

Pilgrims' Cross Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers,

Communities are living, breathing things. "Change and Grow" is one of our favourite worship songs in school, reminding us that change is part of life. On Wednesday, we gathered as a community to wish Mr Osmond all the best in his next steps. He led us through one final collective worship, reminding the children of some of his passions, including birds, trees and the artist David Hockney. The children had a chance to collaborate to produce him a Vision Award from each class and sing a song about him, written by Miss Collier.

Mr Osmond would like to send you all a farewell message:

Dear all,

Thank you for all your kind words, messages, cards and gifts. I have been overwhelmed with the amount of generosity and kindness directed towards me in the last few weeks and Pilgrims' Cross CE Aided Primary School will always hold a special place in my heart. The children are fabulous of course and it is really important that all of you continue to get behind them, Mr C and the staff because Pilgrims' Cross is a wonderful place to learn and grow. I wish you ALL the very best now, and in the future.

God bless and much love, Mr O



We wish him every blessing, as we continue to change and grow as a school.

Enjoy your Bank Holiday weekend,

Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	Love	Courage	Trust
Oak		Charlie G	
Willow	Oliwa J		
Sycamore		Lily J	
Maple		Esmae B	
Hazel		Ruby G	
Lime	Tahlia I		
Chestnut		Amber R	
Elm		Filip J	
Ash		Layla L	
Beech		Jennifer S	
Pine			Archie K
Hawthorn			Harley L
Aspen			Poppy L
Juniper		Jack J	Zak W

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

What a wonderfully warm week we have had. We took full advantage of the lovely weather and were outside as much as possible.

We started a new story this week called *Handa's Surprise* which is based in south-west Kenya. We looked at the animals in Africa and the fruit too then we thought about how different the story would be if it was based in Andover. The children found this very funny. We even tried painting African animals just like the masks we had in our outdoor area.

We set up our observation station and started to look at what minibeasts and birds we have in our amphitheatre. One day we saw crane flies, ladybirds, bees, brimstone butterflies, red admiral butterflies, cabbage white butterflies, orange tip butterflies and painted lady butterflies. We are so lucky to have all these just outside our classroom. We also looked at what flowers and plants we have growing, and we found blue bells, cow slips and dandelions. Once our garden is fully established, I am sure the amount of wildlife and plants will increase.

In maths we were counting more than 20 and exploring these numbers. In phonics we were reading longer words and working very hard on our spellings.

The best part of the week though was having the paddling pool out. The children had such a fun time, and it was wonderful seeing the joy on all their faces. Making memories at Pilgrims Cross is what makes our school so special!

Have a lovely long weekend and take care!

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

Sycamore & Maple

What a hot week it has been! We have been finishing off our poems in English and the children have produced some lovely counting poems using alliteration. In Geography we have started to locate China and Shanghai on a world map. We will be using this information in our English learning next week! In Maths, we have looked at equal groups and have started to record this as repeated addition. In Computing, we have used our story maps to take photos of our story. We tried hard to make sure our photos were close to the objects and not blurry. In Science, we looked at different types of seeds. Some of them were very small! We then guessed which plant they are from!

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

In year 2 this week we have been exploring clay in Art learning how to mould and manipulate the clay using our hands and tools. In English this week we have written a re-telling of the story *Stella and the Seagull* and focussed on adding suffixes and conjunctions to our writing. We went on a litter pick in preparation for writing a letter about the environment next week. In Maths we have been focussing on fractions- learning to recognise and find a half, quarter and third. In Geography we have been learning about the coast in the UK finding and locating them on a map which linked in nicely with our music where we learnt a folk song from Scotland! In science we looked at seeds and bulbs and revisited our plants from last week to check their growth keeping a diary. In RE we have explored what prayer can mean. We are looking forward to another excellent week.

Miss Lavin and Miss Samuel

Chestnut & Elm

Elm and Chestnut have been multiplying and dividing in maths, including working out two-digit examples by partitioning, and using practical resources. As understanding times tables is so crucial, please do make use of *Times Tables Rock Stars* and *Hit the Button* at home. Long car journeys can be a great opportunity to sing them, too.

In our D.T. For this term, we've used maps to explore how different foods grow in different parts of the world because of the different climates. We look forward to trying a variety of fruits soon!

Miss Dewsbury and Mr Spiers

Beech & Ash

What a week we've had in year 4. In Maths we have developed our understanding of decimals by learning to compare them and round them to the closest whole number. We are looking forward to next week, where we will be applying this to our understanding of money. We have researched facts, learnt about rhetorical questions, and started writing our persuasive letter. We started our music learning journey where we explored Samba music and learnt what syncopation is. In Geography we have learnt that rivers can be used for a variety of reasons such as, housing, hydro-electric power, habitats for animals, transport of goods, farming, and fun activities. We have engaged in discussions about money in PSHE and talked about how we keep our money safe. We also explored the reasons people choose different careers and what might inspire us to do a certain job. Keep up the good work and enjoy the long weekend!

Miss Collier and Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week we have begun our new maths Learning Journey of position and direction. We have plotted coordinates and analysed the direction in which shapes have turned on a coordinate grid. We have also practiced our translation skills, moving shapes from one place to another on our grids. The children have also written some brilliant descriptive paragraphs for their yellow spotted lizard reports. We have been so impressed with the level of detail and the persuasiveness of their facts. We can't wait to see them put together, with added design, in their two-page spreads! Finally, we have discussed economic wellbeing in our PSHE learning journey. We have decided what a weekly budget would look like and what a loan is and the expectations that are set when taking out a loan. Well done to all the children for their hard work this week!

Mr Childs and Mr Dookheran

Aspen & Juniper

Year 6 have continued with their fantastic and hardworking attitude this week on the run up to SATs. Our Maths revision focus has been shape; the children have really shown off their skills with their understanding of the properties of shape as well as drawing shapes using protractors to accurately measure the angles.

It would have been rude not to make the most of the sunshine this week so we took our Science lesson outside, creating models of the circulatory system on the playground, using beanbags to represent the flow of oxygenated and deoxygenated blood.

In Geography we have begun to choose our areas of enquiry with regards to our fieldwork around the local area of Picket Twenty. The children had some great knowledge of issues within the areas as well as ways in which these could be improved. One of the main issues that we discussed was the parking and the driving around the neighbourhood and we looked at the range of people that this could affect. Finally, following on from last week, we have started writing our Robert Falcon Scott biographies with a focus on his early life, his expeditions and his lasting legacy - they are shaping up to be a very good read indeed!

Mrs Cocks, Mr Osmond, Miss Howick & Mrs Featherstone

Sports Day- save the date!

Tuesday 8th July will be our Sports Day. If the weather is not great on the day, we will reschedule this to the following Tuesday.

Thank you, from our Admin Team!

We would like to thank you for all your support whilst we transferred from Scopay to Arbor. It is still a work in progress as we are learning as we go and are tackling issues as we find them.

There have been some adjustments to school meals this week, as we were unable to take the register for meals on the Thursday and Friday of the first week and have had to adjust them manually.

We are also aware that payments from Tax-free childcare vouchers etc. are still a work in progress too.

The office team have been working hard to make sure this has as little impact as possible to yourselves, amongst their other day to day duties.

They would like to wish you a lovely bank holiday.

Summer weather advice

Parents/carers, now that the weather heating up (hurrah!) please ensure that children are provided with sunscreen with a high protection factor, suitable head wear, such as wide brimmed hats and a water bottle every day. **Children can reapply their own sunscreen during the day, but cannot share with other children. We cannot apply cream to the children, so please ensure that they are competent in doing so!**

Competition

POSTER CHALLENGE

Dear parents/carers

**Caitlin & Lacie in year 6 are launching
A silly funny poster challenge where
you make a poster but it's something
like 'Taylor swift new football coach'
And there will be a winner from each
ks2 class and one big winner whose
poster will go around school and will
get a prize like the rest of the winners
The starting date is 4th of may and the
closing date is 18th of may .**

-Caitlin&Lacie

Class Celebrations

Please see the calendar below for our Class Celebrations later this term...

Spring Fair

Get ready for our school fair! We'll be selling raffle tickets each afternoon during the school run – please remember it's cash only for these. You can also purchase your fair entry tickets at reception for £1 per person, where both cash and QR code payments are accepted. We're really excited and can't wait to see you all there for a fantastic day of fun and fundraising for our wonderful students!

We are also looking for volunteers for the day- even if it's just an hour. The timetable for the day will be available with raffle tickets, if you're able to lend a hand, please sign up for available time slots.

Please see some of our amazing prizes below for the raffle.

Thanks from your FOPS team



Attendance

Let's hope the chicken pox, which has been sweeping the school, is over now. Our school attendance currently stands at 95.4%

If you require any support with routines or wish to discuss any barriers that you need help with to improve your mornings please do get in touch with me on familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk and I will be very happy to chat – Mrs Hathaway

Safeguarding- Road Safety

We are very keen that all children know about how to cross roads and travel around the local area. Please read this handy guide with your child(ren)...

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



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Key dates

- Saturday 17th May- Summer Fair
- Monday 19th May – Year 6 parent/carer Hooke Court Information session, 5pm
- Monday 19th May – Year 5 Class Celebration @ 8.45am and Year 2 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Tuesday 20th May– Year 6 Class Celebration @ 8.45am and Year 1 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Wednesday 21st May – Year R Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Thursday 22nd May – Year 4 Class Celebration @ 8.45am and Year 3 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Friday 23rd May- House Colour non-uniform day (wear your House colour all over!)
- w/b Monday 16th June- Thursday 19th June-Year 6 residential, Hooke Court
- Friday 20th June- INSET day 5
- Tuesday 8th July- Sports Day
- Friday 11th July- Year 6 leavers' disco
- Monday 14th July – Year 6 Graduation @ The Lights
- Monday 21st July – Year 6 Leavers Worship – 1.45pm
- Tuesday 22nd July- non-uniform Hawaiian summer day

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>