

Newsletter

Spring Term: 13th February 2026



The
ORATORY
RC PRIMARY
School

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

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful finale to the half term this week has been. Finished off excellently by our Pupil Chaplaincy Team leading assembly this morning and preparing us all beautifully for the very special season of Lent which is so nearly upon us.

There have been a great variety of trips and workshops this week to enrich the children's learning for which all of the children demonstrated The Oratory Way superbly.

And to finish a brilliantly busy week, a superb Year 3 Pancake Sale with an endless choice of tempting toppings – thank you to the many parents that helped to make it such a success.

Wishing you all a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing all of the children back at school on Monday 23rd February, ready and raring to go for more excellent learning!

Best wishes,
Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

February

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

17 & 18 March Spring Parents' Evenings

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

March (cont.)

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

April

13 April Children return

15 April Parent Forum 10am

16 April House of the term mufti day

17 April Spring Mufti Day

17 April Pupil Chaplaincy Easter Bake Sale

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

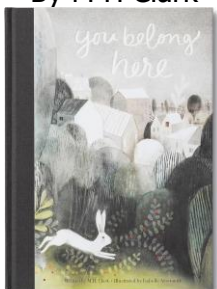
This week's theme: Belonging

In assemblies this week we have looked at the topic of Belonging to tie in with the theme of Children's Mental Health Week – This is My Place. We talked about what 'belonging' means and the children came up with fantastic ideas such as: a place where you feel safe and calm, belonging is being inclusive and kind, belonging is a place where you can be yourself and feel confident. We then went onto create our very own Oratory Belonging Rap which the children performed brilliantly!

Story of the Week

You Belong Here

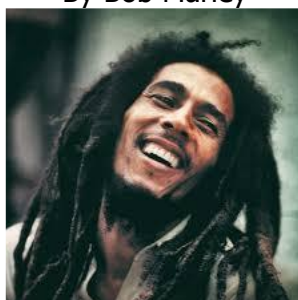
By M H Clark



Music of the Week

One Love

By Bob Marley



Art of the Week

Earthrise

By Astronaut, William Anders



Children's Mental Health Week

This is My Place!

As well as discussing what 'belonging' means to us, we also looked at all the ways we belong to our wonderful Oratory community. The children did a great job of perfecting their rap about Oratory being our place – where we all belong!



Belonging to our Oratory Family

At Oratory We Belong!

This is my place,
This is our place,
A place where we belong.
We work and play,
We laugh and pray,
At Oratory all day long.

We work together
We play together
We laugh together.
We pray together



5 Ways to Wellbeing

When we connect,
We feel we belong!
When we are active -
Our bodies feel strong!
When we take notice
We feel calm inside!
When we keep learning
We grow and grow!
When we give
Our hearts feel happy!

5 Ways to Wellbeing

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, each class enjoyed a visit from our Mind practitioner, Annabelle, and learnt about the 5 ways to wellbeing, to which we also made up actions to help us remember them.



TALK & LISTEN,
BE THERE,
FEEL CONNECTED



DO WHAT YOU CAN,
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,
MOVE YOUR MOOD



REMEMBER
THE SIMPLE
THINGS THAT
GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW
EXPERIENCES,
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,
SURPRISE YOURSELF

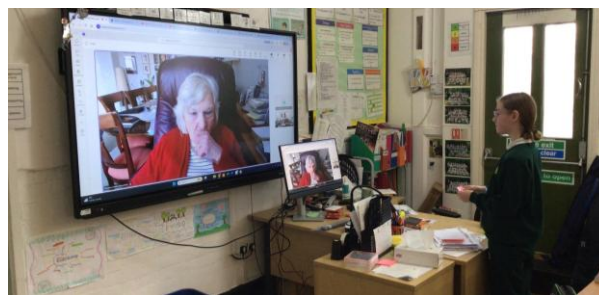


Your time,
your words,
your presence

Year 6 Learning with the Lords

On Monday morning, the Y6 children took part in the 'Learn with the Lords' programme where they got to spend an hour with **Baroness Garden**. She explained what it was like being part of the House of Lords and then our class got to ask some brilliant questions. Here is a small sample of what we asked:

- How did you become a member of the House of Lords?
- What is your opinion on smart phones – should children under 16 have access to them?
- If social media is banned for under 16s, will there be an age-appropriate social media created?
- What is one of the laws you have debated recently?
- What is your opinion of Keir Starmer? Have you ever met him?
- Have you been on the news and if you have, what did you speak about?
- What do you think should be done to combat climate change?
- What is the government doing for schools – to make them more inspiring and safer?
- Are you able to turn down the invitation to become a Lord or Baroness?
- What is the longest debate you have been a part of? Can they go on for days?
- What is the most fun and most challenging part of your job as a Baroness?
- What is your day-to-day routine as a Baroness?
- Do you have to be at every meeting of the House of Lords?
- Is there an age requirement for being in the House of Lords – either young or old?
- What is the government doing about plastic pollution?



Royal Academy of Arts Summer Show

Calling all Oratorian Artists! The Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4–19 years studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts. We have registered Oratory Primary School to take place so that you can submit your child's artwork if you would like to.

How to enter? Go to <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/> where an adult can set up an account and submit an image of your child's chosen artwork. Each pupil can submit one artwork only. You will be asked for some information about the piece such as title, size, and a little text about the artwork and why you made it. The artwork can be made using any material; it can be a painting, sculpture, photograph, installation, video, drawing, or a combination.

Key Dates:

Registration & submission: 5th January – 4th March **Online exhibition opens:** 14th July 2026

Judging: May 2026

Display at the RA: 14th July – 30th August 2026

Fantastic Football Stars!

The Oratory Year 6 girls' football team did a brilliant job representing the school at the Premier League Primary Stars tournament this week!

They worked together as an amazing team and represented the school wonderfully!



Year 4 at Ellesmere House Care Home

We were so proud of the first half of our Year 4 children who volunteered with TimeGivers and spent the afternoon at Ellesmere House Care Home this week, chatting to and making Valentine's decorations with the residents there, they represented The Oratory Way wonderfully. This was the feedback from TimeGivers: *'The children were fantastic from start to finish. It was a really special visit, with lots of conversation and engagement throughout. The residents loved having them there and the children were all very polite and caring, as usual.'* They are very much looking forward to the other half of Year 4 visiting after half term. Well done, Year 4!



Chaplain's Corner – Fr James

As we approach the beginning of Lent, our minds should turn to how we are going to implement this holy season's call to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These three penitential works, when done for the love of God and as concrete acts of sorrow for sin, conform us more and more to the Cross of Christ, through which we have access to our share in His Risen Life. May this Season of Lent lead us away from our sinfulness and toward the holiness to which God calls us through our Baptism.

Year 6 SATs & School Journey Meeting

We will be having a meeting for Year 6 parents on Wednesday 25th February at 3.45pm in the Year 6 classroom. Mrs Steinart will be going through arrangements for SATs & school journey. All information will be sent out on Claslist following the meeting.

Wednesday Word –

11th, 18th & 25th February

Internet Safety

Although we have particularly focused on Internet Safety Day this week, internet safety is something that we teach and talk about to the children on a regular basis – through their Computing curriculum and in PSHE lessons. This year's theme is: 'Smart Tech, Safe Choices'. We explored the safe and responsible use of the internet, with a particular focus on AI. The children thoroughly enjoyed their Safer Internet workshops on Thursday too!

Staying Safe Online



1 Respect other users. Be kind and polite online.



2 Don't share personal information.



3 Only talk to people you know online.



4 Visit safe websites that a trusted adult has checked first.



5 Tell a trusted adult if something makes you upset or uncomfortable.



Here are some useful links for keeping your children safe online:

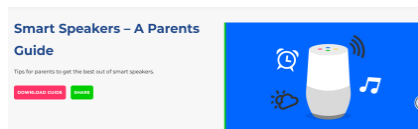
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>



<https://www.internetmatters.org/>



<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/smart-speakers-a-parents-guide/>

 common sense media®

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

Attendance

An increasing number of children are absent either side of a holiday or are collected before the end of the school day. Holidays taken during the school term will not be authorised so please refer to our term dates, which are published on the school's website, before booking a holiday.

Please be aware that all schools' registers are now monitored on a daily basis by RBKC's Education Welfare Officer and special attention is paid to absences either side of a holiday.

Pupil Chaplaincy Lent Assembly



Thank you to our Pupil Chaplaincy Team who led a wonderful assembly this morning teaching us about the meaning and importance of the season of Lent.

They explained the story of Jesus in the desert and also told us about the exciting Lent competition they have created.

Well done, Pupil Chaplaincy Team!

Lent at Oratory Primary School



What does the word Lent mean?

The word *Lent* derives from the Middle English word *lenten*, meaning springtime – the time of lengthening days. There is biblical support for doing penance, in both the Old and New Testaments. The season of Lent builds on this biblical support, but like all Catholic liturgical seasons, it developed over time. Nowadays, most adult converts to Catholicism are baptised at the Easter Vigil, which takes place after sundown on Holy Saturday. To find out more about the developments of Lent, click [HERE](#).

How we mark Lent at our school?

This week, our assemblies have all been focused on Lent. Our Pupil Chaplaincy Team also taught us lots more about Lent in their very informative assembly this morning. The children have also made Lenten promises to help them to 'pray, fast and give' during this special time.



Catholic Children's Society

Making A Difference



We are supporting the Catholic Children's Society during Lent

Each year we support their Lenten appeal, in which we participate every year. The theme of the 2026 Lenten Appeal in 'Small Deeds, Big Difference' inspired by Pope Leo who has said, 'No sign of affection, even the smallest, will ever be forgotten.'

CCS Lenten boxes will be given to each child by our R.E. Prefects after half term. The Lenten appeal will raise money to support children in our diocese who are in need.

Our Pupil Chaplaincy Team have also organised a school wide Lenten competition...read on for more details!

Pupil Chaplaincy Team Lent Competition

- With the theme 'Little Deeds, Big Difference', Pope Leo is urging us to do just the smallest acts of kindness to make a big difference. Whatever you choose, you can then create your own entry for the competition in whatever format you like around the theme of acts of kindness
- Your creations can range from a poster, illustrating how small acts can make a big impact; or perhaps create a kindness comic strip, or even a Lenten photo challenge where you take photos showing "small deeds" in action, such as helping, caring and sharing to special prayers or a poem and everything in between. Be as creative as you like!
- By taking part in the competition, you are already being an agent of change - working together for justice, love and peace, both locally and globally. We want to build a fairer world, where every person, and the earth, can flourish.

Deadline: Monday 23rd March

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

Put your finished entry into the tray in the hall!

Oratory Chess Success!



Well done to our brilliant Oratory Chess Team who competed at the South-West London Area Challenge this week. The team faced some of last year's best U10 players in England but did admirably well, finishing a joint 4th.

1st	King's College Junior School A	15
2nd =	Bishop Gilpin School, St. Paul's Prep A	10.5
4th =	Oratory School, KCJS B	8.5
6th	Sussex House	7
7th	St. Paul's Prep B	5
8th	Wimbledon Chase School	0

Well done Oratorian Chess Players on a fantastic achievement!



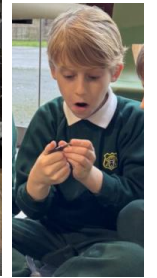
Cooking Quesadillas in Year 4!

Year 4 showed off excellent prepping, chopping and cooking skills in their DT lesson this week as they made superb quesadillas to tie in with their learning about Mexico. I think they rather enjoyed the results too!



Year 3 at Fulham Palace

Year 3 had a great trip to Fulham Palace this week, where they learnt about the incredible Neolithic Settlement that was found at Fulham Palace. They showed off all their Stone Age knowledge and were lucky enough to handle some real Neolithic artefacts, including stone and obsidian arrow heads, hand axes and stone tools, found at Fulham Palace during an archaeological excavation. Well done, Year 3!



Individual and Sibling Photographs – Blazers!



Individual and sibling photographs will be taken **Tuesday 24th February**.

Please ensure that hair is tidy and children are wearing clean white shirts. As mentioned in the Parent Forum Minutes, children will be wearing their blazers for the photos, so please be sure to send your child to school with their blazer that day!

This is the company that we are using this year: www.imagophotography.co.uk

ORATORY BOOK WEEK

It is World Book day on Thursday 5th March, but we are celebrating a love of books and the joy of reading for the entire week (as we do, in fact, every week of the year!). Here are a few of the highlights of the week:

Monday: Shakespeare workshops in the hall for all classes & DEAR (Drop Everything And Read!)

Tuesday: Designing book tokens profiles' & DEAR

Wednesday: Front cover design, 'class teacher swaps' & DEAR

Thursday: World Book Day & Character Dress Up Parade, Year 6 character monologues & DEAR

Friday: Book share with other classes, making bookmarks & DEAR

Inexpensive and simple ideas for dressing up can be found here: <https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/>

We also look forward to welcoming the Travelling Book Fair to school for the week beginning 16th March.

What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been wonderful leaders of the school for Children's Mental Health Week. The children have enjoyed workshops with our colleagues from MIND and also one focused on how to stay safe and kind online. Separate from this, the Y6 class also had the wonderful opportunity to speak with a member of the House of Lords, Baroness Garden, as part of the Learn with the Lords programme. In the classroom, the children also focused on:

English: Reading Focus: Prediction and character inference skills based on our focus text of *When the Sky Falls* by Phil Earle; Writing Focus: Planning, drafting and editing a narrative based on the Blitz; identifying and summarising themes of a novel. Grammar and Punctuation Focus: Punctuating for speech; comma usage.

Maths: Ratio: Additive and multiplicative relationships; Using ratio language; Understanding relationship between ratio and fractions; Using scale factors.

RE: To describe how Jesus' presence in the Blessed Sacrament can help us; Assessing understanding on unit of Exploring the Mass.

Science: To understand the composition of blood and explore other functions carried out by blood.

Computing: To analyse situations in which behaviour online can be deemed safe or unsafe, kind or unkind.

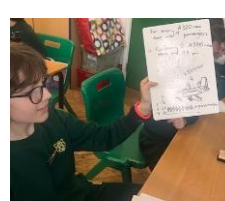
Art : To use wax resist to create a life drawing in the style of Henry Moore

PSHE: Participating in a mental health workshop focused on belonging - 'This is My Place'

Latin: To recognise and translate conjunctions in a Latin sentence.

PE: Hockey & Swimming

The children have earned a well-deserved & enjoyable half-term break. Have fun and see you in a week!



Year 5

We have had a wonderful week, especially as we marked Children's Mental Health Week and reflected on the importance of looking after our wellbeing. Here is a snapshot of our other learning:

In English, we began our new text, *Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill, exploring the incredible Antarctic expedition. We then wrote our own recount of a journey we have been on. We look forward to learning all about Shackleton's journey after half term!

In Maths, Year 5 used their knowledge of place value to compare and order decimals to tenths, hundredths and thousandths.

In RE, we learnt about Leopold Mandić and how he served God through kindness and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, reminding us that God's mercy is greater than our mistakes.

In Science, Year 5 learnt about the life and groundbreaking work of Marie Curie.

In Art, we completed our relief prints of fish, inspired by the work of Kenjojuak Ashevak.

In French, we wrote about our own homes.

In PSHE, we have reflected on Children's Mental Health week by taking the time to reflect on our emotional and physical wellbeing. We have thought about strategies to help ourselves. We also had a fantastic interactive workshop helping us to reflect on internet safety.

Have a wonderful half term. Miss Cornes and Miss Ffyon



Year 4:

What a brilliant final week in Year 4. A highlight was our visit to Ellesmere care home. This is the message they sent us: *The children were fantastic from start to finish. It was a really special visit, with lots of conversation and engagement throughout. The residents loved having them there and the children were all very polite and caring, as usual - asking thoughtful questions and sharing things about themselves.* Well done Year 4. Wishing you all a restful Half Term.

English: We have been researching information for our information texts on Russian Blue cats. We planned and began our pieces of writing.

Maths: We have completed our unit on length and measure, calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, and regular and irregular polygons.

Science: Learning about the work of Jane Goodall

Topic: Learning all about the Mayan Gods and creating our own version of a God

French: To identify rooms in a house

RE: Thinking about the season of Lent and making our own Lenten promises: to fast, pray, and give.



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a great week starting with a fantastic Stone Age trip to Fulham Palace and ending with Half Term!

This week Year 3 have learnt:

-In Maths, we have begun our new topic of 'fractions'. We can now compare and order unit fractions and understand the numerators of non-unit fractions

-In English, we planned and wrote diary entries in role as Sir Basil to describe his foiled plot, we focused on using paragraphs and fronted adverbials.

-In RE, we reflected on the Act of Contrition and why Confession is such an important part of our relationship with God.

-In PE, we put into practise the gymnastics holds we have learnt, in a gymnastics carousel.

-In French, we learnt the names of different animals to describe our pets or what we would like for pets.

-In Computing, we learnt all about Internet Safety and who to talk to if we needed help on the internet.

-As Wednesday was International Day for Women and Girls in Science, we learnt about some of the fantastic women who have broken boundaries and made incredible discoveries in the field of Science.



Year 2:

Year 2 have had a brilliant final week of the half term and the children were excited to earn Class of the Week! They have been putting wonderful effort into their learning and have been mindful and kind towards each other as we have focused on 'belonging' for Children's Mental Health Week. Here is what Year 2 have been up to this week:

In **English**, we have been retelling the story of Leaf. We focused on writing in the third person and checking our work to ensure it makes sense.

In **Maths**, we have been recognising, making and adding equal groups.

In **RE**, we reflected on the story of the 'Paralysed Man' and we wrote our Lenten promises.

In **History**, we finished making robotic hands after studying Leonardo da Vinci's drawings of the 'Robotic Man'. We then reviewed and reflected upon our inventions.

In **Science**, we learnt about the life cycle of a butterfly. We made crafts using pasta to show the life cycle.

In **Art**, we finished making our bird sculptures. We used pen to make patterns and added feathers to make them beautiful!

In **PSHE**, as part of 'Children's Mental Health Week', we focused on 'belonging'. We each created a mosaic tile showing things that are important to us and make us unique. We then put the tiles together to create a class mosaic.



Year 1:

This week we have been celebrating Children's mental health week and Internet Safety day with a workshop and a drama show of how we can stay safe online! This is what else we have been learning:

Art: In Art we created a whole class art project focusing on our Lenten promises. The children decorated crosses and wrote their Lenten promises to display in the classroom.

Phonics: We have been focusing on the alternative spellings of the 'ur' sound for 'ir' and 'ur'. We learnt which words contained the correct spelling.

Maths: We have been learning our doubles. We have also been using our knowledge of our number bonds to 10 to help us with our number bonds to 20.

Literacy: We started our new book 'The Seeaw' and asked questions to the character to find out more.

History: We compared shops from the past & present. We learned how supermarkets have changed over time.

Science: We completed our end of topic quiz & summed up everything we have learnt about animal groups.

Religious Education: We went on a special trip to the Brompton Oratory where Father James gave us a special tour. We saw the font and discussed back in class what baptism was and how we are welcomed into the Church family.

Pompom reward: The children enjoyed a very special Pompom reward where they planted their own spring flower!

Have a lovely half term, Year 1 team.



Reception:

Reception have had a very busy term, becoming engrossed in their learning and play and earning a well-deserved break! Enjoy a restful half term and we will see you soon!

Phonics: We have been recapping reading and writing all learnt sounds.

Literacy: The children have enjoyed exploring characters in the class text through questioning, role play and class discussions.

Maths: This week, we have focused our learning on pairs and doubles to number 8.

PSED: We have been discussing the importance of healthy food in our diet and why we need to eat healthy foods for our bodies. The children enjoyed making fruit skewers!

PD: The children are continuing to build strength and skills in our gymnastics circuits.

EAD: This week, the children enjoyed making puppets of the characters in the class text to use in their play.



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	Jaime	Livia
Year 1	Victoria	Freddie
Year 2	Max	Sienna
Year 3	Myles	Mattea
Year 4	Francesco	Fred
Year 5	Norah	Lydia
Year 6	Daphne	Adriano
Special Act of Kindness		Francesco (Y4)

House of the Week	Class of the Week
Blue House	Year 2 (For thinking so carefully about how they can look after themselves & each other!)