



Dear Parents & Carers,

What is a Pilgrims' Cross child like? How would someone spot them outside school? Would their appearance or their manners tell you that they were from Pilgrims' Cross? These are questions that our School Council have been discussing. They have come up with a list of qualities that they (and their peers in their classes) feel best describe them. This week, they broadened the discussion to *What is a Pilgrims' Cross adult like?* We now need a picture to go on our posters! Please see the competition below...

This year, music has really had a boost! Miss Samuel has organised the amazing Rock Steady provision. On Tuesday, 5 bands took to the stage and performed their first songs- after only 10 weeks of practise! On Wednesday, our recorder players performed and, in worship, our singers entertained us. Well done, everyone! I am so thrilled that more and more children at Pilgrims' Cross are taking up learning an instrument.

Thank you for taking part in the recent parent/carer survey. The comments were very positive about the changes that we are continuing to make at Pilgrims' Cross (see the survey results, attached to the email with this newsletter). Your 'even better if' suggestions will help us continue to work on areas to improve more about this after the Easter break.

Lastly, over the last 2 weeks, we have been looking at the Easter story and reflecting on what Jesus' example could mean for us: Jesus was let down by his friends, but showed **love** by forgiving them and accepting them back; Jesus demonstrated **courage** by going to the cross to take the punishment that they (and we) deserved; we can **trust** that God cares for us too. I wish you all a very restful and peaceful Easter.

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		Jaycob C	
Willow		Braxton F-C	
Sycamore	Annabelle T		
Maple			Isabelle J
Hazel		Jaxon K	
Lime	James W		
Elm	Tay K		
Ash	Felix S		
Beech		Edward H	
Pine	Louis L	Arabella F-R	
Hawthorn		Ava P	
Aspen			Ted S
Juniper	Joshua R		

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

### **Willow & Oak**

Well, that is two terms of school complete for our lovely year R children now and what a wonderful journey we have all been on. We have one term left and we want to make it the best term for the children. We have continued our story "Izzy Gizmo" and we have changed what animal got injured based on their special feature. Maths has been looking at the two different parts that make the whole number ten. For example, 3 and 7 are the parts and 10 is the whole. We have had fun writing about cars and volcanoes for a bit of fun writing. The eco area has moved on to minibeasts based on the caterpillar we found in the outdoor area last week and we will carry this learning on after the half term. Enjoy your lovely break together and we look forward to seeing you in 2 weeks' time.

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

### **Sycamore & Maple**

It has been another busy week in Year One!

The children have finished their Wild Thing fact files in English and used everything they have learnt this term to describe a magical creature. In Maths the children have been exploring capacity and have learnt to measure the capacity of different containers and to compare the capacity of two different containers. In Art the children have painted plates in the style of Clarice Cliff ready for a gallery in the corridor and in Geography the children became weather reporters and compared the weather in different locations within the UK.

We have ended the week with an Easter Egg Hunt as our Vision Treat! The children have worked extremely hard this half term in their learning and in how they have displayed the school Compass Values. We are very proud of them!

Well done Year One! We hope you enjoy your Easter holidays.

Miss Miners, Mrs Wakefield and Mrs Edgington

### **Lime & Hazel**

This week we have continued our unit on measurement and have begun working on capacity. We have looked at the difference between capacity and volume. We went out into the outside area to investigate and explore the jugs, tubes, funnels and pipettes and we had a great time trying to measure accurately in ml and l. We have now finished our explanation text and described how the machine works using possessive apostrophes, adverbs, expanded noun phrases and exciting vocabulary. In music we have finished our unit on soundscapes and used the glockenspiels in groups to make wonderful soundscapes to music. The children thoroughly enjoyed this! We had an entire DT day, where we investigated and explored pivots, linkages and levers using split pins. We then designed an alien/monster with inspiration from the book "Man on the Moon". In the afternoon we created some wonderful moving monsters! We wish you all a very happy Easter and look forward to seeing you back after the break.



Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

## Elm & Ash

As we hop towards the Easter break, we wanted to take a moment to celebrate an *egg-cellent* week of learning and achievements across the year group!

In English, we have introduced an exciting new text, *The Wisp*. The children have been completely *egg-cited* and have begun crafting a fantastic transformation narrative, focusing on Idris and his changing emotions. We've been so impressed with their creativity, descriptive language, and thoughtful exploration of feelings—some truly *cracking* writing!

In Maths, our focus has been on mass and capacity. The children have been measuring up brilliantly and tackling challenges with confidence—*no yolk*, they've worked incredibly hard!

Our Science learning this week has been *egg-stra* special, as we carried out an experiment to track how shadows move throughout the day. The children loved observing the changes and shining a light on their discoveries like true scientists.

We are also delighted to share that both classes earned their Compass treat this week—what an *egg-ceptional* achievement! They enjoyed a well-deserved, relaxing afternoon together, which was the perfect way to end the term.

A huge thank you to all the children for their continued effort, enthusiasm, and positive attitudes—you've all been *egg-straordinary*! And of course, thank you to parents and carers for your ongoing support—it really helps everything run *smoothly as chocolate*.

Wishing you all a happy, restful, and *egg-stremely* enjoyable Easter break 🐰 🍫

Mr Dookheran & Mrs Bryan

## Beech & Pine

It's been a good final week in Year 4! The children have shown great resilience and dedication with their learning, right up to the very end. We have rounded off a lot of our subjects this week, including our writing about the twisted fairytales and the children have written persuasive letters to the Wicked Witch, asking her to give back the happy endings by trying to appeal to her better nature. When you come in for parents evening, have a read of them to see if you think they've managed to persuade her! We have also been finishing our fractions learning for the half term and have been focusing on equivalence in fractions and mixed numbers. This half term has flown by and we are looking forward to seeing you all again for the summer term where hopefully the sun will shine a bit more and we can get outside for some of our learning... and maybe a few extra games of rounders. We do love a competition! Have a lovely Easter and we'll see you in a couple of weeks.

Miss Howick, Mrs Featherstone and Mr Osmond

## Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper

What a work-filled final week of term in Y5/6! We have finally finished our two-page non-chronological report of *The Ways of the Wolf*. We cannot wait to put some of these on display outside our classrooms ready for the Summer term. We have rounded off decimals nicely; understanding how to multiply and divide decimals by whole numbers. The children's pages look brilliant, and it is great to see all their working out. We want to especially mention how well the children have done during test week. As a teaching team, we have identified several children who have made brilliant progress – whether that is in Maths, English, Reading or all three. This is down to the children as individuals and the hard work they have all put in throughout the whole of this term. We have also taken the time to focus on some important messages for outside of school. These involve the ways in which children use their phones and online messaging services. We have spoken about the expectations and how words – even though they are online - can still affect people in different ways. Finally, we recommend that children (especially Year 6) work through parts of their CGP books over Easter. It is so important that children keep subjects like Maths ticking over so that they are more likely to learn and remember it. The children can look at and identify parts of their learning that they would like to practice and find appropriate pages in their books to complete. This does not have to be lots of pages, just a few that they choose. Well to all the children for their hard work this term. We have really enjoyed working with them all and are looking forward to the final push in the Summer. Have a fun and relaxing Easter break and come back refreshed for the final term!

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

## Music update

On Tuesday our *RockSteady* band leader, Craig, welcomed some of our classes and a lot of enthusiastic parents to the *RockSteady* bands' first gig! We saw performances by children all the way from Year 1 to Year 6 in brilliant, collaborative moments and everyone was impressed with how the children performed so confidently.

Well done to The Golden Skeleton Skulls, The Snow Wolves, The Running Golden Bluebirds, The Funky Night Owls and The Red Fire Leopards! We cannot wait to see more performances as your confidence as musicians grows and you can show off more of the skills you've been learning together. We do have some spaces within the bands for some singers across all year groups, so please do speak to the office or Miss Samuel for a letter about joining the fun!



## Hot Choc Friday!

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



## Compass badges!

Congratulations to the first set of children who have won the coveted bronze Compass Badge, for consistently demonstrating our values and showing exemplary behaviour over 2 TERMS!

This half term's winners were...

- Oak: Bobby W
- Willow: Zuzanna W
- Maple: Oliwia J
- Sycamore: Isabelle J
- Hazel: Dottie P
- Lime: William B
- Elm: Elsie B
- Ash: Emilie C
- Beech: Pollyanna W
- Pine: Gina L
- Hawthorn: Lola P
- Aspen: Bobby C
- Juniper: Scarlett-Hope B



## 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

On Wednesday, we said goodbye to Mrs Featherstone. Pine Class met their new teacher, Miss Markham. Also, at the end of this academic year, Mrs Edgington will be finishing as a class teacher at the school.

## Home Learning Challenge points update...

The winning class at the end of the year will receive Domin's pizza for a well-earned treat! Remember, each piece of home learning that is acknowledged by a parent/carer writing in your child's Learning Journal.

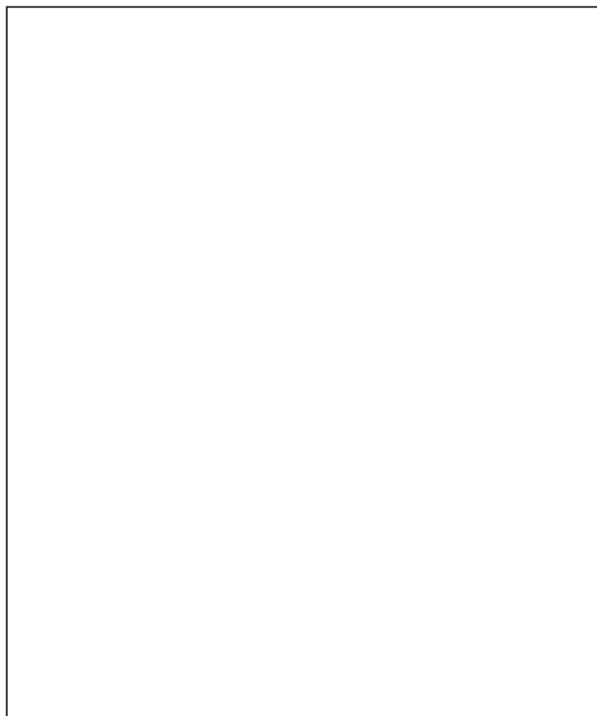
**Maple Class** are winning so far, with **Pine Class** a close second- but everything could still change over the summer term..!

### *House treat*

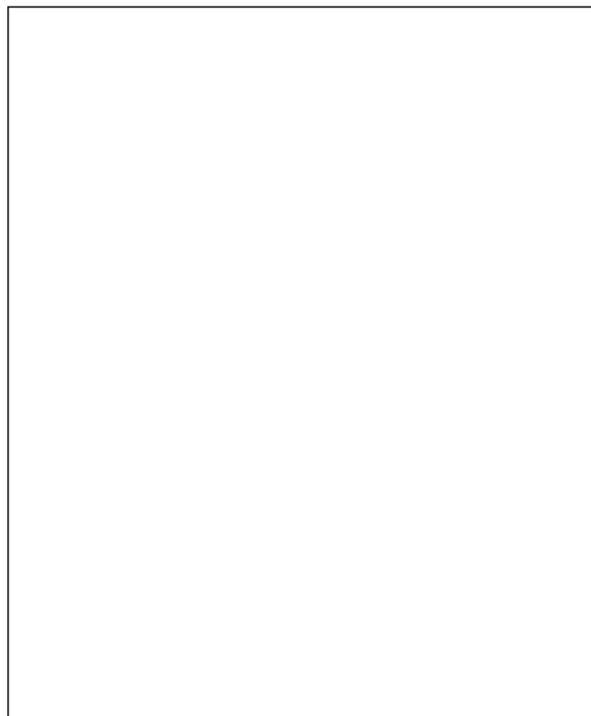
Congratulations to **Fire House** , who collected the most housepoints this half term. They will have a dress-down day on the Friday after the Easter break.

### **School Council competition!**

Can you draw a picture of the perfect Pilgrim's Cross child (in uniform) and the perfect Pilgrims' Cross teacher? School Council will judge the best designs, and they will be put in the middle of our school documents. Make sure you use colour! There are **prizes!**



The Pilgrims' Cross child



The Pilgrims' Cross teacher

Please bring your designs to your School Councillor on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April**.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

### *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@pilgrimscross.co.uk](mailto:Familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk)

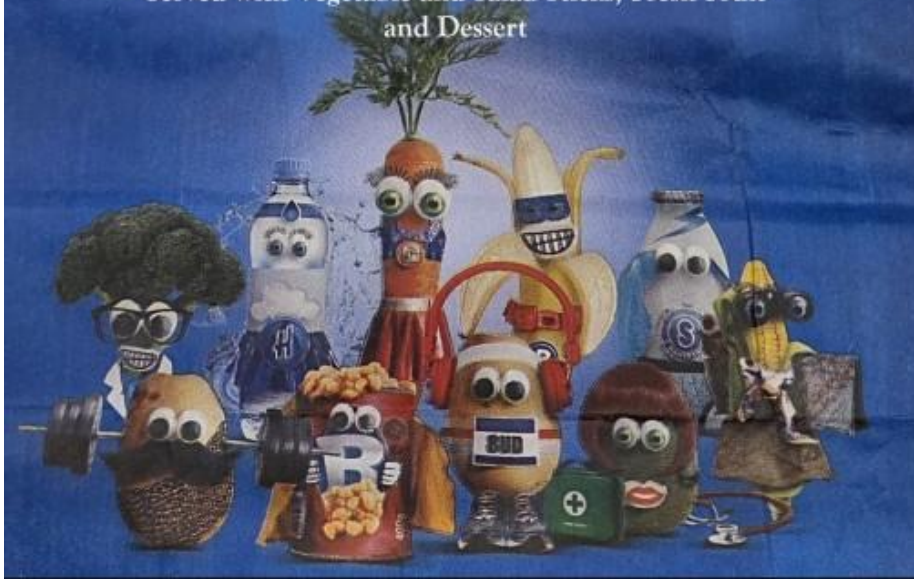
### *Summer School Picnic Lunch Option*

We are delighted to share that we will now be offering a summer school picnic lunch option, which will be available from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

# Hampshire Summer Picnic Lunch

Monday - Egg Sandwich  
Tuesday - Ham Baguette  
Wednesday - Tuna and Sweetcorn Wrap  
Thursday - Laughing Cow and Cucumber Pitta  
Friday - Cheese Roll

Served with Vegetable and Salad Sticks, Fresh Fruit  
and Dessert



## *Calling all Times Tables Rockstars!*

To celebrate your achievements on Times Tables Rock Stars, on Friday 1st May, we will be holding a Rock Day, where you can dress up as a rock star for the day.

To make it more exciting, a competition for the best dressed rock star will be held. A winner from each year group will be chosen and there are prizes up for grabs. So, spike your hair up, get out your blow-up guitars and dig out your denim trousers for a day full of rock and roll fun. But that's not all! We will also be looking at the top 3 children in the school who have worked their socks off with their times tables. We won't just be looking for the top three for the week, but for the whole of April. So, do as much TTRS as you can over the Easter holidays to get yourself into that top 3 position.

All Year groups are invited to take part in dressing up however only KS2 will take part in the Times Table TTRS challenge.

Rock on!

# Clubs

Please see below the clubs running after Easter. Some are after school and some are at lunchtimes. The clubs will run from 13<sup>th</sup> April until the 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Most are free, except if there is a cost for materials. These are in addition to our regular clubs provided by Integr8 and Stow Sports...

Sign-up is available on Arbor. **Please be considerate and only book one club per child**, so that as many children as possible can take advantage of this opportunity. If you book more than one, your child's name will be removed from the lists. Once the Club is full Arbor will not display this as a club to book on your child's Arbor account. Thank you!

Teacher	Club	Day	Time	Max number
Mrs Treasure	Art Club Year 3,4,5 & 6 £6 for term	Thursday	3 - 4pm	20
Mrs Treasure	Running Club Year 3,4,5 & 6 No Cost	Thursday	12.30 - 1pm	15
Miss Howick	<del>Dodgeball/Benchball</del> Club Year 4, 5 & 6 No cost	Monday	3 - 3.45pm	20
MS Dewsbury	Netball Club Year 4,5 & 6 No cost	Monday	3 - 4pm	15
Mr Edgington	Tag Rugby Year 1,2 & 3	Monday	3-4pm	24

# Crazy Hair Day



# 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 10th July



## 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!*

## 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

- Tues 14<sup>th</sup> April & Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> April- Parent/carer appointment evenings
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April- **Fire House** dress-down day
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April (Pine Class Parent/carer appointment evening)
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May – TT Rock Star Day (**dress up as a rock star for the day**)
- 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 some Easter fun sessions...



**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

## 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)