



Dear Parents & Carers,

Our transition meetings are in full swing. Our children enjoyed a day of "getting to know you" activities, team-building opportunities and arty/crafty tasks on their first day with their new teachers. On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July, they will spend their next moving-up day together.

Elm Class will meet Mrs James, who was unable to come this week. We will also have **another "Meet the Teacher" chance** for you all- after school on Monday- please do come along and say hello to your child's new teacher.



We have been enjoying more musical performances from our wonderful, **courageous** children who are learning instruments. Today was the chance for our violinists to shine- and shine they did. What a wonderful sound they are already getting out of their instruments! I learned violin throughout primary school and, I can assure you, it takes a long time to get a good sound with a bow! Children having voice lessons also performed- and we all joined in with the chorus of *True Colours*! Great stuff!



We will be offering music lessons again next year, so look out for

the email to sign up to these for September...

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                                                                       |          |                      | Charlie B |
| Sycamore                                                                     |          | Willow K             |           |
| Maple                                                                        | Joshua T |                      |           |
| Hazel                                                                        |          | Olivia F             |           |
| Lime                                                                         | Laura O  |                      |           |
| Elm                                                                          |          | Layton M             |           |
| Ash                                                                          |          | Izzy R               |           |
| Beech                                                                        | Gus D    |                      |           |
| Pine                                                                         |          |                      | Indie P   |
| Hawthorn                                                                     |          |                      | Leo H     |
| Aspen                                                                        |          |                      | Luke W    |
| Juniper                                                                      |          | Mason S and Harvey P |           |

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

### Willow & Oak

Despite another hot and sticky week the children in Oak and Willow have managed exceptionally well. We have enjoyed diving into our new text this week, *You must have a Hat!* The children have learnt lots of new vocabulary and have been practising writing invitations, look out for one coming your way soon.

In maths we have been exploring positional language such as: above, below, next to, in between and using these to give and follow instructions.

We have loved learning about Frida Kahlo, what an icon! We have replicated her style by adding colour and objects of interest within our self- portraits.

On a side note we wanted to say how proud we are of all the children for their resilience and independence during this week, when we have been welcoming and supporting our newest learners arriving in September, for their transition.

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure

### Sycamore & Maple

It has been a very hot week so our timetable has looked a little different. The children have handled this brilliantly and have made us very proud! On Tuesday this week the children visited their new Year Two classrooms and enjoyed a range of activities throughout the day. The children did brilliantly and are looking forward to another visit on Monday.

In English the children have been continuing to delve into our new book *Splash*, writing a character description of Claire and exploring her feelings throughout the story. In Maths the children have completed a unit of work on 'position and direction'. It would be beneficial if you could continue practising identifying left and right at home.

In Geography the children explored the city of Shanghai, identifying human and physical features within the city and learning about what life is like for a child that lives in Shanghai. Next week we will compare this to Picket Twenty. Unfortunately, due to the hot weather, we have made the decision to cancel our Geography walk on Wednesday. Thank you to those parents that had volunteered to help us. We are sorry for the change to the plan.

We are now **collecting in all reading folders, reading books and library books**. Please bring them back into school next week, it doesn't have to be a Friday. Thank you!

We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Miss Miners, Mrs Wakefield and Mrs Edgington

### Lime & Hazel

This week we have been continuing our work on *The King Who Banned the Dark*. We have been deciding things we would like to ban and writing sentences using all the skills we have learnt throughout the year. We have begun planning our letter which we will be writing to persuade the King to un-ban the dark using adverbs, commas in a list, possessive apostrophes and expanded noun phrases. We have enjoyed playing football rounders and learning all about fielding and kicking as well as sportsmanship!

In maths we have been revisiting work on place value and ensuring all the skills are consolidated before they move into KS2.

Next week the children are doing a DT project and will require a SMALL box, about the size of a small cereal bar box. Please do not bring in larger boxes (cereal boxes are too large!) We are making carriages and are going to make them move using axles and wheels! Thank you to everyone for continuing to come to school even when it is really hot!

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

## Elm & Ash

Year 3 have had another exciting and busy week of learning across the curriculum! In Mathematics, the children have been exploring angles. They have learnt to identify and compare different angles, using the terms *right angles*, *acute angles* and *obtuse angles*. In English, we have begun to look at *Macavity: The Mystery Cat* by T.S. Eliot. The children have been introduced to the famous feline detective-evader. In history, we have continued learning about Ancient Egypt. The children have been fascinated by the Egyptian gods and the beliefs that shaped ancient Egyptian life. We have also explored the creation story of Ancient Egypt. In Science, we have continued our learning about grip and friction. Through practical investigations, the children have explored how different surfaces affect grip, making predictions, carrying out tests and recording their findings.

Mrs Bryan and Mr Dookheran

## Beech & Pine

Year 4 have had an excellent week. Despite the oppressive heat we have continued to give our learning top priority and are really enjoying our remaining lessons.

In English we are currently planning, drafting and writing a diary entry about an exciting and dangerous escape by a mother and her children from a war-torn country. The children have enjoyed putting themselves in the shoes of the parent and the feelings and actions she takes to protect and ensure the safety of her children.

We have discussed transition this week and understand that change is necessary in school life and also something to look forward to. We understand that we have all mixed feelings and that that is ok and we are enjoying the time we have left in Pine and Beech, respectfully.

Miss Howick, Miss Markham and Mr Osmond

## Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper

It's been a hot week in Year 5/6...again. We cannot fault the children for their effort and commitment to their learning in such hot temperatures. The Year 6s have been ploughing through their production rehearsals with the Year 5s assisting in prop design and song learning. We have created a lovely background display for the play which was created using an army of children using chalk and sugar paper. We have also created props out of cardboard and paper. Away from the theme of rehearsals, the Year 5s have now got to the end of their Maths curriculum. We have the benefit now of revisiting certain themes to ensure as much as possible is learned and retained. We have revisited long multiplication and will be planning to revisit place value next week.

We also had a small sneak peek at **Fairthorne Manor and what awaits the Year 5s next June/July**. Finally, a big thank you and well done to the Year 5s for being such excellent role-models during our transition day this week. Having them as calm, responsible members of the class allowed the Year 4 children to quickly adjust and figure out how to act, and to learn what the expectations will be like in Year 5. It is our last full week next week, let's make it a good one! Well done again to all the children for their hard work.

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

## Books back, please!

Please can you return all Little Wandle phonics books, library books and school reading books, so we can stock check and prepare for September? Any other 'lost' school books that you find behind the fish tank, under the bed, in the bathroom, etc. can also be returned to your child's teacher, please.

### *It's coming home?*

It was SO much fun to have so many of our pupils in to watch the England game, early on Monday morning. Thank you to the many parents/carers who sent in positive emails to me- it means a lot when parents/carers take the time to say 'thank you' to the school. We LOVED being able to do this- and the atmosphere was amazing. We hope the experience is a memory that the children will remember for many years to come (whether "football comes home", or not)!



### *Hot Choc Friday!*

Children had outdoor 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' today!



### *Author visit next Friday!*

The author VS Nelson, who writes science fiction books, is visiting school to lead a science and writing-based workshop for our Year 5/6 pupils on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July**. His book, *The Girl Who Sold Time*, is still available on Arbor to pre-purchase (for Year 5 and 6 only) you will find this under the School Shop section. Also included is a free book (a different one) with every sale. He will be signing books too!

### *Transition- moving-up day & "meet the teacher"*

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup>, we have our second moving-up day. We have a "Meet the Teacher" informal time after school on that day too- please pop by your child's new class and say hello to their new teacher...

### *Music of the week*

The children have been enjoying some jazz/funk from the pianist Herbie Hancock, from his pioneering album *Headhunters*. Want to check out what your child has been vibing to? Check out the first two tracks- *Chameleon* and *Watermelon Man*. Turn it up loud!



### *Attendance*

Our attendance has stabilised, following the initial patch of hot weather. Thank you for supporting your children in terms of comfort (PE kits), hydration and general parental reminders that school is essential and that they need to be in!

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)

### *Useful parent links*

- Free CAMHS events for parent and carers. 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.

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](#)

## FOPS Update



### Its disco time!

To celebrate the end of term, there will be a disco held on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July** at the following times:

- o Year R, 1 & Year 2 – 4.30pm – 5.30pm
- o Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 – 6.00pm – 7.00pm



Tuck & pocket money shop will be on sale

Entrance is £2, check your children's bags for permission forms & return them with your £2 by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

### Leavers Disco

Parents, get your tissues ready!

The Year 6 Disco will be held at the School on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July** from 5pm to 6.30pm, you should already have your tickets 😊



### Sunflower Growing Challenge

How are your sunflowers growing? 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



### Outdoor Learning

You may have noticed a lot of change over by the summer house, it looks messy and overgrown, but there's been a lot of hard work creating a new outdoor learning

Outdoor learning provides so many valuable opportunities for children to explore, discover and learn in a hands-on way. Whether they're investigating nature, creating artwork from natural materials, reading in the fresh air, building dens, growing plants or developing teamwork and problem-solving skills, this space will become an extension of the classroom where learning comes alive and we can't wait to see our pupils benefit from this wonderful new environment.

### Can You Help?

To bring our Outdoor Learning Area to life, we're looking for donations of items that can be safely reused or repurposed. If you have any of the following, we'd be incredibly grateful:

- Wooden pallets
- Large logs or tree stumps
- Plant pots
- Gardening tools suitable for children
- Compost, soil or bark chippings
- Seeds, bulbs and plants
- Watering cans
- Outdoor storage boxes
- Gravel or paving slabs
- Guttering, pipes or tyres (for play and investigations)
- Wooden cable reels



- Bird feeders or bug hotels
- Waterproof tarpaulins
- Loose parts for imaginative play (e.g. kitchen utensils, pots, pans and wooden crates)

We're also very grateful for any donations of time. If you're handy with DIY, enjoy gardening, or work for a business that may be able to donate materials or sponsor part of the project, we'd love to hear from you.

Every contribution, no matter how big or small, will help us create an inspiring outdoor space where our children can learn, explore and thrive.

If you have any items to donate or would like to get involved, please contact the school office. Thank you for helping us make this exciting vision a reality!

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!**

## Key dates

- **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – School transition: Moving Up day 2, followed by “Meet the Teacher”**
- **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**
- **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Worship @ 1.45pm**
- **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Performance “Rock Bottom” @ 6pm**
- **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Year 6 Performance “Rock Bottom” @ 6pm**
- **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Non School Uniform Day – *What I want to be when I grow up!***
- **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 - Inset Day 1**
- **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026 - Inset Day 2**
- **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026 - Inset Day 3**
- **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2027 – Inset Day 4**
- **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2027 – 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>

## CHILD HEALTH CLINICS\*

The Community Public Health Advisors from the  
Andover & Winchester Public Health Nursing  
Team(5-19y) are offering support with your primary  
aged child's health

Scan the QR code  
to book a 30-minute slot at  
Beech Hurst, Andover



\* These slots should not be used as a place to seek advice regarding specific medical conditions

How do I manage  
challenging behaviour?

Why does my child wet the bed?

Where can I access support  
for my child's anxiety?

How do I encourage  
healthy eating?

### *Holidays & Food Scheme (HAF)*

The HAF programme is a really important support to low-income families over the summer break and is a childcare lifeline for many. This summer, over 200 HAF schemes will be running across Hampshire, offering a wide range of fun activities alongside nutritious meals for children and young people.

Bookings opened on 22 June, and Hampshire are keen to ensure that all eligible families are aware of and able to access these opportunities. For summer 2026, there is a new central booking system, making it much easier for families to find and book activities.

Families in the Picket Twenty area can visit a direct booking site (link below) to:

- Find local holiday clubs
- Book places
- Join waiting lists where sessions are full

Funded by the Department for Education, the HAF programme enables local authorities to provide free healthy food and enriching activities during school holidays for children who receive benefit-related Free School Meals.

Families in Test Valley can visit the [Test Valley HAF Booking Site](#) to find local schemes, book places or add their names to the waiting list.