



Dear Parents & Carers,

The children have been making the most of our lovely school grounds due to the extended dry weather we have had recently. At lunchtimes, they have been playing on the field and they have been collecting materials for clay sculptures in Forest School- see below.

This coming week, we will be holding short parent/carer presentations in the children's classrooms after school- see calendar below. The teachers will be outlining what "life" in your children's new year groups look like, including homework routines, expectations of pupils and families and curriculum topics. Please come along and find out all about this coming academic year. We want to have an even closer home/school relationship this year.

Lastly, please put the 20th & 22nd October in your diaries. These will be our first parent/carer appointments, giving you a chance to discuss how your children have settled in and for teachers to indicate next-step targets.

Enjoy this lovely weather this weekend. Why not try the Forest School challenge- collect lots of conkers, to bring in next week?

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	Adam M		
Willow		Henry S	
Sycamore	Alicja J		
Maple		Evie-Grace D	
Hazel		Sophie T	
Lime			Austin R
Elm		Edith P	
Ash			Finley D
Beech		Louis H	
Pine	Violet C		
Hawthorn			Freya-Rose J
Aspen	Eyla M		
Juniper		Hallie L	

What we have been learning this week...

Willow & Oak

The weather this week has been very interesting but has not stopped us from enjoying learning outside- whether it was boiling hot, mild or a bit chilly. The children chose to make a sailing ship and travel to a desert. We talked about what we needed to keep us safe, and the children knew suntan cream and hats. We also saw other children making bus stop signs and once again created some lovely ideas and stories. We have been subitising in maths; subitising is the ability to instantly recognise the number of objects in a small group without counting them. We made this into a game and the children loved beating the teachers. It has been a lovely week, well done Year R!

Mrs CK, Mr Edgington and Mrs Treasure.

Sycamore & Maple

We have had another busy week in Year 1! In Maths, we have been exploring greater than, less than and equal to, before beginning our new unit on measurement. We have started by comparing lengths and using the language shorter and longer. In English, we have been learning to use capital letters for names and have begun planning our retelling of our class story, *Old Bear*. During Explore and Learn, the children have been experimenting with overlapping shapes to create pictures. In History, we have been sorting toys into old and new and discussing how toys have changed over time. In RE, the children created zig-zag books to retell the Christian creation story. Finally, in Science, we used cotton buds to paint leaves onto trees to represent the different seasons, thinking carefully about how trees change throughout the year.

Miss Miners and Mrs Bryan

Lime & Hazel

This week we have been learning more about place value: tens and ones and fact families. We have even learnt the word 'commutative'. We have learnt our number bonds to ten and their related bonds! In English we have continued our unit on *Leo and the Octopus*, we have learnt how to describe a noun using adjectives separated by a comma. We have looked at characters and completed a role on the wall looking at their appearance as well as how they feel. We have been using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces much more independently. 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 now learnt where the equator is and recapped the compass points. The children enjoyed another Forest School lesson. They really enjoy working outside and exploring the world around them. In music we have been looking at dynamics and making animal sounds! This was really fun. In PE we have been using our bodies to music using dance moves as well as team building activities. In science we've looked at things that are living, never alive or dead.

Thank you to those children who have been reading every day and doing work on Numbots. **We have noticed many children haven't written in their red reading journals. Please make sure these are signed.** 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 to add up points to see who will win the pizza! I'd love to see more children battling it out to win the Numbots certificates!

Miss Samuel and Miss Dewsbury

Elm & Ash

It has been another busy and exciting week in Year 3!

In Science, we have been learning all about muscles and how they work. We have discovered that muscles work in pairs to help our bodies move, and we have enjoyed exploring how different muscles are used when we move.

In English, we have begun our first Big Write based on *The Iron Man*. We have been developing our ideas, choosing interesting vocabulary and thinking carefully about how we can bring our writing to life. We are looking forward to seeing our stories develop!

In Maths, we have been working hard on adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers. We have been practising different methods and explaining our thinking clearly, making sure we check our answers carefully.

In PE, we have continued to develop our fundamental movement skills, focusing on coordination, balance, agility and control. We have been working hard to improve our skills and apply them confidently in different activities.

Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic week of learning!

Mrs James, Miss Hall and Mr Dookheran

Beech & Pine

This week in year 4 we have started adding and subtracting ones from 3 and 4-digit numbers. In English we have come to the end of our book *The Whale*, writing our own setting narratives. The children have come up with some fantastic noun phrases such as 'ocean lord' and 'mystical beast' to describe the whale.

In PHSE we have investigated 'energy givers' and 'energy takers' and ways to stay healthy. For RE we have continued to explore how religions are connected, this week focusing on Sikhism. We conducted our own test in science, timing how long it took to brush teeth using soft, medium and hard brushes. We concluded that hard brushes were the fastest at cleaning the teeth. In forest school the children have enjoyed exploring our grounds in the beautiful sun.

I wonder, can your child tell you the different layers of the rainforest?

Mrs Wakefield, Miss Hardy and Miss Howick

Aspen, Hawthorn & Juniper

It's been another busy week in Year 5/6! We have begun our learning journey into addition and subtraction in maths. We have revisited column addition and subtraction and used these skills in real world contexts. We have consolidated word problems over Thursday and Friday with the children working hard and taking each question carefully.

In Geography, we have created a persuasive tourism poster asking people to visit the Alps. The children identified and researched human and physical features of the mountain range and thought about what tourists would like to do. Finally, in science we experimented with sieving. We linked our learning to the North American gold rush in 1848. We looked at their methods of sieving and had a go ourselves. Thank you to all the children for their hard work this week and enjoy the weekend!

Mr Childs, Mr Hambidge and Mrs McNee

Hot Choc Friday!

Here are the delightful children who had 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' over the last 2 Fridays...



Forest School

Another wonderful week at forest school, enjoying an Indian Summer. We have been using clay and natural materials to make different creations. KS2 made 'Tree Guardians' to protect our forest school. The children really took the time to gather their materials to make some wonderful guardians. We have been impressed with the thoughtful and imaginable creations. EYFS and KS1 enjoyed learning about *Ned the Hedgehog* and what home he will be hibernating in for the winter. They got to create their own Ned to take home. This week was also the first day of Autumn and the children have learnt that this is called Autumn equinox!



Weekend Challenge; Can you go on an autumn walk with your family and collect some conkers to bring along to forest school next week?

Don't forget your waterproofs and wellies next week the weather is looking wet.

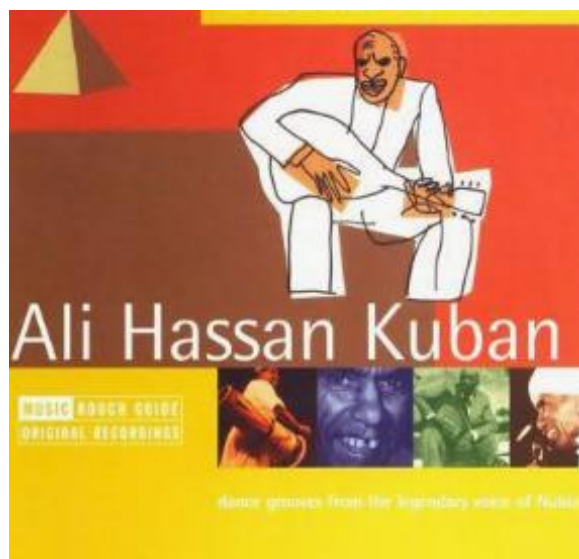
Mrs Burgess and Mrs Arnold

Staff vacancy

An exciting job opportunity has arisen at Pilgrims' Cross Primary. We are looking for a Learning Support Assistant (preferably with experience) to join our friendly team. The hours are 8.00am until 3.00pm, Monday to Friday, with 5 inset days throughout the year for training. Hourly rate of pay £13.28. Please make enquiries through recruitment@pilgrimscross.co.uk. All offers of employment are subject to satisfactory references and DBS checks.

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 music by the Nubian singer and composer Ali Hassan Kuban. Check out the track *Mabruk* for a taste of his sound!



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.

Key dates

- Monday 28th September: *Life in Year 3 & 4*- parent/carer meetings in Year 3 & 4 classrooms- 3.00-3.30pm
- Tuesday 29th September: *Life in Year 1 & 2*- parent/carer meetings in Year 1 & 2 classrooms- 3.00-3.30pm
- Wednesday 30th September – Flu Vaccine Clinic
- Wednesday 30th September: *Life in Year 5 & 6*- parent/carer meetings in Year 5 & 6 classrooms- 3.00-3.30pm
- Friday 16th October- Harvest Festival (please donate some produce- see below)
- 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' evenings
- 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>

School Census

You may not know, but our funding comes in part through the rather random figure of how many children have a school dinner on Census Day, which is **Thursday 1st October**. We would love AS MANY CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE to have a school meal on Thursday next week. Here are the choices...



Harvest appeal

We are collecting for our Harvest Festival on Friday 16th October.

Please could you consider donating some of the items below, to help those in need? Please drop any items into class or the School Office before the 16th October. We will arrange for someone from the Food Bank to collect items after our Harvest Festival.

Thank you!



Harvest appeal



Help support Andover Foodbank this Harvest

So far this year the Foodbank has supported 4700 people in our community with over 40,000 meals and other essential items

Donate food



Donate 1 or 2 items so we can provide food for people in your community who cannot afford the essentials

Donate money



Help to cover our operating costs, including a Citizens Advice caseworker to provide financial support

Shopping list

- Tinned meat meals
- Tinned/instant potatoes
- Tinned soup/spaghetti
- Tinned fruit/veg
- Rice 500g
- Rice pudding/custard
- Pasta sauce
- Milk (long life)
- Breakfast cereal
- Biscuits/Chocolate

01264 362111

andover.foodbank.org.uk

Registered charity in England & Wales 1199568



CHILD HEALTH CLINICS*

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

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



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?

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