

# Newsletter

Spring Term: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026



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

## Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to have the children back in school – ready and raring to go for the second half of our Spring term. This week has been centred around continuing to think about the season of Lent and you will find lots more information in here about the special things we have been doing and have planned. Next week is a particularly exciting one as we will be celebrating our much-anticipated Book Week. Read on for all of the information and wonderful things planned and especially of course our World Book Dress Up Day on Thursday which the children are very excited about!

On a separate note, please could everyone make a special effort to ensure the children come to school wearing their cap or beret, which is a compulsory piece of uniform. Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,  
Mrs Steinart

## Upcoming dates

### 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
- 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*

### April

- 13 April** Children return
- 16 April** House of the term mufti day
- 17 April** Spring Mufti Day
- 17 April** Pupil Chaplaincy Easter Bake Sale
- 21 April** Parent Forum 10am
- 23 April** Whole School Benediction at the church 10am
- 24 April** Year 2 Class Assembly 9.15am

### May

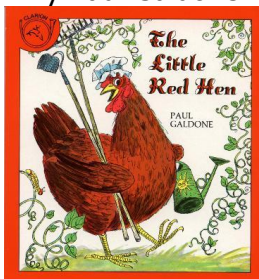
- 4 May** Bank Holiday
- 7 May** PTA Quiz Night
- 11-14 May** Y6 SATs Week
- 13 May** Secondary Transfer Meeting for Y4 & Y5 3.45pm
- 18 May** International Week
- 21 May** International Evening Y4, Y5 & Y6
- 22 May** Half Term 3.30pm

## This week's theme: LENT – Community & Participation

In assemblies this week we have looked at the topic of Lent, continuing to think about how we can live out Pope Leo's Lenten Appeal of carrying out small deeds to make a big difference. We then linked that to the this half term's Catholic Social Teaching principle that we are focusing on – Community and Participation. We discussed how tasks become so much manageable when we all work together and used the story of the Little Red Hen to help with this. Finally, we reflected on how we can live out pope Francis' very important advice: 'Don't be observers, but immerse yourself in the reality of life, as Jesus did.'

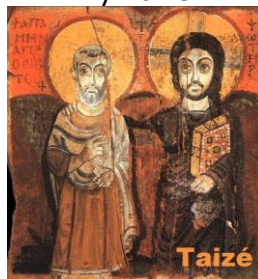
### Story of the Week

The Little Red Hen  
By Paul Galdone



### Music of the Week

Adoramus te Christe  
By Taizé



### Art of the Week

A man walking with his shadow  
carrying the cross  
Photo by Kevin Carden



## ORATORY BOOK WEEK

It is World Book day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Each class will be focusing on a different Shakespeare play for their workshop:

*Reception: A Midsummer Night's Dream*

*Year 1: As You Like It*

*Year 2: The Winter's Tale*

*Year 3: Romeo and Juliet*

*Year 4: The Tempest*

*Year 5: Hamlet*

*Year 6: Macbeth*

Payment for these fantastic workshops will be uploaded onto ParentPay on Monday – thank you in advance!



# WE LOVE READING



Please send a photo of you reading in your favourite place to read to Mrs Reber. We will be making a new display in the library with all of your photos of where you love to read ...

We can't wait to see them all!

Mrs Reber's email: [georgina.reber@oratory.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:georgina.reber@oratory.rbkc.sch.uk)

## Music Concerts



tri-borough  
music hub



We are very happy to invite parents of children in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** to a music performance in the hall on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.**

We will then be inviting parents of children in **Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6** to a music performance in the hall on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm.**

This will be an opportunity for you to see what the children have been learning in their music lessons. They are looking forward to performing for you!

## Zumba Fever Comes to Oratory!

Our lucky Auction winners thoroughly enjoyed their wonderful Zumba session with Mrs Watkins this week. From the very first beat, the hall was filled with laughter, rhythm, and an infectious sense of fun. Mrs Watkins' brilliantly guided everyone through lively routines that had all of the children (and teachers!) dancing away! Thank you, Mrs Watkins and well done Zumba Star Dancers!



## 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:**

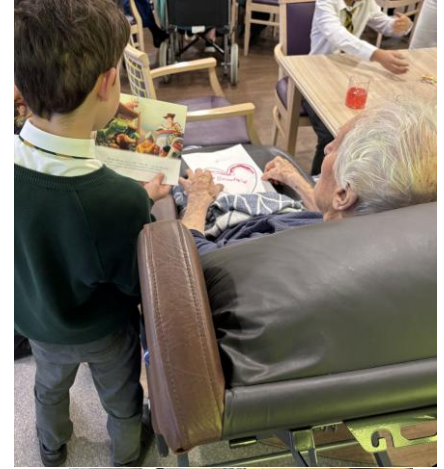
**Registration & submission:** 5<sup>th</sup> January – 4<sup>th</sup> March    **Online exhibition opens:** 14<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Judging:** May 2026

**Display at the RA:** 14<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2026

# Year 4 at Ellesmere House Care Home

Well done to the second 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 cards with the residents there, they represented The Oratory Way wonderfully. More excellent feedback from TimeGivers: *'As usual, your pupils were extremely polite and caring towards the elderly residents, engaging in lots of wonderful conversations.'* Well done, Year 4!



# Year 6 at Kensington Palace



## Chaplain's Corner – Fr James

In Lent, we try to grow closer to the Lord by prayer. Any good intentions we make on this front should be carried on into the future — forming a good habit during Lent will make it easier to maintain it as part of our lives going forward. If we don't already practise this, a good Lenten resolution could be to set aside 15 minutes every day for what we call 'mental prayer,' which is praying to Our Lord as friend speaks to friend, using our own thoughts and words. This will solidify our friendship with Him, which is the foundation on which our salvation is built.

## Wednesday Word –

11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> February

## 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 is '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 have now been given to each child for them to collect whatever they can throughout Lent. 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 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

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

**Put your finished entry into the tray in the hall!**

# Mind Parent Workshop



## MIND Parents Workshop Supporting with Anxiety

We are happy to announce that we are organising an online psychoeducational workshop for parents and carers which is going to be delivered by the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) from West Central London Mind.

The workshop topic will be Supporting With Anxiety.

It will be an opportunity to understand the science behind anxiety, possible triggers and learn strategies based on a Cognitive Behavioural Approach to support children dealing with worries.

**Friday 06 March from 9:15am to 10:00am**

Microsoft Teams:

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 322 854 749 309 45

Passcode: K6To7Ep2

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

West Central  
London



Charity No. 292708

# What's been going on in class this week?

## Year 6

It has been wonderful to welcome back the Year 6s after the half-term break. All the children have returned full of energy and it's been a busy week of learning at school. In the classroom, the children have focused on:

**Maths:** Ratio: Understanding scale factors; Using knowledge of ratio to solve multi-step problems.

**Measurement:** understanding metric measurements and converting; Calculating with measures; Understanding miles and kilometres.

**English:** Text Focus: Macbeth by William Shakespeare. Reading Focus: understanding character & story mapping; understanding powerful language to create atmosphere. Writing focus: Planning and drafting narrative opening with emphasis on creating atmosphere. Grammar & Punctuation focus: Comma usage after fronted adverbials and after subordinate clauses.

**RE:** Understanding the Mass: Creating Monstrance art work to enhance learning of the Blessed Sacrament. Lent Focus: creating artwork for classroom and school-wide displays to represent our Lenten promises to Pray, Fast and Give.

**History:** Visit to Kensington Palace to investigate and debate whether Queen Victoria was prepared or unprepared to become Queen.

**Art:** Studying and planning to create own Futurist painting.

**Latin:** To recognise numbers in Latin.

**Art:** Studying Henry Moore WWII art and creating own pieces inspired by pastel technique.

**PE:** Netball

Next week is one of the most exciting of the year - Book Week! The children will be creating monologues to perform for the younger children and also of course dressing up on World Book Day!

## Year 5

It has been another busy and exciting week in Year 5! Here is a look at what we have been learning across the curriculum:

**In English,** we have been writing detailed fact files about a member of Ernest Shackleton's crew. We explored the incredible Antarctic expedition and focused on presenting key information clearly and accurately.

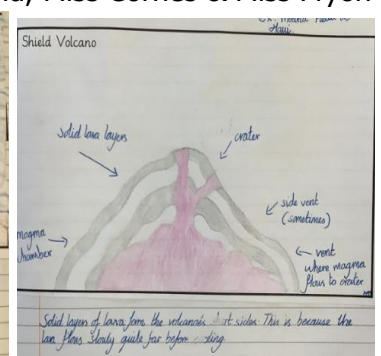
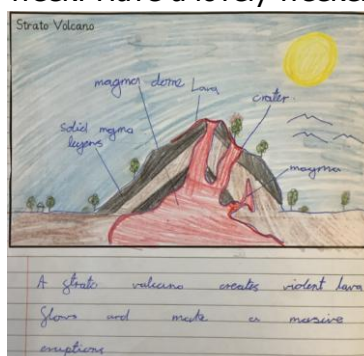
**In Maths,** we have been investigating percentages. We have been learning how percentages link to fractions and decimals, and developing our understanding of how to convert between them confidently.

**In RE,** we have started our new unit on Reconciliation. We have been thinking carefully about how our actions have consequences and reflecting on the impact they can have on others. As part of our learning, we studied the life of Mother Antonia Brenner and discussed how her actions made a positive difference in the lives of others.

**In Geography,** Year 5 have been studying tectonic plates and the volcanic activity linked to them. We have explored the features of composite and shield volcanoes, learning about how and why they erupt.

**In French,** we have been describing our homes in detail, practising new vocabulary and developing our confidence in speaking and writing.

Well done to all of Year 5 for their hard work this week! Have a lovely weekend, Miss Cornes & Miss Ffyon



# Year 4:

Year 4 have had a busy week settling back after half-term. We have been working hard across all our subject areas.

**English:** We started our new class novel 'Lob' by Linda Newbury. We made predictions based on the test and learned about imperative verbs and features of procedural writing, including these in our own procedural pieces at the end of the week.

**Maths:** We started working with fractions this week. We practised identifying whole numbers, improper and proper fractions and mixed numbers. We also looked at partitioning and comparing and ordering mixed numbers.

**R.E:** We discussed the incarnation this week and how Jesus was truly human and truly God. Using our Bibles, we read different passages which demonstrated the incarnation. We wrote our Lent promises ahead of Ash Wednesday next week.

**Geography/History:** We continued our learning on Maya civilization this week. We discussed the importance of different foods in the Maya culture and different food traditions.

**Science:** We began exploring electricity. We discussed the uses of electrical energy and classified different appliances in our groups.

**French:** We expressed our preferences for different foods this week in French and learned new vocabulary associated with fruit.

**P.E:** We started to learn all about cricket this week. We had a great time learning the different rules and practising our batting and fielding skills in pairs and as a class.

Well done everyone on a great week to start off this half term and have a lovely weekend.



# Year 3:

Year 3 have had a wonderful first week back after half term.

This week Year 3 have learnt:

- In Maths, we compared and ordered non-unit fractions and placed fractions on a number line.
- In English, we learnt about onomatopoeia. We walked through St Luke's Gardens to note down which sounds we could hear and used these to create our own poems using onomatopoeia.
- In RE, we reflected on The Last Supper and how this important event is represented in Mass.
- In PE, we learnt how to throw chest passes and bounce passes, building up our skills for netball. We also went swimming for the first time!
- In Science, we looked back on all we now know about light and the Sun. We reflected on sun safety and have begun to design sun safety posters.
- In History, we looked at how the Stone Age slowly turned into the Bronze Age as humans discovered how to mine ores and meld copper and tin together to cast bronze into tools, weapons and much more.
- In PSHE, we discussed what makes a good quality relationship.



## Year 2:

Year 2 have had a great start to the half term! The children have settled back into school routines well and have approached their learning with great enthusiasm! Here is what they have been up to this week:

In **English**, we have started a new book (the name of which has not yet been revealed!) We wrote a diary entry in role from the perspective of the main character, describing his experience so far in the story. We focused on using conjunctions in our sentences.

In **Maths**, we have been introduced to the multiplication symbol. We have been describing equal groups and arrays using repeated addition and multiplication sentences. We have also started learning the two-times table.

In **RE**, we have reflected on the miracles that we have been learning about. We thought about our favourite miracles and what we can learn from them.

In **Science**, we started our new unit on 'Materials'. We explored different objects made from different materials and started to think about their properties.

In **Art**, we looked at the work of Albrecht Dürer, in particular his observational painting of the wing of a bird.



## Year 1:

Year 1 have had a great start to the half term! The children have settled back into school routines well and have approached their learning with great enthusiasm! Here is what they have been up to this week:

**Literacy:** This week in Literacy we have been reading 'Stanley's Stick'. We have been using our imagination to describe what the stick could be. Some ideas included a ski, wand or even a whisk! We learnt about the -ly suffix and wrote our own ending using it. We also ordered images to retell the story.

**Maths:** In Maths this week we have been learning about doubles and near doubles. Using our tens frame we represented the near doubles. We have also been using our number bonds to help us with our subtraction.

**Phonics:** In Phonics this week we have been learning about words ending with the suffix -ly.

**Religious Education:** In Religious Education we learnt how Jesus was tempted but chose to follow God, we acted out the story and wrote ways we could pray, fast and give during Lent. We also recognised the symbols of Lent. Using the symbols of ashes, a cross and palm branches we learnt what they each represented.

**Science:** In Science this week we reminded ourselves of the main animal groups and discussed their properties.

**DT:** This week in DT the children planned and made the net for their precious treasure boxes. Have a lovely weekend, Year 1 Team.



## Reception:

Welcome back to another busy term! The children have returned excited and ready to continue their journey ahead.

**Phonics:** This week, we have learnt new sounds y,x,ch and sh.

**Literacy:** We have been reading our new story "Little Red Riding Hood". The children have enjoyed talking about familiar traditional tales and describing the characters in the story.

**Maths:** This week, we have been practising recognising and counting number to 10.

**UTW:** We have begun discussing the season of Spring and some changes which we might observe over the coming weeks.

**PD:** This week, we have been focusing on movement and dance where the children enjoyed recreating the movements of different animals.

**EAD:** This week, the children have been busy creating crafts to reflect their learning of Lent as part of our whole school learning.

**RE:** This week, we discussed the importance of being kind and forgiveness by listening to the parable of The Unforgiving Servant.



## 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
<b>Reception</b>	Samuel	Giacomo
<b>Year 1</b>	Kenenna	Sofia
<b>Year 2</b>	Clementine	Gabriella
<b>Year 3</b>	Sienna	Marcus
<b>Year 4</b>	Katie	Luna
<b>Year 5</b>	Noa	Marta P
<b>Year 6</b>	James	Rosario
<b>Special Act of Kindness</b>		Olimpia Y3

<b>House of the Week</b>	<b>Class of the Week</b>
<b>Blue House</b>	<b>Year 4</b> (For showing The Oratory Way at all times.)