



Dear Parents & Carers,

Our new Behaviour Policy has begun, with children already beginning to remember our 5 Pilgrims' Cross Compass rules and how these help guide our behaviour to be positive. Today, a group of excellently-behaved children had their first *Hot Chocolate with the Head*- and it was a real pleasure for me to spend some time with them too! Thank you for your feedback on how the Policy is going so far- and for preparing your children over half term by going through it with them. It has really helped! I am always keen to hear your feedback on how things are going, so please do drop me a line.

On another note, it was wonderful to see so many of you at our wonderful Fireworks Night on Wednesday. It is always a real privilege to spend time with the children and parents/carers in a less formal, community context. Thank you for spending your money and supporting the school. A very big THANK YOU must go to the Friends of Pilgrims' Cross.

We always need more people to help-even for a little bit- so if YOU think you could play your part, please be ready to respond to the requests for help at our next events.



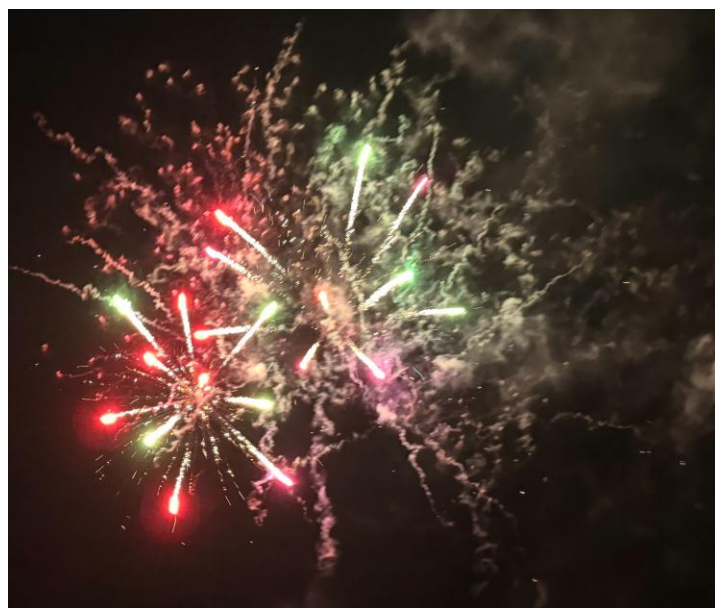
Jim Cascarini – Headteacher headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	Love	Courage	Trust
Oak		Luuk S	
Willow		Elaina Y	
Sycamore		Rowan W	
Maple			Joshua T
Hazel	Dottie P		
Lime			Arthur S
Elm		Jether D	
Ash			Logan B
Beech		Emily P	
Pine		Louis L	
Hawthorn		Lola P	
Aspen		Kylo M	
Juniper		Albie S	

Fireworks!

Here are some photos from Wednesday night!



On behalf of the Governing Body, a huge thank you to our incredible FOPS team, and to their partners, family members, and children, who volunteered their time to cook, run stalls, organise activities, and help clear up. It was the biggest fireworks event we've seen at Pilgrims' Cross, and your collective effort and commitment made it run so smoothly. A special thank you also goes to all the pupils, parents, and carers who came along to support the event and make it such a fantastic evening for our whole community.

David Rawlins, Chair of Governors

What we have been learning this week

Willow & Oak

In Oak and Willow this week we have started our new story this week called *Star in a Jar*. So far, we have thought about what we think our treasure would be. We have used adjectives to describe the treasure in the treasure box, and we have thought about how to send the star back to its friends. In Kinetic letters, we have been learning to write letters from the "Abracadabra Family". These letters pull around from the scared monkey tree (Skip) and push along the ground. for example c, o, a, etc. We have been looking at the shapes circle and triangle. We looked at their properties for example a circle is round and a triangle has 3 sides and 3 corners. We used this to help us draw pictures. The children have really loved making firework pictures and rockets. We have learnt about Guy Fawkes and Fireworks night. We also got the chance to toast marshmallows!



Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure.

Sycamore & Maple

It has been a busy first week back in Year One. The children have settled back into routine really quickly and have coped well after a late night for the school fireworks!

In English we have begun exploring a new text - *Rapunzel*. The children have learnt what adjectives and nouns are and have used this new knowledge to write a description of the witch.

In Maths the children have been learning how to subtract and have begun to use number lines to solve subtraction problems. This will continue into next week and we will begin mixing up the questions so that the children have to recognise if it is an addition or subtraction question.

Our afternoons have been full of exciting Explore and Learn tasks. In Science the children have been sorting objects by the materials they are made of - wood, metal, plastic and glass. I wonder if you can look around your house and sort objects by material at home? In PSHE they have begun thinking about what they are good at and what they would like to be better at by thinking about their strengths and weaknesses, whilst in Geography the children have drawn a map of the classroom. Next week we will be learning how to label it.

Today the children have brought home with them new Homework Diaries. Please do note in these any reading, Numbots or Tricky Word practice the children do at home as they will contribute to our Class Learning Points!

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Edgington, Miss Miners and Mrs Oliver-Hawkins

Lime & Hazel

Welcome back Year 2! We have delved straight into our vehicle text, *Jack and the Baked Beanstalk!* We have immersed ourselves in various versions of this traditional story, including musical ones as well, and have discussed lots of fun new vocab such as 'put on a brave face' and 'thoughtfully'. In DT we studied different forms of chairs, discussing the materials they were made with and their properties. In RE we started our learning about candles, talking about when they might be used and why. We will be learning more about this across this half term. In Maths we've focussed on using our knowledge of counting in 10s to find 10 more, 10 less, adding 10s and ended with adding two two-digit numbers using a place value chart and dienes. We rounded out the week by exploring classrooms of the past, going as far back as the 1900s on our timeline! See you next week.

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

Elm & Ash

Year 3 have had another hard-working week. We started our first history unit of the year looking at pre-history and where it is in relation to where we are now. In maths the children had their first attempt at column addition and subtraction. They showed excellent determination and perseverance. Finally, the children seemed very excited at receiving their TT Rockstars and Numbots logins for their home learning. All teachers are very excited to see how the children get on with them. Well done all.

Mr Dookheran & Mrs Bryan

Beech & Pine

Year 4 have had a great first week back after half term! We have started our new English unit focusing on the book *Leaf* and have written some lovely setting descriptions using fronted adverbials at the start of some of our sentences. We have also wrapped up our geography topic from Autumn 1 by looking at our data that was collected from the field work trip and using this to answer questions and create bar graphs. We are now ready to start our new history topic next week which is focusing on how children's lives have changed throughout the year... I'm sure some children will be quite pleased that they don't have to clean the chimneys and live in workhouses in today's world! It was an exciting week this week as the first children were chosen to have hot chocolate with Mr Cascarini. Something that we can see a lot of the children now striving to achieve through those learning behaviours which is great and will definitely make the teachers' choices harder each week.

Mrs Howick, Mrs Featherstone and Mr Osmond

Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper

In Year 5/6 this week, we have begun our new learning journey using our text *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. We have immersed ourselves into the atmosphere that may be encompassing the moors and what might be creating certain sounds and tracks. We have also created some short pieces of poetry linked to describing the location and scenery around Baskerville Hall. We have also started fractions in Maths. We have investigated simplified fractions and equivalent fractions and identified the link between them. We have completed our first investigation in science – identifying whether light can bend or travel in straight lines. Finally, in Geography, we have analysed data linked to global population and have made a strong start in our learning journey based on the key question *Why does population change?* Well done to all the children for all their hard work this week!

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

Remembrance Day

Our Remembrance Day service is on Tuesday 11th. If your child/ren attend Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, **they can wear their uniforms in on that day, along with a poppy**. Children who do wear uniform will **receive a badge** to say they wore their uniforms to school. Mrs Burgess and Mrs Boare will collate the numbers to order the badges required.

Job vacancies

Learning Support Assistant (LSA)

Monday to Friday 8.00am to 3.00pm with half hour lunchtime duty. This is a fixed contract until the end of August 2026 with a review to extend into the following year.

Experience of working with children is essential, as the person will be working one-to-one with pupils.

Termtime only but will include INSET days.

All enquiries or a request for an application pack are to go through the recruitment@pilgrimscross.co.uk email. More details are on the Hampshire Education website.

Staff news

Mrs Oliver-Hawkins in Sycamore Class will be leaving us at the end of the autumn term. I am pleased to announce that Mrs Wakefield, who has been teaching around the school over the last few weeks, will be in Sycamore on Monday-Wednesday each week.

Kinetic Letters Workshop

On Wednesday 10th of November at 2:20pm, there will be a *Kinetic Letters* workshop that we would love you to attend. *Kinetic Letters* is our new handwriting programme that we have started to implement this year and has a sequential way of working that uses programme specific methods and vocabulary. As a result, there have been some parents/carers asking staff about some of the vocabulary that children are using connected to the scheme, hence why we would like to run the workshop. The *Kinetic Letters* handwriting programme has been introduced to support children alongside the *Little Wandle* phonics as well as the long-term English plan and how they are interwoven for Reception and KS1 will also be explained. The workshop will end before 2:50pm, so you will be able to collect children at the normal time.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance this year so far stands at **96.1%** which slightly lower than the previous weeks, but still a little above our school target.

We will continue to monitor our children's attendance during our weekly reviews so **please do not be alarmed if we communicate when we have noticed attendance decreasing**. We understand that illnesses can often not be avoided and will always look to work *together* to help wherever we can.

Have a lovely weekend - Mrs Hathaway Familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Family Support

We have been able to secure some upcoming Parent Workshops based on managing 'big emotions' and helping with strategies when responding to behaviour at home. These workshops will be presented by the Primary Behaviour Service (PBS) who we work closely with and whose techniques we are guided by within school.

Each workshop will be followed up with a coffee morning two weeks later to be able to reflect on putting the learning into practice and brainstorm any particular challenges with the PBS team.

Dates for these are:

11th November at 8.30am

26th November at 8.30am

20th January at 8.30am

04th February at 8.30am

To book your space please follow the link below:
<https://forms.office.com/e/WZ17JZdUaC>

FOPS events...

FOPS Update

Firework Night

What an amazing event!

Thank you to everyone who came to support the school, we are really grateful for you taking the time to come along and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!!

Thank you all for your patience with the queues & payments, we are currently reviewing how we can improve the processes ready for our next event.

A huge thank you to all of the volunteers, teachers, staff & governors who gave up their time to host such a wonderful evening.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Sunday 23rd November

A few spaces available for both am & pm sessions.

If childcare is an issue, then bring them along! Children are welcome and will be entertained while you create your own festive masterpiece.

Tickets are £30 per person and this includes everything you need to create your wreath.

Email friendspilgrimsross@gmail.com to book your tickets

Christmas Disco "Jingle Bell Boogie"

Wednesday 10th December

Come & have fun at the Christmas disco – tuck shop (for years 1 – 6) & temporary tattoos will be on sale

Entrance is £2, which will be collected on the door

- Year R – 4.00 – 4.45pm (45 mins)
- Year 1 & Year 2 – 5.00 – 5.45pm (45 mins)
- Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6 – 6.00 – 7.00pm (1 hour)

Volunteers Required

We are always looking for volunteers to come along & help at events or even share your skills & experience with the school, maybe gardening is your thing, or painting, or even reading with the children?

Why not come along to one of our meetings and share your ideas, email us at friendspilgrimsross@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!



Key dates

- Wednesday 10th November- *Kinetic Letters* Workshop- school hall, 2.20pm

- Tuesday 11th November- Tuesday 18th November – Book Fair
- Tuesday 11th November- Parent Workshop (school hall)- Big Feelings, 8.30am (see details above)
- Tuesday 11th November- Parent/Carer Evening
- Tuesday 2nd December – Pantomime for all years (more info to follow)
- Thursday 13th November- Parent/Carer Evening
- Wednesday 26th November- Parent Workshop- Big Feelings (school hall), 8.30am (see details above)
- Thursday 11th December- Christmas Jumper Day
- Thursday 11th December- Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 11th December- KS2 Christingle Service @ St Mary's, Andover
- Friday 12th December – Year R Nativity @1.30pm
- Monday 15th December – Year R Nativity @3.15pm
- Tuesday 16th December – Year 2 Christmas performance @ 9.15am
- Tuesday 16th December – Year 1 Christmas performance @3pm
- Wednesday 17th December – Year 2 Christmas performance @ 3pm
- Thursday 18th December – Year 1 Christmas performance @ 9.15am
- Friday 19th December - Christmas Party Lunch
- Monday 5th January 2026- INSET day 4
- Friday 19th June 2026- 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>



Discounted Family Fun upto half price off





Ninja Warrior

Laser Tag

Soft Play



Paddle Boarding

Donutting

Glo Golf

Bowling

Flip Out

**Days Out including Chessington, Legoland
4 Kingdoms and more**

AND MORE...

Gold membership is £5 per person per year which gives activities at
upto 50% off and then our charity funds the difference.

For more details please visit our website
www.spotlightuk.org or email activities@spotlightuk.org