



Dear Parents & Carers,

In our Collective Worship this week, we have been reflecting on the question *Why are rules important?* We thought about rules in school and linked it to the story of Moses, who was given 10 rules (commandments) by God. These rules were to keep people safe and well & to enable the community to flourish.

We also reflected on the fundamental British Values, especially the rule of law. These values also allow us to flourish as a society. These values were, no doubt, in the hearts and minds of those who celebrated the first VE day, 80 years ago.

Recently, a couple of our pupils got to visit Southwick House in Portsmouth, which was used as General Eisenhower's HQ during the Second World War. They got to see the original wooden D-Day map that was used in Operation Overlord where D-Day was planned and launched on 6th June 1944. The belief in democracy, tolerance, individual liberty, rule of law and mutual respect is as central (and as needed) today, as back then.



This weekend, why not take time to reflect on the freedom and quality of life that you and your families enjoy today, as a result of the beliefs and sacrifices of those who came before us?

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>		Esme C-R	
<i>Willow</i>		Zele B	
<i>Sycamore</i>		Freddie C Bella H	
<i>Maple</i>		Imaan O	
<i>Hazel</i>		Mason H	Mollie L
<i>Lime</i>		Rosie B	
<i>Chestnut</i>		Lily M-H	
<i>Elm</i>		Mayan P	
<i>Ash</i>		Thea R	
<i>Beech</i>		Layan N	
<i>Pine</i>		Hugo E	
<i>Hawthorn</i>			Lilly N
<i>Aspen</i>	Maira T-A		
<i>Juniper</i>	Oliver C		

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

We've had a very busy week in Oak and Willow, despite only having four days we've fit a lot in! We have been focusing on the text *Handa's Surprise* for the last two weeks and we've loved thinking about how Handa's life is the same as, and different to, ours. Handa walks all the way to another village by herself. When we thought about walking to Tesco's on our own, we could think of a lot of dangers we would meet along the way. We had a great time on Friday tasting lots of exotic fruits- our favourite was pineapple and our least favourite was papaya.

In maths we have been working on calculations. We have been so proud of how hard both classes have worked on adding and subtracting. This has been a great help in our new vegetable shop where the children have been working out how much to charge their customers.

In PE we have also been practicing our ball skills sending and receiving to one another in different ways and playing some fun parachute games. During Welly Wednesday we have been thinking about how we can look after our environment and the impact we have on the plants and animals around us. The text *Tidy* by Emily Gravett has helped us think about this.

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

Sycamore & Maple

This week the children have become experts on Shanghai and have used this knowledge to write a non-chronological report about the city. I wonder if your child can share what they know about Shanghai with you over dinner? In Maths we have completed our focus on multiplication and division. We have explored grouping, sharing and doubling this week. Can you have a go at doubling some objects at home?

In Computing the children used iPads to edit their photographs. Some of the outcomes were very wild and exciting to look at! Within Art this week the children have explored mixing colours and using these for printing with Lego pieces. These are skills we are going to be using at the Class Celebration with you on Tuesday 20th May at 2.15pm.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

This week in Year 2 we have written letters to various people about the problem of litter in our local environment. The children have been really invested in our text *Stella and the Seagull* but we're also looking forward to our new story *A Home for Stone*. In Maths we have continued to conquer Fractions, discussing what a unit fraction is! In Music we have learnt a new folk song – *Lavender's Blue* and we've continued to monitor our plants in Science. We really enjoyed making fish-themed pinch pots in DT and decorating them too! Thank you for a fabulous week!

Miss Lavin and Miss Samuel

Chestnut & Elm

Elm and Chestnut have finished writing their settings description of 'The Wild Robot', including a lot of English skills. Lots of the children have said that they have been watching the film version at home, and we're pleased to hear that they enjoy the story so much! We have finished our learning journey on multiplication and division, but they haven't stopped being important; please do keep practising these at home through TTRS, songs, in the bath or on long journeys. Year 3 are expected to already know the 2s, 10s and 5s, be learning the 3s, 4s and 8s, but in a year's time they will have a test on all of the tables up to 12 x 12, so they are welcome to try more than just the 3s, 4s and 8s!

Our science has taken an unexpected turn, but it still provided us with a learning opportunity; we have put celery into dyed water, but it hasn't changed the colour of the celery. We thought about why it hasn't worked and what we could try differently next time to be more successful. After all, science is all about finding out..!

Miss Dewsbury and Mr Spiers

Beech & Ash

A quick week in year 4, but we've packed lots of learning in! We've been writing letters to persuade people to look after the ocean by telling them the problems facing the ocean and solutions we can all be part of. In maths we've been learning about money, comparing, rounding and estimating. We've really enjoyed our science this week, diving into the role of a taxonomist by classifying living things through a variety of different categories and making classification keys through our careful observations. We also looked at how much habitats change throughout the seasons and created a story following a year in the life of a dormouse. In French, we learnt to pronounce different types of shops and then created our own mini versions. We finished off our music by adding breaks into our samba rhythms.

Miss Collier and Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week, we have finished our Maths Learning Journey around position and direction. The children excelled in their knowledge of reflection and translation and moving coordinates around a grid. They have also finished their reports about the yellow spotted lizards from our class book *Holes* by Louis Sachar. The children have created some amazing reports that we cannot wait to put on display for everyone to see! Finally, the children have begun to design their Bolognese sauce, thinking about the ingredients and the possible changes to a standard Bolognese sauce that they could make. Well done to all the children in Year 5 for their successful and effort-filled work this week.

Mr Childs and Mr Dookheran

Aspen & Juniper

Year 6 have demonstrated great resilience this week as we continue preparing for our SATs through focused revision. Our SPaG lessons have been particularly enjoyable, featuring fun and interactive activities like Bingo and Loop Cards to help us remember different word classes and grammar rules. In maths, we explored symmetry and ratio. Working in groups, we discussed strategies for solving reasoning problems, especially focusing on the steps involved in ratio calculations and identifying the most efficient methods to find solutions. These sessions sparked some lively and thoughtful discussions!

In science, we delved into the fascinating topic of blood—its key functions and how it connects to the digestive system. We evaluated a creative model of blood made from Vimto, oil, rice, herbs, and marshmallows. This hands-on activity helped us understand the roles of plasma, red and white blood cells, platelets, nutrients, and water within our bodies.

We also enjoyed some cooler PE sessions this week and had a fantastic time visiting our school library to share and celebrate our favourite books.

Mrs Cocks, Miss Howick & Mrs Featherstone

Safeguarding around the school site

Parents/carers, please note a few points about the school site from Monday onwards...

Staff car park

From Monday, the **staff car park gates will be closed**. No parents/carers are to park in the car park to drop off their children, unless pre-arranged with Mr Cascarini/Mrs Hutchison due to specific needs or for Breakfast Club. Parents/carers, please remind your children that they are **not to take a short-cut in to school via the car park**. The gates will be open for pick-up from after-school club at the end of the day, however.

Adventure playground

There is an increasing number of families using the adventure playground after school. I am sorry if it has not been communicated clearly to you recently, but please **do not let your children use it after school**. The equipment is for **primary-aged children at school time only** under **supervision of a member of staff**.

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.

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!**

Class Celebrations

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

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

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 & punctuality

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

The power of community

10 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK
12 - 18 MAY 2025

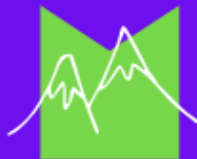
From book club to art class, Swifties to gamers, volunteer groups to shooting hoops – community is good for our mental health. They help us to belong, feel supported, and have purpose.

Here are ten ways to get involved with your community and boost your mental health.



1. MAKE IT FUN

Choose an activity you enjoy. You could join a club or group centred around your interests.



2. GET OUTDOORS

Get out and moving in nature for more mental health benefits.



3. FIND LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE

Build connections with people who share your interests and values. But try to also meet people who are different from you, too.



4. SHOW KINDNESS TO OTHERS

Connect with your community through small acts of kindness, which will benefit both you and others.





5. SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

Sharing a compliment or showing appreciation can strengthen your relationships.



6. CONNECT ONLINE

Find others who share similar experiences or interests online. Remember, healthy online communities should make you feel safe and valued.



7. GIVE BACK

Helping others is a great way to build community and give you purpose.



8. CARE FOR YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Increase your sense of belonging by getting involved in your local community.



9. WELCOME OTHERS

Make new people joining your community feel welcome and included.



10. FIND PEER SUPPORT IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING

Connect with others going through similar experiences through peer support groups.



TOGETHER
FOR **GOOD** MENTAL HEALTH

Learn more about community and mental health.

[MENTALHEALTH.ORG.UK/MHAW](https://mentalhealth.org.uk/mhaw) #THISISMYCOMMUNITY

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>