations and to give you a bit of feedback about what we are doing in response. Do look below...

As this term begins to draw near to a close, I want to take the opportunity to say that I think Pilgrims' Cross is such a wonderful school and community. Staff have worked really hard with your children this term- and the impact is really beginning to be seen.

Let's continue to work together to make it the best it can be!



Many thanks!

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	Love	Courage	Trust
<i>Oak</i>		Eyden T	
<i>Willow</i>		Sophie T	
<i>Sycamore</i>	Amelia M		
<i>Maple</i>		William B	
<i>Hazel</i>		Violet C	
<i>Lime</i>		Arthur B	
<i>Chestnut</i>			Lilly MH
<i>Elm</i>	Mayan P		
<i>Ash</i>			Judy A
<i>Beech</i>		Sydney-Rose D	
<i>Pine</i>			Henry F
<i>Hawthorn</i>		Octavia R	
<i>Aspen</i>	Caitlin A		
<i>Juniper</i>	Zak W		

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

WOW WHAT A SUPERB WEEK!! The children have been absolutely amazing in their nativity performances this week and we could not be more proud of them. They showed all of our values while on stage. What a wonderful group of children they are.

Within learning we have recapped our phonics sounds this half term and in maths we have been thinking about routines and the sequences we complete tasks. For example making a snowman we roll the snow first, then build the snowman and finally add the features.

We have been looking at castles and we compared Ludgershall to the Royal castles, we built big castles, we decorated crowns and we used shapes to add features to our castles.

As teachers we could not be more proud of these Year R children!! Well done and keep it up
Year R team

Sycamore & Maple

This week the children in Year One have become authors! They have worked extremely hard to write their own retelling of the story of Rapunzel by Bethan Woollvin. We set them a really big challenge but they have risen to it and we are so proud of the writing that they have produced this week. In Maths the children have been working beyond 10. We have begun using Deines to create different teen numbers and have talked about how many 10s and how many 1s each number has. In History we chose four things we would put into our own time capsule and wondered together whether a time capsule from when our parents were children would have the same or different things inside. In addition to all of this we have completed a dress rehearsal for our Nativity play and thoroughly enjoyed our festive Christmas jumper day! If you haven't yet brought in a sheep costume for your child then please can you do so on Monday in a named bag.

The children will not be bringing home reading books this week as we are gathering them all in to be sorted on the INSET day next week. Please do make use of Sora and the library to continue enjoying books over the Christmas holidays.

Miss Miners & Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

This week in Year 2 has been jam-packed with nativity preparations and everyone has been working hard! Our dress rehearsal was fabulous and KS2 really enjoyed watching it, so we are looking forward to our performances next Tuesday and Thursday! We have also been delving into another alternative version of Little Red Riding Hood called Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion. We have been learning about using the -ed suffix and adverbs which we will apply when we write our alternative endings next week! In Maths we have moved onto Shape and the children have particularly enjoyed our new learning about vertices. In RE we have focused on Advent this week and we made our very own advent wreaths. In History we rounded out our unit about classrooms in the past by deciding whether or not we would travel back to the early 1900s or 1960s instead of staying in the present day - their answers might surprise you!

Miss Samuel & Miss Lavin

Chestnut & Elm

Year 3 are continuing to work hard and have enjoyed our new text 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth.' They have been working on giving instructions and using dictionaries to find word meanings. In RE, the children have continued their learning about morals and explaining why deciding between right and wrong is not always easy. As our science learning came to an end this week, the children learnt about the different uses of magnets; becoming experts and teaching each other about them. In history, they looked at secondary sources and made comparisons between Neolithic and Stone Age settlements. They also had to decide which time period they would want to live in. The children enjoyed watching the KS1 Christmas play and are looking forward to all the festivities next week!

Miss Plaw & Miss Boyce

Beech & Ash

This week in year 4 we have started thinking about persuasive writing and the children were even able to persuade us to give them 5 minutes extra play time through their flattery, bribery and strong reasoning! In maths we have thought about how we can use different methods to solve word problems. Thank you for all your recycling, we finally put it to good use by making our torches in DT. We thought about who it was designed for, and what they would need. We put all of our hard work in music together to create a final performance with dancing, singing, and music. We loved watching some of our siblings and friends in the KS1 nativity and singing carols in worship. We can't wait for the last week of term,
Miss Collier and Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week we have begun our learning journey into long multiplication and multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. The children have worked hard with exchanging and carrying extras to ensure they find the correct answer. In English we have developed our descriptive writing and begun to plan our descriptive narrative scene. Finally, a huge well done to all the children for their efforts in swimming and being so responsible and representing the school brilliantly over the last six weeks.
Mr Dookheran & Mr Childs

Aspen & Juniper

With Christmas just around the corner, Year 6 have remained focused and festive with the reading of Yuletide poems such as **'Twas the Night Before Christmas** - checking out our reading fluency and smoothness when retelling this famous poem (first published in 1823). Coupled with this we have been studying and applying the use of dialogue within our narrative writing. We've watched interactions between a master and a child, whilst picking oakum in a dark, dank room and read how Jim Jarvis plans to execute his escape from the workhouse in the children's book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty.

Finally, in RE, we have been practising some Buddhist meditative practices such as mindfulness colouring, listening and absorbing mindfulness music from Tibet and going for mindfulness walks, where we discovered daisies on the field, absorbed the bright and beautiful colours of fallen leaves and observed the intricate patterns and appearance of tree bark and branches.

Next week, Y6 will be designing a playground in DT. If you have any clean and dry kitchen roll tubes or egg boxes please can you send them in on Monday! Thankyou.

Mr Osmond, Miss Howick & Mrs Cocks

Christmas Carol Singing

This year, we are doing Christmas Carol Singing on the evening of 19th December. Starting at **6.00pm in the school hall**, we will take a route around the Picket Twenty estate:

- 6.15pm- Princess Park, P20 Way
- 6.25pm- Pirate Park, Turnpike Road
- 6.35pm- corner of Quicksilver/P20 Way
- 6.45pm- Halter Way Park
- 7.00pm- Hot chocolate at school

We would like as many children and families to join us along the way!

This week, we practised *Silent Night* and will be continuing to learn the melodies and meanings of tricky words in other Christmas carols this last week.

Head lice

We have 'hitchhikers' in children's hair across the school, please can you be vigilant in checking and treating headlice. Thank you!

Arbor

75% of parents/carers have now signed up to the Arbor Parent App- well done! 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.



Parents'/carers' evenings-

We are delighted to let you know that we are holding parent/carer consultations on **Thursday 9th & Tuesday 14th January**, from **3.00pm-6.00pm**. These consultations will focus on academic progress, gaps in learning and next-step targets.

The link for booking is: <https://pilgrimscrossce.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Lunchtime helpers needed!

Do you have an hour to spare at lunchtimes? We desperately need some volunteers to help wipe tables & pour water in the hall between 12.00-1.00pm. Please contact the office if you could help with this.

Christmas Fair

Here are some pictures from the wonderful Christmas Fair on Thursday....



Guessing that cheeky elf's name!



Stitch made an appearance on many faces!



Mr Dookheran mans the snowman Throwing!



Christmas tattoos!

Happy stallholders!





Is Mrs Bragg serving or eating those sweets?



Popular face-painting in the library drew a crowd for most of the night!

Mrs Claus was also meeting children and listening to what they would like for Christmas. We couldn't, of course, interrupt to take photos of that!

Inhalers

We had an incident recently where a child brought an inhaler in to school. Any medication **MUST** be authorised with a conversation between school & home. Please talk to Mrs Hopgood in the office if your child needs medication in school, and we can set this up for you.

Staffing news

Miss Boyce will be leaving us at the end of this term. I want to thank her for her hard work, covering Chestnut Class this autumn term. I am delighted to announce that Miss Dewsbury will be the Chestnut Class teacher in January. Next Wednesday 11th December, the class will have an opportunity to meet her. Please say hello to her at the end of the day, if you get the chance.

Also, we will be saying 'thank you and farewell' to Mrs Timbrell & Mrs Tivey, who finish at Christmas. They have been with us for many years and have provided a great start to our youngest learners. I am sure you will want to say 'thank you' to them over the next two weeks. I am excited to remind you that Mr Edgington will be the Willow Class teacher in January. He is also in on Wednesday this coming week, to spend time with the children & to hand over from the team in Willow Class.

Attendance

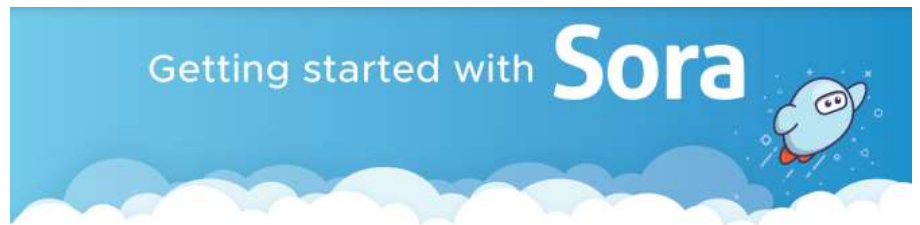
Our school attendance this year stands at 96.1%- above the current national average of 94.7%. Children need to be in school every day to make the best progress.

Congratulations to the **83 children with a perfect 100% attendance so far this academic year!**

Some families will have received attendance letters this week. Please note that these are our procedural reminders for families about their child's attendance. Authorised medical absence is also included in this figure. We are not making judgements about parenting but simply highlighting your children's current percentage. If you need any advice or help in working with us to raise this, please do contact the office.

Sora

Log on to Sora, using the guide below...



With Sora, you can get free ebooks and audiobooks from your school.

1

Install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to soraapp.com.

2

In Sora, find your school (or enter your school's setup code), then sign in.

3

Setup code: hampshiresls

4

Browse the **Explore** tab and borrow a book. Your book will open so you can start reading right away.

Close the book and go to your **Shelf** to see all your books (including assignments). From there, you can:

- Tap **Open Book** or **Open Audiobook** to read or listen to the book.
- Tap **Options** to renew or return the book, get to your notes and highlights, and more.

Username: The first letter of the child's first name followed by their surname.

Example: John Smith = jsmith

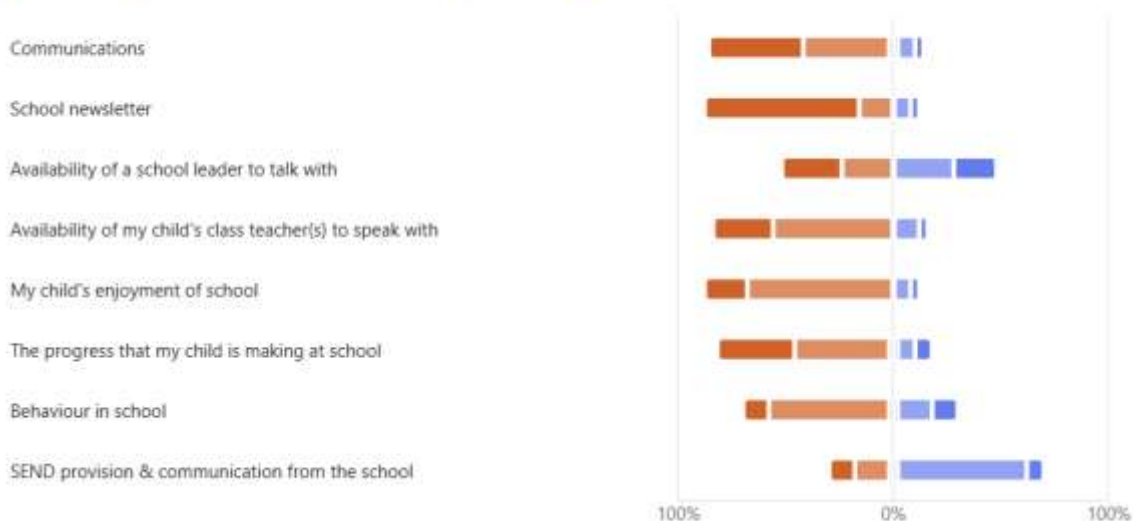
Password: Pilgrims2024

Survey feedback

Here are some headlines from the recent parent/carer survey...

You said...	We did...
<i>We preferred the new format of the parent/carer consultations (76%)</i>	We will continue with this format for the January consultations
<i>The hall was quite loud, however (20%)</i>	The next appointments will have a supervised children's area in the music room, next door
<i>There have been improvements this term in communications (44%), the newsletter (72%), availability of a school leader to talk to (28%), my child's enjoyment of school (28%), the progress that my child is making (36%), behaviour (12%) and SEND provision (12%)</i>	

● Improved ● Stayed the same ● Got worse ● N/A to me ● I don't know



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

Grab some tasty treats!

Swing by Santa's cozy

grotto for a jolly good time!

Disco fever is here!

A variety of pop-up stalls await!

Enjoy complimentary fun activities

Don't miss our exciting raffle!

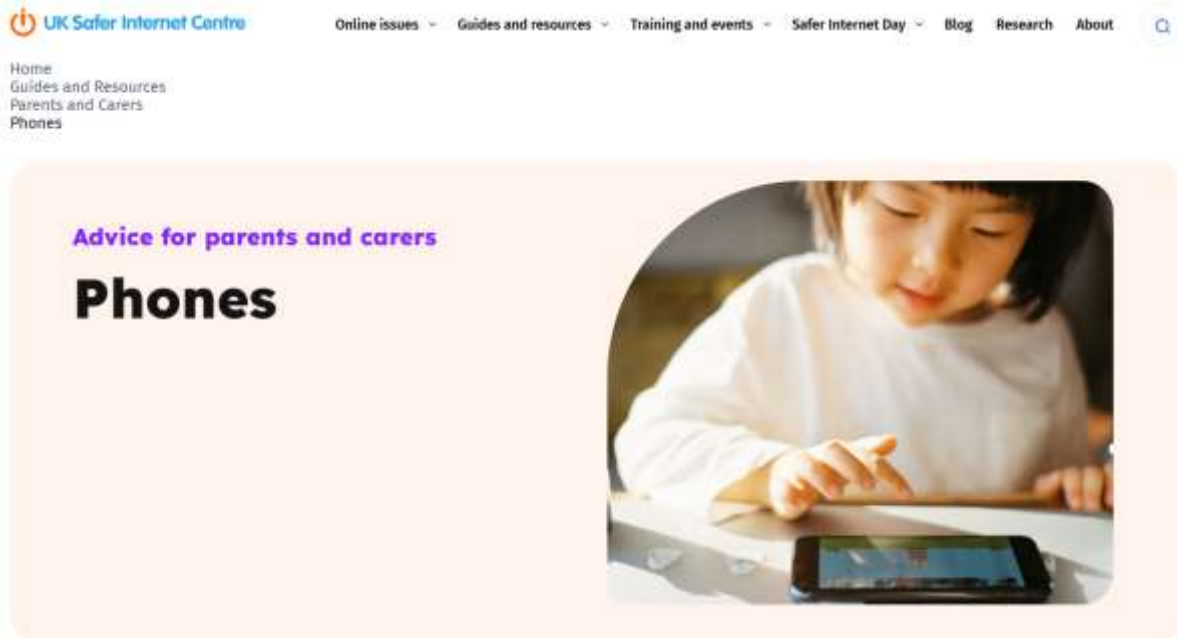


Safeguarding- phone use

We have had a couple of incidents of inappropriate phone use by older children in the school. These incidents mainly concern the sharing of images and comments. Although these incidents occurred outside the school, they affect the pupils within our community. Please monitor your child's use of their phones.

Please check out this helpful page on the UK Safer Internet Centre website:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/phones>



The screenshot shows the UK Safer Internet Centre website. The navigation bar includes 'Online issues', 'Guides and resources', 'Training and events', 'Safer Internet Day', 'Blog', 'Research', and 'About'. A search icon is on the right. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Guides and Resources > Parents and Carers > Phones'. The main heading is 'Advice for parents and carers' followed by 'Phones'. A photograph of a young child looking at a tablet is on the right.

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**
5PM 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

- 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- Thursday 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/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=8&viewid=1>