

Newsletter

Spring Term: 23rd January 2026



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

Dear Parents,

I'm handing over to our Headteacher for the day for this week ... thank you so much, Miss Larkin!

Best wishes, Mrs Steinart (off duty for the day!)

Dear Parents,

It has been my pleasure to go behind the scenes to see what it is like being headteacher. I have been blown away by all the marvellous work that has been produced in the Oratory Primary, from wonderful writing to amazing art and the five-star Year 5 Ancient Egyptian play! The number of well-deserved Lovely Larkins I have given out has been countless and very impressive!

I have never been more proud to be a part of the fantastic Oratory family. Thank you, everyone and have a lovely weekend!

**With my very best wishes,
Miss Larkin (Headteacher for the Day!)**

Upcoming dates

January 2026

26 Jan STEM Week

28 Jan Parent Forum 10am

30 Jan PTA Gala Breakfast! (8.30am)

February

3 Feb Y2 & Y4 Family Mass 2.15pm

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

13 Feb Half Term 3.30pm

February (cont.)

23 Feb Children return

24 Feb Individual & sibling photos

25 Feb Y6 SATs & School Journey Meeting 3.45pm

March

2 March Book Week

5 March World Book Dress Up Day

16 March Coffee Morning & uniform sale in hall 8.30am

18 March Spring Music Concert: 2pm Infants, 2.30pm Juniors

24 March Y4 Easter Assembly 9.15am

25 March Y5 Easter Assembly 9.15am

26 March Y6 Easter Assembly 9.15am

27 March 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: Living Out Our Faith

In assemblies this week we have looked at the theme of Living out our Faith. We used the principles of Catholic Social Teaching to think about how we can live out our faith. We used the story of the Good Samaritan as inspiration and discussed how when thinking about our actions, we will think, 'What would Jesus do?'

Story of the Week

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37



Music of the Week

Little Things

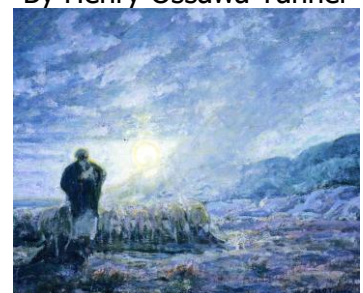
By Adrian Berenguer



Art of the Week

The Good Shepherd

By Henry Ossawa Tanner



Amazing Ancient Egyptian Assembly!

A huge well done to our class of the week, Year 5, for their brilliant assembly this morning in which the whole school were transported to the world of Ancient Egypt. The children wowed us with the fascinating facts that they have been learning about. They showed off their wonderful array of skills as historians, actors, musicians and artists. Well done Year 5, who are our very worthy class of the week!



Parent and Child Bookshare

It was wonderful to see the pride on the children's faces as they showcased all of their hard work to you during our Parent and Child bookshare this week. Some of the children I spoke to even decided that their parents deserved house points and terrific ticks while they were in the classroom...well done parents!



STEM WEEK



Next week we will be celebrating our STEM week where the children will be taking part in a variety of enrichment activities throughout the week to explore the links between Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. This will include Stop and STEM activities every day in class, as well as fantastic workshops on Monday led by [Science Boffins](#). Every Infant class will be taking part in a Fabulous Flames workshop watching the Science Boffins demonstrate fire in ways never seen before – making flaming experiments to wow, amaze and educate on the power and the dangers of mankind's greatest discovery. Each Junior class will be taking part in a States of Matter workshop - learning about atoms and the three states of matter. This workshop features dry ice burps, giant bubbles and fire extinguishers, plus each pupil gets the chance to make instant ice cream! Please log onto ParentPay to cover the cost of these fantastic workshops: [ParentPay](#)

STEM WEEK COMPETITION!



Whole School Competition

The Coin-Carrying Boat

Design and build a boat that can float and carry the **most coins** without sinking.

Rules:

1. Boats must be **built by you** (can be team or individual).
2. Boats **cannot be powered** by motors or anything mechanical & should not be bigger than the sink in the hall!
3. Boats are tested by **slowly adding coins** until they sink.
4. The **winner** is the boat that holds the **most coins** before sinking.

Other categories for awards:

1. Most coins held (main prize)
2. Most creative design
3. Best use of recycled materials
4. Most improved after testing

Bring your boats to the hall by next Friday 30th January. Good luck!



FLOAT A BOAT
science experiment



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

Year 1 the Architects!

Our Year1 children became architects this week and did a wonderful job designing brilliant constructions!



Wednesday Word – 21ST January 2026

What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

It has been another busy week in Year 6! The children were incredibly diligent and have continued to make great progress in their learning. In the classroom, the children have focused on:

English: Reading Focus: Retrieval, word meaning and inference questioning with focus on class text - When The Sky Falls by Phil Earle. Writing Focus: using authorial choice to offer advice to a character; using poetry analysis, performance and drafting to further understand character; identifying features of a formal complaint letter. Grammar & Punctuation Focus: dashes, commas and brackets for parenthesis; perfect tense; subject, verb, object identifying.

Maths: Decimals: divide decimals by 10,100,1000; multiply decimals by integers; divide decimals by integers; multiply & divide decimals in context.

RE: Exploring the Mass: To understand the Penitential Act and the Liturgy of the Word; To reflect on our participation in them. To describe what happens at the Offertory & to reflect on the offerings we can make.

Science: Animals including humans (circulatory system): To identify that the circulatory system is made up of the heart, blood vessels and blood, and that these work together to circulate blood around the body.

History: Victorians: To investigate the use of Victorian era diary extracts as a source for historical enquiry.

PE: Hockey & Swimming

Computing: Fun with Scratch: Design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts

Latin: To recognise adverbs in Latin.

PSHE: Self- Talk: Considering how our thoughts and feelings not only impact on our well-being, but also our friendships and relationships with others.

Year 6 are very excited about STEM week and will surely be looking forward to their modeling of WWII Anderson Shelters!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a wonderful week which ended in their fantastic performance of their Ancient Egyptian Assembly! They have been doing lots of assembly practice, including singing and acting, and very impressively learnt all of their lines off by heart! Here is a snippet of all of our learning we did this week:

In Maths, we have finished our unit on Multiplication and Division by using short division and dividing with remainders.

In English, as part of our study of 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo, we have planned setting descriptions, describing the mead-hall party upon Beowulf's return from victory.

In Geography, we have begun our new topic 'Extreme Earth,' we have been demonstrating our knowledge of the layers of the earth.

In French, we were looking at the different rooms found in a home.

In PE, we practiced our grip and accuracy in field hockey.

In RE, we reflected on what it means to be a follower of Jesus and what this means for us.

Thank you so very much for supporting your children with all of their assembly preparations at home this week.

Have a thoroughly enjoyable weekend, Miss Cornes and Miss Ffyon



Year 4:

Another brilliant week in Year 4 with lots of great learning!

English: We are engrossed in our class text, 'Varjak Paw.' We have been writing persuasive letters to convince Varjak to be brave and go into the outside world. We have also been practising using fronted adverbials within description; and using apostrophes to mark plural possession

Maths: Multiplying 3 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers; dividing 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers, with and without remainders

RE: To understand what happened at Jesus' baptism and reflect on its meaning

Science: Recognising how to group living things in different ways: looking closely at leaves and grouping them using Carroll diagrams and Venn diagrams

Art: Planning a simple design for a leaf print

Geography: Understanding deforestation and how it impacts our planet: creating information posters on deforestation

PE: Hockey skills: passing and shooting



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a great week.

This week Year 3 have learnt:

- In Maths, we have learnt how to multiply and divide 2-digit by 1-digit numbers.
- In English, we created poems using vivid imagery to describe the Kraken from our book. We also use fronted adverbials and paragraphs to write a diary entry.
- In RE, we looked at the story of 'The Lost Sheep' to understand what it means to get 'lost' and that God will always love us, no matter what.
- In PSHE, we looked at how we can look after our oral hygiene.
- In History, we explored artefacts from the Stone Age and what they teach us about life was like back then.
- In PE, we learnt how to control the ball using a hockey stick.
- In Science, we experimented with different materials to understand how light is reflected differently.



Year 2:

We have had a lovely week in Year 2. The children really enjoyed their Poetry Workshop at the start of the week and they have been putting lots of effort into their learning. Here is what they have been up to this week:

-In **English**, we have written collaborative poems using expanded noun phrases, in response to an illustration. We have also planned a letter home in the role of the polar bear in our story.

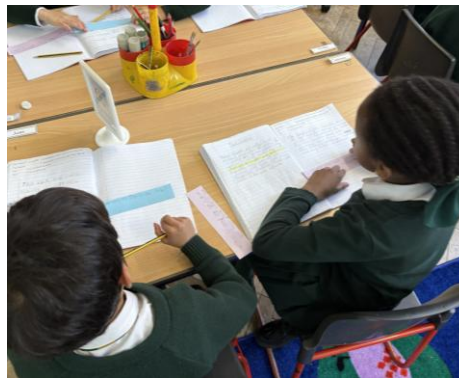
-In **Maths**, we been looking at the properties of 2-D and 3-D shapes, including faces, vertices and edges.

-In **RE**, we have continued to look at Jesus' life and how he helped so many people on his journey. We looked at the story of 'Jesus Heals Ten Men with Leprosy'. We discussed the importance of saying thank you

-In **Science**, we looked at life cycles and learnt what 'offspring' means. We focused on the different stages in the life cycle of a chicken.

-In **History**, we analysed the sketches of Leonardo da Vinci's inventions.

-In **Art**, we have been mark-making to create patterns using colour and we designed our own bird sculptures.



Year 1:

We have had a wonderful week in Year 1, starting with a very fun drama workshop pretending to be toys in our toy shop! This is what else we have been up to:

English: In English we have started our new book 'Iggy Peck Architect'. The children started the week with a challenge of working in teams to build the tallest and strongest structure! After that we used our phonics skills to write the names of different structures. We also learnt about the connecting word 'but' to join alternating sentences about Iggy and his teacher, Miss Lila Greer.

Maths: In Maths we have been learning how to represent twenty in different ways. We have been learning how to find one more and one less of a given number. We also used our numberlines to identify and estimate where numbers to twenty would go.

History: In History we have been continuing to compare the past to present day. This week we have been learning about Schools in Victorian times. We wrote a fact file about what life would be like if we went to a Victorian school.

Science: In Science this week we have been learning about the features of fish. We learnt lots of facts and discussed our favourite fish.

Religious Education: In Religious Education this week we learnt about Jesus' visit to the temple as child. We retold the story then discussed ways that we can bring more light and happiness to the world and people around us.

Handwriting: This week in handwriting we have been focusing on our number formation, specifically on 2, 5 and 9.

Phonics: In Phonics this week we have been practicing our tricky words and alternating spellings for the ai sound. Have a lovely weekend, Year 1 team.



Reception:

Reception have had a very busy week of playing and sharing their new learning with each other.

Phonics: This week, we have focused on the sounds "ng" (**strong**), v, the long and short "oo" sound (**book** and **Spoon**)

Literacy: This week, we have been reading the new class text "Owl Babies". The children have been using vocabulary to describe the setting of the forest in the story and explored this in different ways.

Maths: This week, we have been investigating measure, focusing on mass and capacity.

UTW: We have been speaking about and identifying nocturnal animals and their habitats.

PD: The children have continued to practise skills of gymnastics such as safely moving through equipment.

EAD: The children have been busy creating crafts to reflect their learning about the night. They created collage owls and night mobiles using cutting and threading skills.

PSED: This week, we discussed building resilience and independence.



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	Matilde	Luna
Year 1	Leo	Daniella
Year 2	Eugenia	Adele
Year 3	Xander	Daniel
Year 4	John	Valentina
Year 5	Charlie	Marta.S
Year 6	Giorgio	Luis
Special Act of Kindness		Max Y2

House of the Week	Class of the Week
Green House	Year 5 (For their spectacular assembly!)