



Dear Parents & Carers,

This week saw our oldest learners completing their *Bikeability* training. Being safe on the roads whilst cycling is vitally important. I cycle regularly on my commute, enjoying the beautiful scenery around me, but am constantly aware of the danger that vehicles pose on the roads- cyclists are legitimate road users, yet very vulnerable. My desire is that our children not only learn road safety skills and bike maintenance but that they are acutely aware of the traffic around them as they cycle.



All of our children improved this week- whether it was going from being a non-bike-rider to a more confident rider, up to developing signalling, stopping and manoeuvring skills. Well done, everyone!



Jim Cascarini – Headteacher

[headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@pilgrimscross.co.uk)

## Vision Awards

Congratulations to all our children who received a Vision Award this week...	Love	Courage	Trust
Oak		Julia H	
Willow			Storie P
Sycamore		Zele B	
Maple			Milo G
Hazel		Sophia D	
Lime			Joon G
Elm		Charlotte H	
Ash		John H-B	
Beech		Leo C	
Pine		Sophie H	
Hawthorn	Amelie S		
Aspen	Emelia M		
Juniper	Jennifer S		

## What we have been learning this week...

### Willow & Oak

Oak and Willow class have been enjoying the sunshine and the opportunities to explore our outdoor areas. We have noticed that there are a lot more mini beasts around and all our plants are starting to grow. We've also been spotting the blossom on the trees.

In literacy we have started our new vehicle text called *Izzy Gizmo* which is about a girl who loves to invent things' and has to work through lots of emotions when her inventions don't work. We have loved being inventors and using our tinker station in our outdoor provision to build lots of our own inventions. As we are getting further through the year, we are now starting to look at bigger number in maths and this week we have explored the number 10. The children have done so well at discovering the parts that make up 10.

For the last 2 weeks we have been learning about the artist Eric Carle who is famous for his book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Last week we created patterned paper using paints and this week we have been using this paper to create Eric Carle inspired collages. They are fantastic!

We have also been learning about the countries of the UK. On Tuesday we learnt that people in Ireland were celebrating St Patrick's day. We also learnt that the national animal of Wales is a dragon!

Another brilliant week.

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

### Sycamore & Maple

Well, what a fantastic week we have had in the beautiful spring sunshine! Our trip to Marwell Zoo was a huge success and the children represented the school brilliantly. We enjoyed seeing a whole host of animals, including penguins, flamingos, meerkats, giraffes and even the new baby rhino! The children were buzzing with questions and observations, and we were delighted to hear them applying their science learning whilst at the zoo. On Thursday the children then wrote independent recounts of the trip to the zoo, which were exciting to read!

In Art the children have furthered their colour mixing skill by creating a piece of art in the style of Jasper Johns. They have then gone on to exploring making different shades of a colour - adding more yellow to make a lighter shade of green or more blue to make it darker.

In Geography the children have been studying the weather in Andover and have been recording daily weather records when they arrive at school, including the temperature and wind direction. Next week we will explore whether or not the weather is the same in each capital city in the UK and the children are going to become weather reporters!

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.



Miss Miners, Mrs Wakefield and Mrs Edgington

### **Lime & Hazel**

This week in English we have designed our very own machines to "help a teacher make their life better." Miss Dewsbury wanted to be transported to Pig Beach in the Bahamas and Miss Samuel to the Maldives. Next week we will use our knowledge of adverbs, expanded noun phrases and possessive apostrophes to write an explanation text on our new creation! In maths we have finished our unit on length and have started our unit on Mass and capacity. We have started weighing in grams and kilograms and will continue into next week. We have used scales and can now read scales with different intervals! In Music we used the glockenspiels to recreate soundscapes using only the notes C E and G. In History we have been learning all about the legendary Amelia Earhart - ask the children to tell you all about her! Our special quizzes have not finished but both of us wanted to say a huge well done to all the children who worked really hard on all their values to ensure they all did themselves proud!

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

### **Elm & Ash**

Year 3 have showed great resilience this week. This has been due to it being test week. They took all the change of routine in their stride and should be very proud of how they have handled themselves. In RE they looked at some of the actions of Jesus and came up with words Christians could use to describe him. In English, they have completed some wonderful transformation narratives based on *Pip and Egg* and really showed off their abilities as writers. Wishing everyone involved a relaxing weekend. Well done all.

Mr Dookheran & Mrs Bryan

### **Beech & Pine**

This week in year 4 we have had a busy week completing our end of term assessments. The children have shown real resilience and a fantastic attitude towards their learning in order to show us what they have learned so far this year! The children have also completed their twisted narratives and used some fantastic writing skills to really draw the reader on. As well as this, we have finished our history unit and looked at Alfred the Great and had a debate on how great he actually was. We have continued with our dance unit in PE, shifting our focus to the 1960s Twist! - a classic that the children have thoroughly enjoyed starting today. Overall, it has been a week filled with hard work and dedication, and we are so proud of all of them... Keep it up Year 4!

Miss Howick, Mrs Featherstone and Mr Osmond

### **Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper**

It's finally the end of test week in 5/6! Well done to all the children who tried their best to get the best results they can. Special mention to Hawthorn Class who completed both a Maths and Grammar test on Friday morning. We have had glowing reports from the bikeability instructors about the children cycling on the road or playground and it was great to see so much enthusiasm from all involved. We have still squeezed in as many lessons as possible including Geography – where we debated the effectiveness and benefits surrounding wind turbines. The children became members of a Cornish village for a lesson and attempted to persuade the village council (the Teachers) to place wind turbines either onshore or offshore, depending on their opinion. They wrote a persuasive speech using vocabulary and facts they identified using a BBC News report. The children are also becoming very good netball players. The rule of 'no moving when you have the ball' is settling in nicely now and there have been some very competitive games during PE lessons. Onto the final week of what has been a very busy term!

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

### *Parents'/carers' evenings*

We are delighted to let you know that we are holding our next parent/carers consultations on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April**, from 3.00pm-6.20pm, in the school hall.

Bookings are available via [Arbor](#)

### **Pine Class Only**

Parent/carers consultations will take place on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April** and **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April**.

### *Hot Choc Friday!*

Here are the delightful children who had 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' on Friday...



### *Music lessons*

Music lessons for next academic year are ready to book! Whether you would like your child to begin an instrument or continue, we'd like an indication so we can book the peripatetic teachers for next academic year. Please fill out our Microsoft form: [Music Lesson survey 2026-2027 – Fill in form](#)

### *Staffing news*

We will soon be saying goodbye to Mrs Fetherstone, who finishes next Wednesday. Pine Class will be meeting their new teacher next week. Also, at the end of this academic year, Mrs Edgington will be finishing as a class teacher at the school. We will miss them both!

### *Attendance*

Our current whole school attendance this year so far stands at **95.4%** which has slightly improved. Thank you for your support for ensuring regular attendance is a priority.

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.

Mrs Hathaway [Familysupport@pilgrimsross.co.uk](mailto:Familysupport@pilgrimsross.co.uk)

## FOPS Update



### Crazy Hair Day!

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March is the last day of term before Easter break and time for crazy hair day! Please donate either an Easter Egg or a chocolate present that will be donated to the Andover Food Bank on behalf of the School community. Please hand this to your teacher in the morning.

### Sunflower Growing Challenge

The FOPS team will be sending home some seeds in a pot for you to grow the tallest sunflower possible. Email us a picture of your sunflower by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July to [friendspilgrimscross@gmail.com](mailto:friendspilgrimscross@gmail.com)

Prizes will be awarded in the last week of summer term



### Summer Fete

Our Summer Fete is one of the highlights of the year, and we really need your help to make it bigger and better than ever, so if you could spare an hour on the day, we would be very grateful.

Whether you're a master of the tombola, a whizz with 'spin the wheel', or simply happy to lend a hand, we'd love to have you on board.

We would also really appreciate any donations of;

- Tombola / raffle prizes
- Cuddly toys
- Pre-loved books & toys
- Pre-loved uniform



If you have any ideas or feedback to share with the FOPS team, please email us at [friendspilgrimscross@gmail.com](mailto:friendspilgrimscross@gmail.com)



**Thank you for your support!**

# CRAZY HAIR DAY!

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March  
Non-uniform day



Please bring an Easter Egg  
or chocolate for donation to  
the **Foodbank!**

## Join the SUNFLOWER Growing Competition!

Grow the tallest sunflower  
& win fun prizes!

Email photo and plant height to  
[friendspilgrimscross@gmail.com](mailto:friendspilgrimscross@gmail.com)

Entries due:  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July



Let your garden grow and glow!

## *Safeguarding- Food!*

At Pilgrims' Cross Primary School, the health, safety, and wellbeing of our students, staff, and families is our highest priority.

### **Our Commitment to Safety:**

We would like to remind you that **we are a nut free school** due to serious Allergies within the school. Can we please insure that any food within the lunchboxes do not contain any nuts, peanut spread or chocolate spreads that may contain hazelnut i.e Nutella, so please check the packaging.

We would also like if you can encourage **healthy lunch boxes**. We appreciate you occasionally like to put in a sweet treat please do not put things in like lollypops as this could be potentially a choking hazard. Consuming sugary sweets can also lead to disruptions and lack of focus in lessons: the sugar rush followed by a "crash" makes it difficult for students to remain attentive and engaged in learning activities.

We have also found a couple of the packets pictured to the right, which are not toxic but can be a choking hazard if child was to get hold of one of these would be very dangerous. Common foods that can contain these are as follows

- **Snacks:** potato chips, tortilla chips, seaweed, kale chips, and popcorn.
- **Meat/dried foods:** beef jerky, pepperoni, dried fruit, and nuts.
- **Dry goods/grains:** crackers, breadcrumbs, spices, and seaweed.
- **Individual packets:** Japanese snacks (e.g., rice crackers).



Thank you for all your continued support in keeping the school and everyone attending safe.

### *Key dates*

- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Non School Uniform – **Crazy Hair Day!** (Please provide an Easter Egg to be donated to the Food bank.
- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> April & Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> April- Parent/carer appointment evenings
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April (Pine Class Parent/carer appointment evening)
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Non School uniform Day – **Make the Rules!** (Please pay 50p per rule changed)
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Fete
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026- INSET day 5
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – Year 6 Leavers' Service at Winchester Cathedral
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Graduation at the Lights Andover
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Non School Uniform Day – **What I want to be when I grow up!**

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>

### *Parent workshops & holiday activities...*

Parents regularly say to me, "I'm struggling at home..." There is a wealth of resources out there to help you. Being a parent/carer is full-on, however you don't need to do it alone. Please see below for a couple of excellent opportunities for you to learn. There are no "quick fixes" but there are professionals with lots of experience who can guide and advise. Below are links to a talk on **depression** and sessions entitled **How to cope when your child can't**- some great mental health and parenting advice. Do take advantage of these...



**FREE** online talk by

Jane Keyworth

FACE family Advice Lead Facilitator

## Decreasing Depression

23rd April 7-8pm



Book online

[www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Parents - Live Talks page

**NHS**  
Hampshire Child and Adolescent  
Mental Health Services

# HOW TO COPE WHEN YOUR CHILD CAN'T

Three one-day events focused on parents/carers understanding their own needs, and learning strategies to look after themselves as they support a young person with their own mental health needs.

Each morning session will focus on different topics - further details can be found on our website.

The afternoon session will focus on How to Feel Better as a Parent in Burnout.

**Tickets £25**  
Tea, coffee  
and lunch  
included

**For more information and to book a place go to:**  
<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>

<b>Thursday, 22 January 2026</b> 9:30am - 3:15pm <b>St Peters Church Centre,</b> Jewry St, Winchester SO23 8RY	<b>Friday, 15 May 2026</b> 9:30am - 3:15pm <b>The Hilt, Hiltingbury Road,</b> Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 5NP
<b>Wed, 30 September 2026</b> 9:30am - 3:15pm <b>The Irish Centre, Council Road,</b> Basingstoke, RG21 3DH	Some events have a small charge to allow us to cover costs, some discretionary free tickets are available

## Easter Fun



1st April - Goat Movie - Aldershot - 11am - £4.50  
1st April - High Score Farnborough - 2pm - £6.50  
1st April - Bowling and Laser Tag Andover - 6pm £6.50

2nd April - High Score Newbury 1pm - £6.50  
2nd April - Family Swim Basingstoke - 2pm - £4.50  
2nd April - Soft Play Oxygen Reading - 2pm - £4

3rd April - Jungle Mania Soft Play Reading 6pm - £4  
3rd April - Bowling Basingstoke - 6pm - £3.50

4th April - Family Swim Basingstoke - 1pm - £4.50  
4th April - Ice Skating Basingstoke - 3pm - £6

For more details please email [activities@spotlightuk.org](mailto:activities@spotlightuk.org)

## Easter Fun



7th April - High Score Arcade Farnborough - 1pm - 6.50  
7th April - Bowling & laser Tag Camberley - 6pm - £6.50  
7th April - Bowling in Reading - 6pm - £3.50

8th April - Flip Out Basingstoke - 5pm - £6.50  
8th April - Soft Play Camberley - 4.45pm - £3.50  
8th April - Atmosphere Trampoline - 6-8pm - £4.50

9th April - High Score Arcade Andover - 2.30pm - £6.50  
9th April - Ice Skating Basingstoke - 3pm - £6.50  
9th April - Soft Play Reading - 1pm - £4

9th April - Bowling in Basingstoke - 6pm - £3.50  
9th April - Bowling in Andover - 6pm - £3.50

9th April - Bowling in Aldershot - 6.15pm - £2.50  
10th April - 360 Play Farnborough - 6.60pm - £4.50

11th April - Family Swim Basingstoke - 1pm - £3.50  
11th April - High Score Newbury - 2pm - £6.50

For more details please email [activities@spotlightuk.org](mailto:activities@spotlightuk.org)



## Paint Pots Barton Stacey.



Winchester, SO21 3RY

We are registering children aged between 2 and 3 years old to start preschool in September 2026. If you are interested in finding out about our amazing preschool and what we offer, please visit our website

[www.paintpotsnursery.co.uk](http://www.paintpotsnursery.co.uk) or to contact us for more information or to book a visit, please email Nhena at: [pp13@paintpotsnursery.co.uk](mailto:pp13@paintpotsnursery.co.uk)

or call: 01962 760039

[www.paintpotsnursery.co.uk](http://www.paintpotsnursery.co.uk)