



Dear Parents & Carers,

Another busy week at school- with wider learning in full-swing...

Year 5 had their second swimming lesson and Year 6 spent the last 3 days completing their *Bikeability* training. They are now able to safely ride on the roads, understanding more fully the 'rules of the road'. As a passionate cyclist myself, I was thrilled to see the positive looks on faces as the children undertook their training on 2 wheels. This year, we are going to be compiling our *50 Things to do before leaving Pilgrims' Cross*: being able to ride a bike safely is one of my aspirations for all pupils.

All children have had a second week of Forest School, becoming more focused in their outdoor environment. Mrs Burgess & Mrs Arnold again commented to me how engaged and absorbed every child has been. Thank you for equipping your child with the 'right gear' for this activity. Can I please remind you that, on Forest School days, **children should come to school in school uniform**, with their Forest School clothes ready as an outer layer.

In other news, we have worked on communications. This week, you will have received a midweek admin email from Ms Myers in the office. The aim is to reduce the number of emails from school, with 'nudges', reminders and notifications contained within. My Friday Newsletter will still be the main source of information, however, so if you have a parent/carer friend who repeatedly says things like, "I didn't know that!" or "when is...?", please politely ask if they read the weekly Newsletter!

Lastly, we really want to communicate as much as possible between home and school. In the week beginning 28th September, we will be holding parent/carer after-school meetings about "Life in Year...", which will outline your child's timetables, homework expectations, trips and general routines. We will hold different year groups on different afternoons so if you have children in multiple year groups you should be able to attend each one.

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		Tommi-Lee S	
Willow			Jimmy B
Sycamore		Elsie T	
Maple	Ellie B		
Hazel		Theo B	
Lime		Koby M	
Elm		Dylan D-M	Ty D
Ash			Lily J
Beech		Penny P	
Pine		Mollie L	
Hawthorn		Liv H	
Aspen			Thea R
Juniper		Leo S	

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

That's another week wrapped up for our youngest members of our school. They have all settled so well into school life and routines- it's like they've been here for years. This week we explored a mystery hole in the outdoor provision and predicted what we thought might be down there. Their ideas for what could be down there were excellent and some children even justified why they thought it couldn't be certain ideas. In maths we were sorting objects by a certain criteria. They children were confident telling us how to sort our objects. The eco table was helping the children to think about autumn and what changes they might see. The dinosaurs are still a lot of fun for the children and they enjoy making new worlds for the dinosaurs. Finally the children have loved drawing bugs. We saw a lovely drawing of a ladybird.

Well done, Year R! We are all so proud of you. Also, if you want to contact the teachers, the email is EYFS@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Thank you for all your support

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure.

Sycamore & Maple

What a busy and exciting week we have had in Year 1! In English, we have been exploring sentence writing through our story *Old Bear*, using Old Bear and the attic as inspiration for our ideas and vocabulary. In Maths, we have completed our Place Value to 10 unit and have been developing our confidence with numbers. We also enjoyed our first full week of Explore and Learn Challenges, with the children showing fantastic independence as they chose and completed their activities. In Art, we have explored pattern rubbings. In History we enjoyed writing and drawing about our favourite toys. It has been wonderful to see the children becoming increasingly confident in their new classrooms. Well done Year 1.

Miss Miners and Mrs Bryan

Lime & Hazel

Well done to everyone for another great week in Year Two. This week we have been learning more about place value: tens and ones, looking at the value of each digit and finding one more and one less of a given number. We have worked really hard on the presentation in our maths books to give us a sense of pride. In English we have continued our unit on *Leo and the Octopus*, predicting what we think the story will be about after finally being given some picture and text clues about the book. We have been using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces and even started using some wonderful adjectives to describe nouns. Some of us even used exclamation marks and question marks. In Geography we recapped human and physical features and can now locate the North and South Pole on a globe. We have learnt the points of a compass too! The children enjoyed another Forest School lesson. They really enjoy working outside and exploring the world around them. Thank you to those children who have been reading every day and doing work on Numbots. Who will win? LIME OR HAZEL!! **Reading folders need to be in by Friday morning** so we can use our library time to change the books and go through the red reading diaries.

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

Elm & Ash

What a fantastic week Year 3 has had!

In English, we have continued to explore *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes, developing our writing by describing characters, settings and events in greater detail. The children have impressed us with their imaginative ideas and growing confidence in using exciting vocabulary to bring their writing to life.

In Maths, we have been focusing on adding and subtracting in 10s. The children have worked hard to spot number patterns and use their understanding of place value to solve problems quickly and accurately.

Our Science lessons have been all about the human skeleton. We have been identifying some of the key bones in our bodies, learning their names and discussing how they help us move, support our bodies and protect important organs.

We have also enjoyed exploring more of *The Mousehole Cat*, discussing the story, characters and setting. The children have shown excellent understanding and enthusiasm as we have delved deeper into this wonderful text.

Well done to all of Year 3 for their hard work, enthusiasm and positive attitudes throughout the week. We hope everyone has a lovely weekend!

Mrs James, Miss Hall and Mr Dookheran

Beech & Pine

We've had another great week in Year 4!

In English, we've been exploring different features of writing, ready to begin our own writing pieces next week and show off what we have learned. In Maths, we have been finishing up our place value unit by looking at 4-digit numbers. This week, we have especially enjoyed getting creative – making models of our teeth out of clay in Science and creating our own layers of the rainforest in Geography! The children have really embraced Forest School, despite the weather, and are getting stuck-in to every activity. We wonder if your child can remember the four layers of the rainforest?

Mrs Wakefield, Miss Hardy and Miss Howick

Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper

As usual, we have had a successful and jam-packed week in year 5/6. We began the week in Maths, looking at how we can round any number within one million to the nearest, 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000 and 100,000. This concept is a tricky one to grasp; however, we didn't let it stop us in being successful. In English, we looked at how to build an effective sentence by using parenthesis to add in extra information (or dependant clauses) to make our writing sound interesting. Year 6 had a different week, with a discovery day to Winton Secondary School on Tuesday and Bikeability on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We were very impressed with how the children presented themselves in both events. Finally, Year 5 conquered their second swimming lesson at Andover Leisure Centre and learnt all about how to stay safe in the water.

Well done for another great week year 5/6!

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

Ofsted report

Did you see our article in the Andover Advertiser this week? It is available online too:

<https://www.andoveradvertiser.co.uk/news/26539337.pilgrims-cross-cofe-celebrates-positive-ofsted-report/>

Check out our report by scanning the QR code...

Ofsted



Read our report ↗

Hot Choc Friday!

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



Forest School



A very positive week at forest school, the children are really embracing being outdoors.

We introduced some tool work, with the KS2 children clearing some den-building areas in the hedgerow by safely using secateurs and loppers; great focus and responsibility shown by all of them!

KS1 children used hammers to make some 'happa zome' art by hitting some foraged seasonal berries to make prints on fabric.

We look forward to next week,

Mrs Burgess and Mrs Arnold

Pupil information

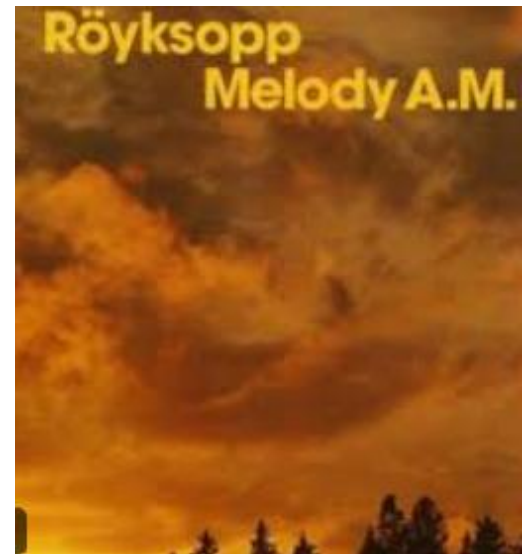
Is your contact information up to date on Arbor? Please log in to your account and update anything which is out of date, thank you.



Music of the week

Music is one of the pleasures of life. My aim is to expose our pupils to a whole range of musical genres and styles over their time at Pilgrims' Cross.

The children have been listening to some electronic music by the Norwegian duo Royksopp. Why not listen to some of this great album at home this weekend? Track 1, *So Easy* will be familiar to many of you, I hope.



Attendance

Attendance across the school is currently 96.5% which is an excellent start to the academic year and is above national average.

If your child has been absent, even in these first few weeks, you may have noticed we may be contacting you. This is so that we can work together with you to ensure that any barriers to attending school are recognised early so that we can best support your child accessing their education.

Thank you to you for continued support.

Mrs Hathaway Familysupport@pilgrimscross.co.uk

Flu Vaccine

Your child's annual Flu Vaccination is now due. The vaccine helps protect against flu, which can be a serious or life-threatening illness. The vaccine will help your child to build up immunity which means your child will be better able to fight off flu.

If you have already submitted a form, please ignore this message.

Follow the links below for the electronic form and information about the vaccine. Access to the form will close two working days prior to the session. If you miss the deadline for completing the electronic form, it will reopen after the school session. You will then be able to submit your response and make arrangements for your child to receive their vaccination at an alternative location.

Session date: Wednesday 30 September 2026

Year Group: R-6

Link to form: <https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu?schoolcode=SH136407>

The nasal flu vaccine contains products derived from pigs (porcine gelatine). To opt for the porcine gelatine free inactive flu injection, select NO to the nasal flu immunisation and you will be given further options. More information for parents is available from <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/hampshire/annual-nasal-flu-vaccination-programme/> and www.nhs.uk/child-flu.

To choose **YES** or **NO** please complete the form to record your decision. Regular reminders will be sent to those that have not completed a form to ensure children do not miss their opportunity for vaccination.

From the NHS School Age Immunisation Service

Key dates

- Wednesday 30th September – Flu Vaccine Clinic
- Monday 19th October – Individual school photographs
- **Monday 19th October – Year 4 Class Celebration @ 8.45am**
- **Monday 19th October – Year 1 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm**
- **Tuesday 20th October – Year 5/6 Class Celebration @ 8.45am**
- **Tuesday 20th October – Year R Class Celebration @ 2.15pm**
- Tuesday 20th & Thursday 22nd October- parent/carers' evening
- **Wednesday 21st October – Year 3 class Celebration @ 8.45am**
- **Wednesday 21st October – Year 2 Class Celebration @ 2.15pm**
- Friday 23rd October 2026 - Inset Day 3
- Tuesday 3rd November - Firework Night
- Tuesday 20th July 2027 – Inset Day 4
- Wednesday 21st 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>



**Starting school
in September
2027**

If your child is 4 or
will turn 4 before
1 September 2027,
they can start school
in September 2027

Applications open for
Hampshire residents on
1 November 2026

THE NATIONAL CLOSING
DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
FRIDAY 15 JANUARY 2027
DON'T MISS IT!



**For more information go to
www.hants.gov.uk/admissions**