

Newsletter

Autumn Term: 24th October 2025



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

Dear Parents,

We have had a wonderful final week of this first half term, celebrating poetry in all its forms! The children have all had a hugely positive and productive start to this academic year, endeavouring and living out The Oratory Way in all that they do. They all deserve a well-earned rest over half term and we are very much looking forward to seeing what they can all work hard to achieve next half term.

Thank you for all of your wonderful support this half term – our collaborative school community and partnership is absolutely key to our success. Wishing you all a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 4th November.

With my very best wishes, Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

November

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

January 2026

- 5 Jan** Inset Day (no children)
- 6 Jan** Children return
- 9 Jan** House of the term mufti day
- 12 Jan** Winter Week
- 13 Jan** Y3 Mass & First Communion meeting 2.15pm
- 16 Jan** Winter mufti day
- 16 Jan** Year 4 Cake Sale
- 19 Jan** Coffee Morning & Uniform Sale
- 19 Jan** Parent & Child Book share 3.45-5.30pm
- 26 Jan** STEM Week
- 27 Jan** Y2 & Y4 Family Mass 2.15pm
- 28 Jan** Parent Forum 10am
- 30 Jan** PTA Gala Breakfast! (8.30am)

February

- 6 Feb** Year 3 Class Assembly 9.15am
- 9 Feb** Children's Mental Health Week
- 10 Feb** Safer Internet Day
- 13 Feb** Pupil Chaplaincy Team Lent Assembly
- 13 Feb** Year 3 Pancake Sale

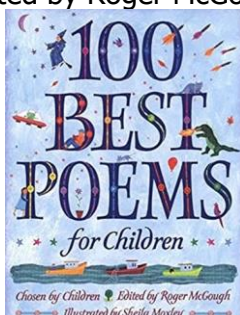
This week's theme: POETRY

This week in assemblies we have looked at the theme of Poetry, focusing particularly on our performance poetry skills. The children did a wonderful job of reciting some much-loved children's poems in assembly with me on Tuesday and we also discussed some of our favourite poems. We said some special prayers thanking God for the beauty of words and poetry. The week culminated in this morning's wonderful performance poetry assembly.

Story of the Week

100 Best Poems

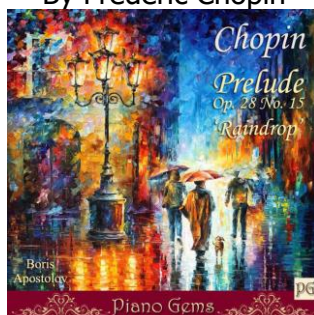
Edited by Roger McGough



Music of the Week

Raindrop Prelude

By Frederic Chopin



Art of the Week

The Water Lily Pond

By Claude Monet



PERFORMANCE POETRY

The children all did a brilliant job with their poetry performances in assembly this morning. With Year 6 taking us on a trip back to the first day at school; Year 5 teaching us a very important lesson about treating everyone with respect; Year 4 had the unfortunate luck of falling down the toilet! Year 3 were the only rapping rats we'll ever be letting into the school! Year 2 describes the changing seasons excellently. Year 1 showed off their wonderful onomatopoeia skills and finally, Reception, the smallest of all our performers, did the longest poem of all and what a wonderful job they did! Well done Oratorian poets!



Poetry of Hope Competition

Huge congratulations to the many children that took part in our Poetry of Hope Competition. Our Librarian prefects, Agustin and Zelia, certainly had a very hard job deciding on the overall winners. The quality was so high and the variety of poems was phenomenal. Well done, Oratorian Poets!

WINNING POEMS

The School of Hope – The Oratory Way

By Antoine, Year 2

I see hope when people take care of our school.
I see hope when people make greener choices in our school.
I see hope when people live out the Oratory Way.
I see hope when people play and laugh together.
I see hope when people show little acts of kindness just by smiling.
I see hope when someone fills someone else's bucket.
I see hope when people just say thank you and when people smile at their teachers.
I see hope when people are listening to others.
The Oratory Way – The School of Hope

Hope

By Giulio, Year 4

My family gives me hope, which helps me to cope,
With disturbance around, to keep me safe and sound,
By the power of love, flying like a white dove.
I return hope back, as if I had it in a useful sack,
Like Santa would do, if it was Christmas for you!

You Can't Take my Hope!

By Lola A, Year 6

You can push me, knock me down,
Drag my name across the town.
Shout your anger, loud and wild,
Treat me like a reckless child.

You can blame me for the fall,
Say it's me who caused it all.
Throw your fire, slam the door;
Still, I'll rise a little more.

But one thing you can't revoke,
Not with fury, not with smoke:
Though, you try, you'll never cope.
With stealing my one piece of hope.

It's mine to keep, it lights my way,
Through the darkest night and harshest day.
You can't break what makes me whole,
This hope is rooted in my soul.

HOPE LIVES

By Baltazar, Year 5

Hope is our mission,
our common vision
that ignites us, that unites us, to act, to react.

From the top to the bottom, HOPE knows no bound
It's free don't forget,
Let's have no regrets.

Let's not give up,
Let's trust each other,
Let's all power up
Hope has many forms

From justice, to equality,
To just pure respect.
Hope is our quest, Let's not forget.

Hope is a hug that makes friends unite.
Hope is the letter written out of Love
Hope is the feeling that makes dreams take flight:
HOPE!

A Light

By Gabriel, Year 5

In quiet acts, so small, so true,
Hope rises gently breaking through.
A smile, a hand, a moment spared, A sign that someone simply cared.
It doesn't shout, it doesn't boast. It lives in those that give the most.
For kindness shows what hate can't kill, A seed of light forever still.
So when the world feels cold or bare, Be someone's warmth, be someone's prayer.
One act of love, one spark, one friend,
Can start the light that has no end.

Whole School Poem of Hope

Here is the fantastic poem that the children created together in assembly. We collated all of the brilliant ideas that they gave of things that bring them hope to create this masterpiece...

When I Close My Eyes, I See Hope

A poem by the Oratory children



When I close my eyes, I see hope

A golden light that warmly glows,
A gentle breeze that softly blows,
Like sunshine spilling through the trees,
Or petals dancing in the breeze.

When I close my eyes, I see hope

Sunny days without a cloud,
Where laughter's heard long and loud,
And fields of flowers stretch for miles,
With friends beside me, sharing smiles.

When I close my eyes, I see hope

Kind teachers standing by my side,
Who help me learn in topics wide,
Helping hands that guide the way,
And brighten every Oratory day.

When I close my eyes, I see hope

To those in need, we lend our light,
Together making wrong things right.
I see hope glowing in the dark,
A single beam, a little spark.

When I close my eyes, I see hope

Prayers for world-wide calm and peace,
That conflict, hurt and hunger will cease.
On God's great path we choose our way,
He guides our steps from day to day.

When I close my eyes, I see hope

Together we work and play, laugh and pray,
Bringing hope to all showing The Oratory Way.

Chaplain's Corner – Fr James

The Gospel for Sunday is the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector. The tax collector goes away justified because he recognises his sinfulness and his total dependence on God. This is what distinguishes him from the Pharisee, who thinks he is good and therefore not in need of God's Mercy, thus placing himself outside the scope of God's forgiveness. All of us are like the tax collector: we need God's Mercy and are completely dependent on Him, and it is by recognising this and repenting, that we open the door to God's transformative grace, that saves from sin and sanctifies us."

Wednesday Word

Wednesday 15th October – Half Term Booklet

Year 5 Cake Sale



Year 5 parents and children will be running a cake sale after school on **Friday 7th November** in the school hall.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Year 6 Remembrance Assembly



After half term, our theme will be Remembrance which will culminate in our

Year 6 Remembrance assembly on **Friday 7th November** at 9.15am. We look forward to welcoming Year 6 families there.

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 'Sleep hygiene' on Wednesday 12th November (in school at 9.10am).

Oratory Parent Mind Workshops:

Sleep Hygiene:

Wednesday 12th November (F2F)

Online Safety:

Wednesday 26th November (online)

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!

PTA
CLUB NIGHT
& Auction

SAVE THE DATE

13
DAY

11
MONTH

25
YEAR

Oratory RC Primary School

Parent Helpers Needed!

There are many wonderful upcoming events where parent helpers are very much appreciated – please let Markus or your rep know if you are able to help at any of the following:

12th November: Spirituality Day (a few parents required on a rota basis throughout the day to help man prayer stations).

21st November: Glassdoor Pyjama and Hot Chocolate Fundraising Day (parents needed to serve the hot chocolate to all classes).

1st December: Wreath making for the Christmas Fair.

2nd December: Christmas Fair in the hall 3.30pm (help needed with set up, manning stalls and clear up)

11th & 12th December: Infant Nativity Play (help needed with handing out drinks and nibbles after the performance)

18th December: Children's Day (help needed with setting up the hall for lunch, serving lunch, clearing the hall ready for discos in the afternoon, helping at Junior discos).

Year 1 at Vauxhall City Farm

Year 1 had a fabulous time at Vauxhall City Farm this week, showing The Oratory Way from beginning to end and even making some new furry friends!



Brilliant Bread Making in Year 2

Well done to our brilliant bakers in Year 2 who made delicious looking bread this week with Ms Nuttall.



What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

Well done Year 6 on your brilliant effort this week. What a lovely way to finish this half of term with an owl and owlet reading session. We also enjoyed our visit from two former pupils, now in Year 8, who answered lots of question we had about Secondary School. Wishing you a very happy and restful Half Term break!

English: Planning own remembrance poems inspired by poems we've read and analysed; drafting , editing and writing final copies.

Maths: To use different division strategies to solve problems; To choose strategies to solve multi-step problem; To understand and use the order of operations (BODMAS)

RE: To assess our learning on the Kingdom of God topic: to design a page for the school website to show how our school lives up to the values of the Kingdom of God.

Art: Painted our clay poppies, ready for display

History: Analyse the reliability of sources about the battle of the Somme



Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic second week of Poetry Fortnight! The highlight of our week was performing '*The British*' by Benjamin Zephaniah in assembly this morning. Every pupil took part with enthusiasm and confidence - well done, Year 5, you were brilliant! Here's a snapshot of what we've been learning this week:

In Maths, we explored common multiples and factors, using our problem-solving skills to spot patterns and connections between numbers.

In English, as part of Poetry Fortnight, we studied '*The British*' by Benjamin Zephaniah. We learned how to perform poetry with expression and confidence, and discussed the powerful message of unity and inclusion that runs through his poem. We also practised writing sentences that include relative clauses to add detail and interest to our work.

In History, we delved deeper into Ancient Egypt and became familiar with hieroglyphs. Everyone enjoyed writing their own names using these fascinating ancient symbols!

In PE, we wrapped up our handball unit with some exciting matches. It was great to see teamwork, communication and all the skills we've developed come together in competitive games.

In Science, we looked at the life and work of David Attenborough and then researched an animal to create a script for a wildlife documentary on that animal.

Have a wonderful weekend, Miss Cornes, Miss Carmody and Miss Ffyon



Year 4:

Year 4 have had a busy week to finish off our half-term. After all our rehearsing, we performed our poem wonderfully in our assembly this morning and also enjoyed our pom-pom treat today, completing a 3D Autumn craft.

English: We enjoyed learning about imagery in poems and made comparisons between poems that discuss different places by Joseph Coelho. We wrote our own riddle poems which we shared in class.

R.E: We discussed our learning of the Bible and reflected on different passages. We identified messages in different passages that God is telling us.

Maths: We learned about different subtraction strategies and about inverse calculations as a checking strategy.

History: We discussed the legacy of the Romans in Britain and the positive aspects that they introduced to British society.

P.S.H.E: We explored privacy in relationships and how we can keep private information safe by not sharing it online.

P.E: We competing in different handball matches.

Art: We completed grid drawings of Roman gladiators.

Well done everyone on a fantastic week. Have a wonderful half-term!

Miss McVeigh, Mrs. Bailey and Miss Pinson



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a super successful first half of term in the Juniors. Well done and enjoy Half Term!

This week Year 3 have learnt:

-In Maths, we subtracted 1s to 3-digit numbers where we have to cross the 10 and subtracting 10s where we have to cross the 100s.

-In English, we wrapped up poetry fortnight by exploring 'elfie' poems and exploring performance poetry.

-In RE, we consolidated our learning on the Sacrament of Baptism by creating Baptism posters and completed an end of topic assessment.

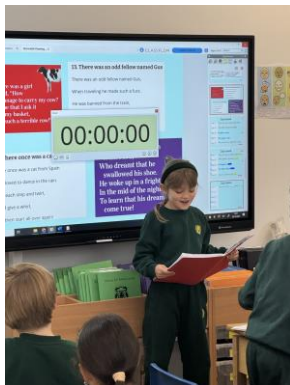
-In French, we used our learning from this term to write a short personal narrative.

-In PE, due to wet weather, we were indoors so we took the opportunity to learn some gymnastics positions and jumps..

-In Science, we looked at Sustainability, specifically food waste. We explored what food waste is and how we can reduce it.

-In History, we explored Chelsea in the 60s and Mary Quant's influence.

-In PSHE, we discussed the importance of self-worth and self-respect. We created our own positive affirmations.



Year 2:

Year 2 have been enjoying our second week of Poetry Fortnight and they performed their poem 'Who Loves the Trees Best' by Alice May Douglas brilliantly this morning! Here is what else they have been up to this week:

- In **English**, we have been focusing on poetry from Michael Rosen's collection in 'Jelly Boots Smelly Boots'. We have been investigating rhyme in Rosen's 'Dustbin' poems, which we performed. We have also been creating our own 'Dustbin' poems which we are publishing into a collection.
- In **Maths**, we have been focusing on adding across 10 with two-digit and one-digit numbers. We have been partitioning using base 10 and number lines to help our understanding of this.
- In **RE**, we have been focusing on the mystery of the Holy Trinity. We discussed how the Trinity helps us understand that God is three persons, and looked at the Glory Be prayer.
- In **Science**, we wrote a letter to the WWF to describe how a polar bear has found himself in the woodland but he is not suited to that habitat. We explained what features he has that make him suited to the polar habitat.
- In **PSHE**, we discussed the importance of managing money carefully. We talked about what a 'budget' is and worked with one to complete a weekly shop.
- In **DT**, we baked bread! We chose our favourite flavours and then worked together to follow the steps required to bake bread rolls.



Year 1:

As we come to the end of our first term in Year 1, I want to congratulate the children on their hard work and resilience! It has been a wonderful few weeks getting to know them. This is what we have been up to this week:

Literacy: In Literacy we have been looking at the poem "oh dear" by Michael Rosen. We learnt about rhyming words and planned, wrote and performed our own versions of the poem.

Science: We visited Vauxhall City Farm. We enjoyed looking at all the different animals and even got a chance to hold a rabbit, hen and Guinea pigs! We especially enjoyed feeding the llamas and goats.

Phonics: In Phonics we have been practicing our tricky words 'who, what, where, why, when and which'. We also learnt the digraphs 'aw' and 'au'.

Maths: In Maths we have been learning about number bonds and our part-part whole model. Using cubes, counters and our tens frames to show different ways to making ten. We also worked together to find all the number bonds to numbers up to 9.

Geography: In Geography we have been looking at a map to identify countries that we know.

Art: In Art we have been drawing our own version of Rousseau's tiger.

PSHE: In PSHE we have been discussing feelings and sorting them into comfortable and uncomfortable feelings. We have been discussing how we might feel if we are feeling uncomfortable or comfortable.

Have a lovely half term, Year 1 Team.



Reception:

Reception have had a great week of learning to finish up their first term at The Oratory! We are very proud of the progress they have made so far and are looking forward to more playing and learning after the half term break.

Phonics: This week, we have practised segmenting words for writing, using known phonics sounds.

Literacy: the children enjoyed reading "Polar Bear Polar Bear What Do You Hear?" and comparing it to similar stories.

Maths: This week, the children have been learning about the value of 1 more, showing that each next number increases by 1.

EAD: The children have been practising using different tones, shades and colours to create pictures of animals from the class text.

PD: The children have been working hard on practising their cutting skills by using paper, playdoh, straws and glue in their models!

PSED: This week, we focused on the emotion of anger.

RE: This week, we talked about what we are thankful to God for and created a thankfulness tree.



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	Maria A	Federica
Year 1	Martin	Daniella
Year 2	Lavinia	Gabrielle Mary
Year 3	Zixiao	Myles
Year 4	Nicolas	Athena
Year 5	Kai	Alex G
Year 6	Adriano	Clara
Special Act of Kindness		Agustin (Y6)

 House of the Week 	 Class of the Week 
Green House	Year 5 (For having a fabulous week!)