



Dear Parents & Carers,

Our staff couldn't have been prouder of the wonderful Year 6 pupils who took their SATS this week! Every child demonstrated **courage**, as they completed 2 grammar, punctuation and spelling papers, 1 reading paper, 1 arithmetic paper and 2 maths reasoning papers. A lot of focused attention was required, but our pupils really did handle them all with a positive attitude- well done!

Thank you, parents & carers, for your support of the pupils and the school. Educating children in their primary years is a team effort- home/school dialogue is so important. Widening my thoughts beyond year 6, it has been lovely to see more parents/carers filling out when homework has been completed in the Learning Journals. If you have not done this in a while, please can you make sure you hear your children read their books and phonics words, and engage with Times Table Rockstars and Numbots? Year 6 may seem a long way off, but **every year** is important to set our pupils up, ready for Year 6. What you are doing **now** is crucial.

Lastly, I have been reflecting on the parent/carer survey that you completed in February (attached in the email again with this newsletter) and wanted to let you know how your suggestions and feedback have led to us developing things in school...

You said...	We are doing...
34% of you disagreed with <i>my child receives the right amount of homework</i> 22% of you disagreed with <i>the homework my child receives is appropriate for their age and level</i>	We are reviewing homework expectations, ready for next September. We will hold parent/carer meetings early in September to go through routines & expectations (including homework) for your child's new year group
22% of you disagreed with <i>there is a good range of extra-curricular activities to choose from</i>	We have been widening our range of after school clubs (see the new Summer list, below) since the start of this calendar year- they seem to be proving popular!
Many of you said that you did not know who our SENCo and Child & Family Support Workers are.	SENCO & Vulnerable Group Lead: Mrs Hutchison <a href="mailto:senco@pilgrimscross.co.uk">senco@pilgrimscross.co.uk</a> Child & Family Support Worker: Mrs Hathaway <a href="mailto:familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk">familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk</a> Every week, Mrs Hathaway writes in the newsletter too. (see below)

Thanks, as always for your support.

Enjoy a restful weekend!

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	Hunter-James P		
Willow		George M	
Sycamore		Felix B	
Maple		Aria-Leigh W	
Hazel	Jireh M		
Lime	Noella R		
Elm	Arthur B		
Ash		Logan B	
Beech		Emily P	
Pine	Olivia-Grace B		
Hawthorn			Jesse S
Aspen		Luke W	
Juniper	Emily B		

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

### Willow & Oak

It has been a busy week in Oak and Willow class. The children have been working really hard to show off their amazing learning skills. They have enjoyed using the plasticine to make minibeasts and lots of other amazing animals. They have continued their learning about how to plant a seed by writing instructions for Joe from *The Extraordinary Gardener*. They have been subtracting using concrete resources and been trying to apply this skill to a word problem- for example, *first there were 6 people on the bus, then 2 got off, now there are 4 people left*.

They have also been very crafty this week making lots of exciting puppets, for example flying birds and swooshing butterflies.

One more week to go and it will then be on to Summer 2 and our final half term in Year R

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

### Sycamore & Maple

This week the children began exploring a new text in English - *How to Find a Yeti* by Matt Hunt. They have made predictions about what they think might happen in the story, have spent some time immersing themselves in the new vocabulary and have then used these new words in their own sentences.

In Maths this week the children have continued working with fractions of a shape and quantity. This remains a challenging part of our Maths journey so far and therefore any opportunity you have to explore finding half or a quarter of a group of household objects would really benefit your children. For example, 'I have 12 pieces of pasta. What would half be?'

In Science the children investigated different seeds and bulbs, predicting what they might grow into. In DT the children designed their hand puppets ready to make and decorate with you at our Parent Celebration on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 2.15pm. We can't wait to see you there!

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Miners, Mrs Wakefield and Mrs Edgington

## **Lime & Hazel**

This week the children have been planning in sections their work on how to instruction writing. They have designed and planned a terrarium and all the items they want to go inside, in order to keep their pungent, slimy Bog Baby happy and healthy. Next week they will be writing their final piece which will include openers, imperative verbs, adverbs, expanded noun phrases and even commas in a list! In maths we have now learnt O'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past times and have started telling the time in 5-minute intervals. We have also solved some time problems! This week we have been learning all about stop motion and worked in groups to create a short story using a sequence of photos. We have made the characters and our background and we really enjoyed doing this! Next week is our class celebration and we are inviting you into our outside area to spruce it up by doing some planting! If anyone has any spare plastic plant pots, seeds or plants please do bring them in.

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

## **Elm & Ash**

This week in Year 3 we have been learning lots of exciting things. In Maths, we have been practising column addition and subtraction. We have worked hard to line up the numbers correctly and remember to exchange when needed. We are becoming much more confident with solving tricky calculations. In English, we have been reading the book *Into the Forest* by Anthony Browne. We enjoyed exploring the mysterious setting and spotting clues and links to other traditional tales hidden in the illustrations. We also wrote our own predictions about the story.

In Geography, we learned about land use in New Delhi. We discovered that different areas are used for homes, businesses, farming and transport. It was interesting to compare New Delhi with places in the UK and learn how cities can be very busy and crowded.

In RE, we explored how water is symbolised in the Bible. We looked at Noah's ark & Moses striking the rock. The children had lots of great ideas around why water was important in these stories.

Mrs Bryan and Mr Dookheran

## **Beech & Pine**

A great week in Year 4! This week the children have rounded up their place value topic with some rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. We have also been starting the preparation for our next narrative, looking at the story of the *Corinthian Girl*.

We've also been practicing for our multiplication test using the new Chromebooks that have arrived, which the children have really enjoyed.

Next week, we have our trip to Stockbridge to look forward to which will be a nice end to the half term and a good round up to the geography topic of rivers. We are also going to be going into the church in Stockbridge to have a look at the different features linking to our RE topic.

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Howick, Miss Markham and Mr Osmond

## **Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper**

It's been the big one in Year 5/6 this week. A massive well done to all the Year 6's for completing their SATS week. Everyone handled the situation brilliantly and stress was at a minimum. We enjoyed a fun, work-free Friday with quizzes and ice creams as well as a film in the morning. A big thank you to the Year 5's for being so accommodating and for organising themselves excellently every morning.

However, there is, of course, more learning still to be done this year, with lots to catch up on and complete during the next week and into the final half term. Year 5's, don't worry about missing any fun, you will have it all next year! We have still aligned some learning during this week with the SATS. We have looked at dream art and what the children's dreams may look like. We then identified suitable colour palettes and combinations and created some dream sketches in our art books. Finally, we have enjoyed a mix of cricket, rounders and tennis between the crazy weather patterns, with all the children having plenty of time outside. We will be starting a new English learning journey on Monday, which we can't wait to dive into. Have a relaxing weekend and we'll see you all on Monday.

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

## Hot Choc Friday!

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



## School Council work- Pilgrims' Cross Child & Pilgrims' Cross Adult

Our School Council have been working hard to pull together what the pupils and staff feel are the qualities of a 'Pilgrims' Cross Child' and a 'Pilgrims' Cross Adult'. These are attached to the email with this newsletter- they hope you enjoy looking at them!

## Attendance

Our current whole school attendance this year so far stands at **95.8%** - still creeping up, well done! 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)

## Music of the week

The children have been enjoying some fantastic reggae this week in collective worship. Fancy listening at home? The children particularly enjoyed *Three Little Birds*.



# Clubs

Please see below the clubs running after May Half Term. Some are after school and some are at lunchtimes. The clubs will run from 1<sup>st</sup> June until the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. 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 Edgington	Singing For Fun Club Year 1,2,3 & 4 No Cost	Wednesday	12.30 -1pm	30
Mr Osmond	Cricket Club Year 4,5 & 6 No Cost	Tuesday	3-4pm	20
Mr Childs and Mr Hambidge	Golf Club Year 5 & 6 No cost	Thursday	3 - 4pm	16
Ms Dewsbury	Netball Club Year 4,5 & 6 No cost	Monday	3 - 4pm	15
Mr Edgington	Athletics Year 1,2 & 3 No Cost	Monday	3-4pm	25

## Useful parent links

Below is some information that has recently been shared with me, which may be helpful to signpost to staff and families.

- Free CAMHS events for parent and carers. Please do signpost: Full details and booking links are available on the CAMHS events page:  
<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>
- The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has published a guide to help parents and carers navigate the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits. This is a practical resource to share with parents and carers, particularly at transition points or where online harms are presenting in school.

Four versions are available to download: the main parent and carer guide, an activity pack for children, and print-ready single-page versions of both.

The downloads can be found [here: 'What I wish my parents or carers knew...': A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

## HOT Weather

With the warmer temperatures now approaching, please ensure that children have a hat and plenty of water. On hot sunny days sun cream needs to be applied & they can have spare cream in their bag to re-apply to themselves during the day.



### FOPS Update

#### Make the Rules Day

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May is the last day of term before Half Term break and time to **MAKE THE RULES!**

Please donate 50p per rule changed and hand this to your teacher in the morning.



#### Sunflower Growing Challenge

How are your sunflowers growing? Email us a picture of your sunflower by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July to [friendspilgrimsross@gmail.com](mailto:friendspilgrimsross@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 [friendspilgrimsross@gmail.com](mailto:friendspilgrimsross@gmail.com)

Thank you for your support!



## MAKE THE RULES DAY

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

1.

juice allowed  
in water  
bottles



2.

wear what  
you  
choose



3.

bring a snack  
of choice  
NO NUTS



4.

temporary  
tattoos



5.

have crazy,  
colourful  
hair



6.

wear nail  
varnish or  
makeup



50p per rule you choose

## Safeguarding- The Big Future

As Children's Commissioner, I am writing to ask you to ensure all of your children complete my new survey, [The Big Future](#).

Under the Children Act 2004, it is my role to promote the views and interests of children in England, and I have done this so far by conducting the two largest ever children's surveys: The Big Ask and The Big Ambition.

Now, for the first time, hundreds of thousands of children will be eligible to vote in the next general election, the biggest change to the franchise in half a century. Yet just one in five children say politicians listen to them. That's why I'm launching my final survey, The Big Future.

**Your students should complete the survey**

**here: <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>.**

I want to make sure that I hear from as many children as possible, aged 0-18, from all backgrounds, in all schools and colleges, and in every part of the country. To do that, I need your help.

I am asking children about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns, and their hopes for the future. More than anything, I want to know what they think a good childhood should look like today.

I am asking you to share the survey with all the children, parents and carers in your school or college community. Schools and colleges that achieve high participation rates will receive formal recognition for their contribution to amplifying children's voices and encouraging civic engagement, and a summary of their pupils' responses.

**To support you to do this, I have created a pack of resources which include an introductory video, a lesson plan, and FAQs, which are available on [my website](#). I would be grateful if you could ensure that every child in your school or college has taken part before the deadline of Friday 23 October.**

I will be publishing my findings next year, and they will be used to advocate at the highest level for solutions that children want to see, to the problems that they tell me are most important to them.

Thank you for your support. **Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner**

### *Key dates*

- Monday 18th May- Year 5/6 Class Celebration @ 8.45am
- Monday 18th May - Year 4 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Year R Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 3 Class Celebration @ 8.45am
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 2 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Year 1 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Year 4 Trip to Stockbridge Common
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Non School uniform Day – **Make the Rules!** (Please pay 50p per rule changed)
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Year R Trip to Hillier Gardens (more information to follow)
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Fete
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026- INSET day 5
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Sports Day! (more information to follow)
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Year 2 Trip to Southsea Beach and Castle (more information to follow)
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – Year 6 Leavers' Service at Winchester Cathedral
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July – School transition: Moving up day 1
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – School transition: Moving Up day 2
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Graduation at the Lights Andover
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July – School Summer Disco (Year R-5)
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Disco
- 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>



# Be tick aware

**1** Use a repellent that prevents ticks

**2** Wear long sleeves and long trousers to reduce direct skin exposure

**3** Keep to clearly defined paths and avoid brushing against vegetation

**4** Regularly check for ticks and brush off any you find immediately

**5** When you're back indoors, check for any ticks on you, your children and pets

**6** If you find a tick, safely remove it as soon as possible

