

Pilgrims' Cross Newsletter



Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for supporting Walk to School Week. We had many children taking part- and achieving their certificate at the end of this week! Walking to school brings many benefits, including children being healthier, happier- and more ready for learning when they arrive at school, having not sat in a car for their journey.



Our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) took a walk around the local area with someone from Hampshire County Council's Travel Planning Team. They looked at crossing points, signage, safe and unsafe roads and talked with him about what could be put in place to make the journey to school safer and more pleasant.

Picket Twenty is an interesting development, with some areas of infrastructure which are quite unclear. Parents/carers often talk to me about poor driving and parking around the school too, exacerbated by poor signage.



Let's hope that our JRSOs' comments might lead to some positive changes! Enjoy your half term break...

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>			Kyron M
<i>Willow</i>		Ethan D	
<i>Sycamore</i>		Sophia D	
<i>Maple</i>		Mia O-N	
<i>Hazel</i>		Tay K	Felix S
<i>Lime</i>		Oliver T	
<i>Chestnut</i>		Dottie K	
<i>Elm</i>	Leo C and Josh S		
<i>Ash</i>		Eleanor C	
<i>Beech</i>			Oscar W
<i>Pine</i>		Toby R	
<i>Hawthorn</i>			Samuel B
<i>Aspen</i>			Isabelle C
<i>Juniper</i>		Cody S	

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

WOW!! That was an exciting last week!! We had an ice cream shop in our home corner and we learned how to make cones using paper and Sellotape. We also learnt how to roll paper into tubes for our roller coasters or water slides. We created our own version of Jack and the Beanstalk, one class having cloud pirates and the other having a cloud staircase that got blown away by a fan. I saw children walking around with beautiful garlands around their heads made from loose parts and they were talking about what gems their garlands were made of!

In maths we were looking at doubling as well as odd and even numbers all the way up to 20! we also used 2D shapes to create pictures, one child used their imagination and created a frog.

On Welly Wednesday, we collected resources like flowers, leaves and grass, so that we could make a magical woodland wand. I wonder what magical spells the children will come up with?

In Phonics we were looking at different suffixes, including "ing" (for example swimming) and "ed". But we looked at how this suffix can make different sounds for example it can make a "t" sound like "helped" - "helpt" or the "id" sound for example "grunted" - "gruntid". Finally, we looked at the "est" suffix for example "strongest".

Finally, THANK YOU for all of your support with our parent celebration, we hope you all had fun doing the experiments with the children. In case any children missed any of the experiments, don't worry! We intend to have them in class next half term and do them with the children so no one will miss out. KEEP AN EYE ON THE WEBSITE! Exciting things will be coming soon under EYFS within the Curriculum section!

Enjoy your breaks and we can't wait to hear all the exciting things the children get up to in the May half term.

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

Sycamore & Maple

What a wonderful end to a short but busy half term!

The class celebration was fantastic and it was lovely to see so many parents and carers with us getting stuck-in with the painting! The plates look amazing and will look wonderful in our corridor display.

In Maths we have moved on to exploring quarters. This has been a little tricky and it would be really helpful if you could practice finding halves and quarters at home during the holidays. In English the children have written instructions for how to grow a dragon. They have worked hard to make sure the steps are sequenced correctly and that they have remembered everything you would need to grow a dragon, even a sprinkle of spice!

After the half term the children will be completing their phonics screening check. More information will be coming home about this. Here is a link to some practice papers to explore over half term

- <https://monsterphonics.com/the-phonics-screening-check/>

We hope you have a wonderful week and look forward to seeing you after the holidays!

Miss Miners and Mrs Edgington

Lime & Hazel

We started our week off with a bang! Thank you so much to all our parents and carers who visited us for our class celebration - our outside areas are looking more inviting and the children are doing a good job of keeping the plants alive by using their knowledge from our Plant Growth science from this half term. In Maths this week we have confidently completed our Fractions unit and will be starting Time after half term. In English we wrote our non-chronological reports about Southsea (yes a trip to Southsea will be happening so please keep an eye out for that letter soon!). We all had a go at creating stop-motion animations in Computing, all themed around space, and in Art we made our final clay tile beach huts! It has been a fantastic end to a short half term and we hope you have a wonderful half term!

Miss Lavin and Miss Samuel

Chestnut & Elm

This week we have been finishing our own narrative endings from a point in the 'Wild Robot'. The children have been using their innovative ideas to create some wonderful endings with interesting sentence starters as well as using direct speech. In maths we have finished our unit on Fractions and will be starting on 'time' after half term, including telling time to 5 minutes. In DT (as many of you will know!) we made some wonderful fruit kebabs in parent celebration which we took pictures of and also went outside onto the field to enjoy eating them in in sun. During French we have been continuing to learn about transport and in music we have been learning about which instruments make up a Jazz band. In PSHE we have been discussing how money makes you feel and reasons why this may be. Our topic after half-term is Ancient Egyptians so if anyone would like to create a project or do some research about this topic it will only help them in the upcoming term. Well done everyone great half term. Don't forget the Times Tables Rockstars!

Miss Dewsbury and Mr Spiers

Beech & Ash

What a speedy half term; we have packed so much in! This week we have taken all our research-adverbs, prepositions and conjunctions- and used them to write our reports about the Amazon River. In maths we've been finishing off our learning about time, looking at how to convert between 12-hour and 24-hour times. We also want to add that we have been blown away with the time, effort and dedication the children have put into their times tables over the last few weeks, the progress has been amazing! In art we looked at how shadows can be used to enlarge and bring deeper meaning to art. We also looked at the work of El Anatsui and how old materials can be recycled and given new life through art. In science we learnt about how habitats can be impacted by natural disasters and what humans around the world are doing to support habitats after natural disasters occur. We continued our computing learning by discovering what an algorithm does and creating our own algorithm for coming into the classroom in the morning. Keep up the good work year 4!

Miss Collier and Mrs Allison

Pine & Hawthorn

In Year 5 this week we have developed our adding and subtracting decimals in Maths. We have explored using different amounts of decimal places and using the column method to add and subtract. Also, we have completed our final English piece of writing, rewriting a narrative scene when Stanley digs his first hole. We concentrated heavily on parenthesis and adding as much detail as we possibly can to our scene. Finally, we have made our bolognaise sauce! The children had a great time chopping up the vegetables in the grove with Mr Dookheran and designed their very own sauce labels in the classroom. Well done to all the children for their hard work this half term and we wish you a relaxing and fun-filled week off!

Mr Childs and Mr Dookheran

Aspen & Juniper

We have had a writing focus in Year 6 this week, with the children showing amazing effort, resilience and skill!

We started off by publishing our biographies on Robert Falcon Scott. For this piece, the children thought carefully about how the layout and organisation of the finished biography could support the purpose of their writing; many of the children chose to incorporate headings, sub-headings, photos and captions. We also had the opportunity to look over some of our previous pieces of writing from the year, including a non-chronological report about Andover Workhouse and a persuasive letter to the UN. We could see how much progress we had made in writing since these were created so were able to up-level our original pieces. Great work Year 6!

This week also saw auditions for the Year 6 production, 'School of Pop.' Those who wanted a speaking role have been allocated a part and have been sent home with a script - so get learning those lines over half term!

Mrs Cocks, Miss Howick & Mrs Featherstone

House treat!

Well done, Water House! You have won a non-uniform day on Friday 6th June...

FOPS update!

Wow!



Thanks to everyone on the FOPS team and beyond for the amazing Spring Fair last weekend...





Times Table Rockstars in Year 2

Times Table Rockstars has launched in Year 2! We completed our learning on Multiplication and Division in the Spring term and would like to encourage all of Year 2 to move onto using Times Tables Rockstars instead of Numbots.

Please note, **your login details are the same** and can be used for both websites - you should be able to simply press a button to swap between the two before logging in. Your child should have come home with their login details last Friday and, after the half term, we will begin handing out certificates for the children's achievements!

Miss Samuel

Football success!

Anton 1-3 Pilgrims' Cross

A fantastic game of football was played out by a mix of year 5 & 6 pupils on Tuesday afternoon at Anton school.

Pilgrims' Cross took a deserved lead through a wonderful individual goal from Oliver C, beating 2 players & smashing into the top corner.

A tight affair that stayed 1-0 till the break.

The second half Pilgrims' Cross started brightly & deservedly went 2-0 up with a well worked goal which led to Zack U slotting home.

Anton came back into the game & scored a deserved consolation.

Pilgrims' sealed the win with a few mins to go, Zack U scoring a superb volley to send the visitors home with a 3-1 win.

The team can be very proud of their performance, they worked very hard in really hot conditions, defending bravely & being clinical in front of goal.



Holiday Club

Need a place for your child over half term? Check this out...

St Mary's Church
Andover SP10 1DP

£10 whole week!
For kids in years
R-6

Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri
29th Jul - 1st Aug
9am - 12:30pm

**LET'S GO
TO THE JUNGLE!**

andoverparish.org/whats-on **HOLIDAY CLUB 2025**

Fun at Thruxton!

Check out this great event, round the corner from us...!

THE
THRUXTON
Retro
PRESENTS
Superfunk
20 - 22 June 2025
Live Music & Entertainment

Historic Racing
Kids Go Free
70s Fun
Live Music

Saturday Headline
BJÖRN AGAIN
THE INTERNATIONALS · EARTH WIND FOR HIRE
THE 9 TO 5 SHOW - DOLLY PARTON TRIBUTE
MOONRIDER · SILENT DISCO · LINE DANCING · LIVE DJ SETS

Track Activity
RETRO AND HISTORIC RACING
CLASSIC F1 CAR DEMOS
PARADES
CAR CLUBS
MOTORBIKE DISPLAYS
CLASSIC CAR AND BIKE AUCTION

Kids Paddock
BIG TOP MANIA
CIRCUS SKILLS AND SHOW
BOUNCY CASTLE
CRAZY BIKES
CAR PAINTING
PERFORMANCE ARTISTS

Cool Stuff
CRAFT BEER TENT · STREET FOOD · HOG ROAST · COCKTAIL BAR
HISTORIC AIRCRAFT DISPLAY · SOAP BOX DERBY · FUN FAIR · CAMPING
TRADE VILLAGE · HELICOPTER FLIGHTS · FANCY DRESS · FREE PARKING

Friday £15 · Saturday £35
Sunday £35 · Weekend £60

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Sports Day- House colours

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. We'd love the children to come to school in PE kit, with a t-shirt matching their House colour. Ideally, this would be non-logoed but if you only have a t-shirt in your child's house colour with a logo, that would be fine.



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!**

Job opportunity

We are seeking someone to run our brilliant Breakfast Club. This runs every morning from 7.15am until 8.20am. If you would be interested, please contact recruitment@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Attendance Treats!

Please see below the current scores for each class – remember that each class within its Key Stage will receive a treat if their class ends the Summer term with the highest attendance % - this treat will be decided by our School Council and could be either a dress down afternoon, sweet treat or extra play-time! (Please do note that those classes who have children with complex medical needs will be adjusted accordingly to keep things fair)

Willow	95.2%
Oak	93.5%
Maple	95.7%
Sycamore	96.6%
Hazel	94.6%
Lime	94.5%
Chestnut	95.9%
Elm	95.9%
Ash	94.7%
Beech	95.6%
Pine	95.8%
Hawthorn	97.2%
Aspen	97.4%
Juniper	95.2%

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

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 VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportharmfulcontent.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit onlinemedialawuk.com for more.



Pre-school places

Please check out one of our local nurseries...



PAINT POTS BARTON STACEY.

We are registering children aged between 2 and 4 years old to start preschool. If you are interested in finding out about our amazing preschool, what we offer and reading our Ofsted report, please visit our website, www.paintpotsnursery.co.uk or to contact us for more information, to book a visit or how to register, please email Nhena at: bartonstacey@paintpotsnursery.co.uk or call: **01962 760039**

Key dates

- Thursday 5th June – Year R End of Year Information session @ 2.30pm
- 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
- Wednesday 16th July – Year 6 Performance to Parents @ 6pm
- 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>