

Newsletter

Autumn Term: 17th October 2025



We work together, we play together, we laugh together, we pray together.

Dear Parents,

The school has been brimming with poetry as the children have immersed themselves in the first of our two weeks of poetry. From creating poems of hope in assemblies to writing captivating class poems in their workshops yesterday, it has been wonderful to see the children exploring the joy of words and rhythm. We're already looking forward to next week which will focus on performance poetry...read on for more details! We very much look forward to welcoming families in Year 1 and Year 5 for our first Family Mass in the school at 2.15pm on Monday. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

With my very best wishes,
Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

October

13 Oct Poetry Fortnight begins
20 Oct Y1 & Y5 Class Family Mass 2.15pm
22 Oct Parent Forum 10am
24 Oct Half Term 3.30pm

November

3 Nov Inset Day (no children)
4 Nov Children return
7 Nov Y6 Class Remembrance Assembly 9.15am
7 Nov Y5 Cake Sale

November (cont.)

10 Nov Friendship Week
10 Nov Odd Socks Day!
13 Nov Spirituality Day
13 Nov PTA Fundraising Social club night
17 Nov Coffee Morning & Uniform Sale 8.30am
18 Nov Y6 & Reception Class Family Mass 2.15pm
19 & 20 Nov Parents' Evening
21 Nov Glass Door pyjama & hot choc fundraising day

December

2 Dec Christmas Fair in hall 3.30pm
11 & 12 Dec Infant Nativity 2pm
16 Dec Junior Carol Service 7pm
18 Dec Children's Day (Christmas party)
19 Dec End of term 1.30pm

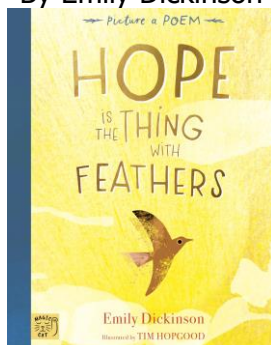
Please note: these dates do not include school trips. Please check on classlist, and in your child's bag, for other letters and announcements

This week's theme: WORDS

This week in assemblies we have looked at the theme of words - exploring their beauty, their wonder, and most of all, their power. We began by reflecting on the Gospel reading and our artwork of the week, The Ten Lepers, to consider the importance of gratitude and the impact of simply saying "thank you." We then celebrated the joy of words through poetry, using Hope - inspired by our Year of Pilgrims of Hope - as our inspiration. We thanked God for the gift of words - especially of how our words can uplift, heal and inspire both ourselves and others.

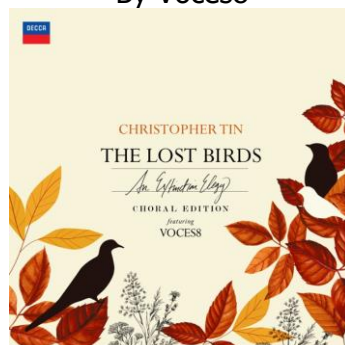
Story of the Week

Hope is the thing with Feathers
By Emily Dickinson



Music of the Week

Hope is the thing with Feathers
By Voces8



Art of the Week

Ten Lepers
By James Christensen



Poetry Workshops

The children thoroughly enjoyed their Poetry Workshops yesterday, which focused this year's National Poetry Day theme: Playing with Poetry.

Thank you to all those parents that have already contributed towards the cost of the workshops. If you haven't done so yet, please log onto your [ParentPay](#) account where you will be able to do this.

Many thanks!



PERFORMANCE POETRY

Next Friday, our Poetry Fortnight will be culminating in a fantastic Performance Poetry Assembly with every class performing a poem to rest of the school. In class, the children are exploring the key elements of performance poetry, with a particular focus on rhythm, expression and voice projection. Drawing inspiration from well-known poets, they've been refining their techniques, ready to share their work with confidence and flair next Friday. If you would like to practise with your child over the weekend, each class will be performing the following poem:

Reception: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

Year 1: 'We Can' By Michael Rosen

Year 2: 'Who Loves the Trees Best?' By Alice May Douglas

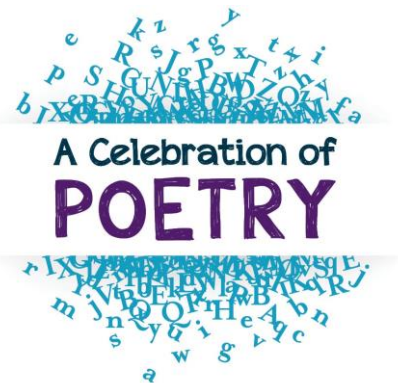
Year 3: 'Rat It Up!' By Adrian Mitchell

Year 4: 'The Day I Fell Down the Toilet' By Steve Turner

Year 5: 'The British' By Benjamin Zephaniah

Year 6: 'First Day' By Steven Camden

Poetry Competition



The following information was shared with the children in assemblies this week:

Do you love writing poems and using your imagination?
Here's your chance to shine!

Our Year 6 Librarian Prefects are inviting all young poets to take part in an exciting school-wide poetry competition with the theme: "Hope."

Whether it's about a bright future, a dream you're chasing, or a small act of kindness that brings light to someone's day - your **words** can inspire others. So, grab your pens, let your hearts speak, and show us what hope means to you.

There are fun prizes to be won and a chance to have your poem featured for everyone to read. Don't miss out - let your voice bring hope to the world! You can write your poem below or use your own paper. You can add illustrations and decorations too.

Don't forget to put your name and year group on!

Deadline: Thursday 23rd October – please put your poem in the tray in the hall.

Chaplain's Corner – Fr James

This Saturday, we keep the feast of St Luke the Evangelist, who wrote one of the four Gospels, and the Acts of the Apostles. A physician by profession, St Luke was also an able historian as attested by the minute historical details he presents in both his works. His Gospel gives us a unique perspective on Our Lord, emphasising His particular concern for the lowly and the social outcasts. This reveals that no matter how distant we might sometimes feel from Christ, He always searches out for us and calls us to renew our friendship with Him.

Y1 & Y5 Family Mass



We are looking forward to celebrating our first Family Mass of the year this Monday 20th October at 2.15pm in the school hall. We warmly invite all families of children in Year 1 and Year 5 to celebrate this special mass with us. The children will be leading the liturgy, including choosing their favourite hymns!

Wednesday Word

[Wednesday 15th October](#)

Year 3 Orienteering in Hyde Park



Parent Forum

With Parent Forum next week, I just wanted to remind you of the communication that has been in previous newsletters. Please make sure all suggestions are given to your reps by the end of this weekend.

We value open communication and consultation at Oratory Primary School and the school's **Parent Forum** makes it easier for parents to raise questions and make suggestions about the school. Our parent forum aims to represent the views of all parents and to be a voice to inform our school of the needs of children and families. Each half term, the parent reps from each class meet with Mrs Steinart to raise questions, suggestions and concerns. Mrs Steinart may also consult parents on future plans for the school. The forum facilitates communication between parents/carers and staff and governors, offer a parent's perspective on current policy and practice and input into decision making and planning for future provision. The next parent forum meeting will be held virtually on **22nd October**.

How can I raise something for discussion at the forum?

- By emailing your class rep well before the meeting (deadline is by the end of this weekend)
- By sending a letter to the school, marked 'Parent Forum' and placed in the letterbox on the door in Bury Walk

How will I find out what was discussed?

The questions and suggestions raised at the meeting, along with the school's response and any actions taken will be sent to parents via Classlist, and uploaded on the school website.

What sort of things might be raised at the forum?

The forum will be a valuable way to share ideas, views, concerns and make suggestions for improvement. Possible topics might include school routines, school lunches, school events, fundraising, school uniform and general curriculum questions.

What sort of things should not be raised at the forum?

The forum is not a place to address specific concerns about an individual child or issues relating to individual members of staff. Parents who need to discuss these issues should approach their class teacher or the Deputy/Headteacher.

PTA Club Night Social & Auction!

We can't wait to see you there! Auction prizes needed – please let Markus know if you can donate any prizes, especially as this is our biggest and best fundraiser of the year for our wonderful school – thank you!



Parent Workshops

A reminder of the information that was sent out on Classlist explaining the brilliant Mind Parent Workshops that we have planned. The next one is 'Managing Tantrums & Frustrations' on Wednesday 22nd October (online). A link to join the meeting will be sent out separately on Classlist.

Oratory Parent Mind Workshops:

Managing Tantrums and Frustrations:

Wednesday 22nd October (online)

Sleep Hygiene:

Wednesday 12th November (F2F)

Online Safety:

Wednesday 26th November (online)

Fruity Friday for Year 1!

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed their Pom-Pom treat this morning, making fantastic fruit kebabs. Well done Year 1!



Year 4 at the Science Museum

Year 4 had a fantastic visit to the Science Museum where we got to see some exciting demonstrations and explore the Wonderlab!



What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

Year 6 have had an enjoyable and busy week: first with a visit from Peter Daniel to learn all about the life of Walter Tull, one of the first black footballers and first black officers in WW1; and then a fun-packed poetry workshop where they became human statues which inspired their brilliant poetry composition.

English: As part of poetry fortnight, Y6 have been immersed in the powerfully moving poetry of the first world war, analysing and comparing poems by greats such as Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon.

Maths: We have been focusing on division: first reviewing the short division method (bus stop method) then learning how to divide 3- or 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers, using long division.

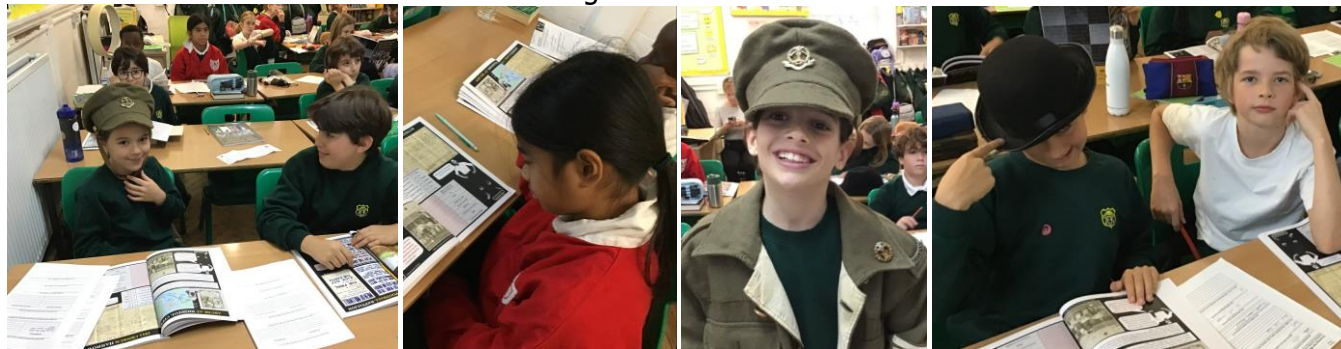
History: As part of Black History Month, we learnt about the life of Walter Tull, and all the adversities he overcame to achieve great things. We wrote letters explaining why he is a Great Black Briton, and why he should be remembered and why his story is still relevant today, despite living 100 years ago.

Art: We made clay poppies to recreate the remembrance installation at the Tower of London.

RE: We analysed different artist's impressions depicting of the Kingdom of God. We looked at important individuals who helped spread the Kingdom of God (St Theres of Lisieux) and reflected on how they inspire us.

Latin: We reviewed Latin nouns, verbs and adjectives.

Well done on such a brilliant week of learning Year 6!



Year 5

What a great week in Year 5 to kick off Poetry Fortnight! We have thoroughly enjoyed our workshop creating our own limericks and look forward to performing poetry next week! Here is a snippet of this week's learning:

- In Maths, we have been continuing our focus on addition and subtraction. We have been using inverse operations, comparing calculations, and working on multi-step problems.
- In English, our theme this week has been *change*. Using the book *Poetry for Change*, we explored how poets use their writer's voice to express powerful messages. Inspired by this, we began crafting our own poems on the theme of change.
- In RE, we learned about God's great helpers, focusing on the lives and contributions of St. Martin de Porres and St. Vincent de Paul. We reflected on what we can learn from their compassion and service to others.
- In History, we looked at the mummification process and beliefs about the afterlife.
- In Science, we investigated mammal gestation periods and used real data to answer questions and draw conclusions. This helped us develop our scientific enquiry and data-handling skills.
- In Art, we practiced precise, controlled painting techniques linked to our topic on Ancient Egypt. Our focus was on developing accuracy and care in our brushwork.

In Geography, we looked at the advantages and disadvantages of dams.

Have a lovely weekend, Miss Cornes and Miss Ffyon



Year 4:

Year 4 have had a wonderful week of learning. We thoroughly enjoyed our poetry workshop on Thursday creating our own poem on the theme of journeys. We also had a fantastic visit to the Science Museum where we got to see some exciting demonstrations and explore the Wonderlab!

English: We have been exploring poetry by Sue Hardy-Dawson. We explored how feelings are evoked in poetry and also created our own concrete poem.

Maths: We practised subtraction with exchanges of 4 digit numbers.

R.E: We discussed David and Goliath and what we can learn from David's faith in God during this event.

History: We learned about Roman pastimes and about Gladiators. We discussed the story of Spartacus the gladiator who led a rebellion against the Romans.

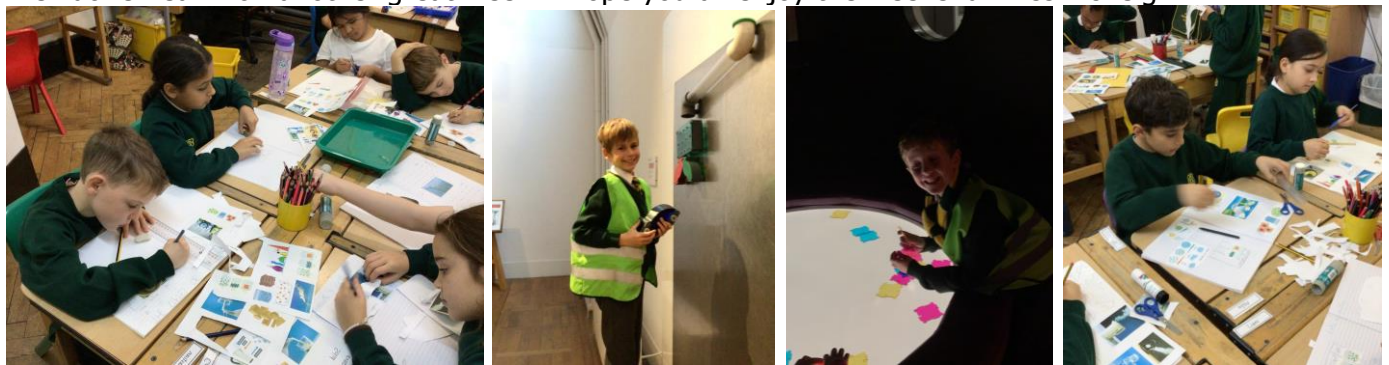
P.E: We continued to develop passing and travelling in handball.

Science: We reviewed our learning on states of matter and summarised our learning in our own creative posters.

Art: We completed our mosaics in our sketchbooks.

French: We learned how nouns and adjectives in French have to agree and practised describing ourselves including our hair and eye colour.

Well done Year 4 on another great week. I hope you all enjoy the weekend. Miss McVeigh



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a fantastic week, beginning with a trip to Hyde Park for orienteering, and ending with a wonderful poetry workshop.

This week Year 3 have learnt:

- In Maths, we added 100s to 3-digit numbers. Then, we moved on to adding 1s to 3-digit numbers where we have to cross the 10.
- In English, we created our poems based on members of our family. We also created a class limerick, focusing on the rules of a limerick's rhyme and rhythm.
- In RE, we consolidated our learning on the Sacrament of Baptism and we designed our own Baptism candles using the symbols we have learnt about.
- In French, we learnt the colours in French and used these to say what our favourite colours are.
- In PE, we worked on our jumping skills through a game of jumping chess.
- In Science, we looked at how our bodies move. We looked closely at joints and muscles.
- In History, we explored drawings as a secondary source, looking closely to see what we can learn from them about Chelsea in the Past.



Year 2:

It is Poetry Fortnight and Year 2 have been unleashing their inner poets! The children have been listening to and reading different poems this week and we have started practising for our poetry performance in assembly next week. They also very much enjoyed creating an 'Animal' poem in their Poetry Workshop this week. Here is what else Year 2 have been up to:

-In **Maths**, we have been focusing on the method of 'making 10' when using addition and we have been practising partitioning to add three 1-digit numbers.

-In **English**, we have been focusing on poetry from Michael Rosen's collection in 'Jelly Boots Smelly Boots'. We have looked at homonyms and have written our own poems inspired by the poem 'Imagine'. We answered questions about a selection of poems and worked in groups to perform them.

-In **RE**, we started our new topic: 'The Mystery of God'. We talked about the difference between puzzles and mysteries and reflected on the great mystery of God and heaven. We wrote litany prayers thinking about the times that God is with us.

-In **Science**, we looked at woodland habitats. We explored the features of a squirrel and learnt about ways that they are suited to their habitat.

-In **History**, we placed the events of the Great Fire of London in a chronological order on a timeline.

-In **PSHE**, we discussed how feelings and actions are different things and thought about ways we could respond in particular situations.

-In **DT**, we investigated different flavours that might be used to make bread and put together a list of ingredients and equipment we would need.



Year 1:

This is what we have been learning this week in Year 1:

English: We have been reading 'A great Big Cuddle' poetry book by Michael Rosen this week. The children read 'We can' learning about Stanzas and rhyming words. Using onomatopoeia, we discussed different objects that made sounds. From this we planned, wrote and published our own versions of the poem.

Maths: In Maths, we started our new topic of addition. We learnt about part-part whole and using numbers, visual representations and tens frames we added numbers together. We also have started to look at our number bonds to 10.

Phonics: In Phonics we have learnt the tricky words What, when, why, where, who and which. We looked at the 'er' sound when spelt 'ur' and 'ir'. We also learnt the sound 'ew'.

Religious Education: We have continued to learn the story of Noah and the ark. Together as a class we acted out the story and rewrote the story. We started to think about the promises we wanted to make to God.

Art: In Art we have been focusing on our use of line, shape, form and colour to draw our versions of Rousseau's tigers.

Science: In Science we have been focusing on the sense of smell. The children completed an experiment smelling six containers trying to guess what the hidden item was.

Geography: In Geography we have been learning the names of the continents and oceans.

PSHE: In PSHE we have been learning how we are unique to our friends. We discussed our likes and dislikes and compared them to our partners.

Have a lovely weekend, Year 1 team.



Reception:

Reception have had such a busy week of learning and are doing a great job of showing The Oratory Way in their learning and their play!

Phonics: This week, we have learnt the single sounds l,f,b.

Literacy: The children have enjoyed reading out class text Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Can You See? as part of our Poetry fortnight. We have been talking about rhyme and rhythm in the book.

Maths: This week, we have focused on recognising, subitising and counting number to 3.

UTW: This week, the children enjoyed learning about the senses. They tasted, touched, smelt, looked and listened to different things around the classroom.

PSED: This week, we were discussing the emotion of sadness and what we can do to feel better if we feel sad.

EAD: The children enjoyed using different resources to create crafts which reflect learning of the phonics sounds.

RE: This week, we discussed how God's love is always present and how God loves each of us to pieces.

PD: The children continued to practise walking, jumping, hopping and balancing in PE this week.



PUPIL OF THE WEEK & ACT OF KINDNESS

Congratulations to these children who have had an extra special week and received Pupil of the Week and Act of Kindness awards. Keep up the great work!

	Pupil of the Week	Act of Kindness
Reception	Amelia	Alessia
Year 1	Borja	Logan
Year 2	Jorge	Ellie
Year 3	Daniel	Cahl
Year 4	George	Katie
Year 5	Alex N	Marcelo
Year 6	Lola A	Lola T
Special Act of Kindness		Bella (Y4)

 House of the Week 	 Class of the Week 
Blue House	Year 4 (For showing The Oratory Way excellently on their trip)