

Newsletter

Spring Term: 1st May 2026



The
ORATORY
RC PRIMARY
School

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

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are already in May and what a beautiful May Day it has been! As well as focusing on our theme of perseverance in assembly this morning, we also reflected on the wonderful qualities of Mary and thought about how we can use her as our inspiration during her special month of May. The children have also been busy preparing their beautiful flowers for our May Procession next week. If you haven't already done so, then please do get your Quiz Night tickets – it is always such a fun event that really brings our Oratory community together. Best of all, you can try and beat the teachers! In the meantime, wishing you all a lovely long weekend and we look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday.

With my very best wishes, Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

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
- 15 May** Y4 Class Assembly 9.15am
- 15 May** Y2 Cake Sale 3.30pm
- 18 May** International Week
- 21 May** International Evening Y4, Y5 & Y6
- 22 May** Half Term 3.30pm

June

- 1 June** Children return
- 1 June** Sports Week
- 5 June** Junior Sports Day (afternoon)
- 8-12 June** Y6 School Journey Week
- 8 June** Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week

June (cont.)

- 13 June** Y3 First Holy Communion 11am
- 15 June** Y3 FHC lunch & assembly
- 19 June** Y1 Class Assembly 9.15am
- 26 June** Reception Class Assembly 9.15am
- 26 June** Y1 Cake Sale 3.30pm
- 29 June** MapQuest Fortnight begins
- 29 June** Coffee Morning & Uniform Sale

July

- 1 & 2 July** Parents' Evening
- 3 July** Summer Mufti Day
- 8 July** Summer Music Concerts –Infants: 2pm Juniors: 2.30pm
- 10 July** House of the Year Party
- 15 July** Y6 Play 6.30pm
- 16 July** Leavers' Mass for Y5 & Y6 2pm
- 17 July** 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: Perseverance

This week in assemblies we have been focusing on the theme of Perseverance. First, we looked at what perseverance means, especially when at first, we fail or when faced with a particularly challenging goal. We discussed all the different ways that we can show perseverance in school and used the ultimate role model of perseverance as our inspiration:

Jesus. Jesus shows us that when life is hard, we can keep going with courage and love.

Story of the Week

The Most Magnificent Thing

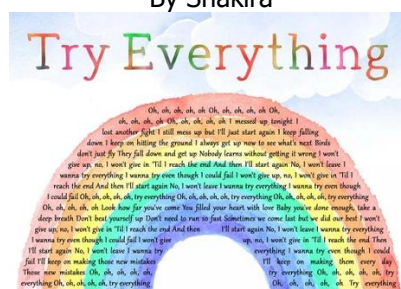
By Ashley Spires



Music of the Week

Try Everything

By Shakira



Art of the Week

The Persistence of Memory

By Salvador Dali



Perfectly demonstrated Perseverance!



Well done to these brilliant volunteers in assembly this morning, who took part in The Oratory Primary School Never Give Up Game Show!

They courageously took on a number of challenges – first: 'The Easy Win' where they managed to balance a book on their head for 5 seconds. Next was the 'It's Getting Tricky' round, where they had to walk around their chair with the book still balanced on their head. A few wobbles, but that didn't stop them and they persevered to victory. The third round was 'The Impossible Round': balancing the book on their head and then skipping with a skipping rope! The feat of the challenge did not deter our brave contestants and they showed such courage and determination in their perseverance.

Finally, 'The Never Give Up' round, where they were faced with the challenge of balancing the book on their head, placing a paper plate on top of the book and then attempting to draw a smiley face on the plate. This took a few attempts and they had to keep trying, but in the face of such a challenge, all 3 contestants demonstrated such brilliant perseverance and all gave it a go brilliantly. They showed such endeavour and courage and truly demonstrated

The Oratory Way –
well done, brilliant contestants!



Mary's Month of May

We will be doing a number of special things with the children throughout Mary's month of May.

Rosary Club



Father James will be running Rosary Club every Monday lunchtime throughout the month of May for any Junior children that would like to go. Children are welcome to bring in their own rosaries if they would like to.

Feast of Ascension Mass

We will be celebrating with a whole school Mass in school on the Feast of Ascension.



May Procession

Father James will lead us in our May Procession on Tuesday 5th May, where all of the children will make a special flower for Mary and then process around the outside of the school as we say the Rosary.

Mary Garden Rosary

Father James will also be leading the Rosary for all of the children on Tuesday 19th May around our very special Mary Garden.

Year 5 Litter Pick

Well done to our Year 5 children who took part in a litter pick with TimeGivers charity this week. The children did a wonderful job of looking after our local community – a brilliant example of living out our Catholic Social Teaching principles – well done, Year 5!



Chaplain's Corner - Fr James

1st May is the Feast of St Joseph the Worker. This was introduced relatively recently in the Church's calendar to encourage workers to take St Joseph as their model. St Joseph spent his life working diligently to support his family, and in this ordinary course of life found his own path to sanctification. This is the same for us, too. While our everyday work — be it at school, at home, or at the office — may seem far removed from the things of God, the opposite is true: if done in union with God, we are sanctified by our work. It becomes a place where we encounter the presence of God, Who each day calls us to Himself. Let us ask St Joseph to be at our side while we work, and draw our hearts and minds to God in the midst of our daily duties.

Wednesday Word

Please see the link for this week's Wednesday Word below:

[Wednesday
29th April 2026](#)

House Points for Hats!

Well done to the many children that have been earning their houses lots of points for arriving at school every morning in their caps and boaters. Please ensure that your child has their cap or boater on when they arrive at school so that they are not only representing the school smartly in their full summer uniform, but are also earning those all-important points for their house.

Just a reminder too that longer hair should always be tied back.



Parent Prayer Group

Fr James runs a school parents' prayer group each week during term-time, at which a Gospel passage is read and commented on, followed by a short period of prayer. All parents welcome. This has now moved to Fridays 9.20am at Oratory House.

Statutory Assessments

Year 6 SATs

The week beginning Monday 11th May, our Year 6 pupils will be completing their SATs. We are all so proud of you already for your hard work, each one of you has given your personal best.

We cannot stress how important it is for them to get plenty of sleep and a good breakfast; attendance and punctuality will be particularly vital that week.

We will also remind the other classes to be extra quiet, to allow Year 6 to concentrate well.

[KS2 SATs Information for Parents](#)

Year 2 Assessments

Although now optional, our Year 2 children will still complete the KS1 SATs papers as a measure of progress and to address any areas of consolidation needed. These tests are far less formal than the Year 6 SATs, and the children will complete them in small groups with Mrs Halls & Mrs Reber the week before and week after half term. Please use the following link for more information for parents about the end of KS1 and KS2 assessments:

[KS1 Optional Tests Information for Parents](#)

Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check:

At the beginning of June, Year 4 will be completing their Multiplication Tables check.

Please use the following link for more information:

[Year 4 Multiplications Check Information for Parents](#)

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check:

In the week beginning Monday 8th June, Year 1 will have their Phonics Screening Check. This is not a formal test, but a way for teachers to ensure that children are making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to read words and that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning. Please click on the link below for more information:

[Phonics Screening Check Information for Parents](#)

International Week

Our school is very fortunate to be made up of families from a variety of countries, each bringing a unique culture, heritage and language. We will be holding our wonderful International week from 18-22 May to celebrate this and to learn about parts of the world we might not know so well.

Each class will focus on a particular country for the week:

Reception: India

Year 1: Kenya

Year 2: China

Year 3: Morocco

Year 4: Ireland

Year 5: Australia

Year 6: Mexico

Thursday 21st May will be International Costume Day. All children are encouraged to wear some sort of national dress. Costumes can be simple, even a special t-shirt or colours of their national flag.

International Evening for Year 4, 5 and 6

Thursday 21st May is also our **International Evening** for children and families of children in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. The children in these classes should be picked up at their usual time on Thursday and then arrive back at school from 6pm and no later than 6.15pm. They then make their way up to their classroom where their teacher will be waiting for them. Parents congregate in the hall ready for the children's performance which will begin at 6.30pm. This will begin with an International Parade with the children introducing their countries, followed by a short performance by the children. We will then enjoy an International Banquet and so it would be lovely if you could bring a national dish along to share afterwards. We are thoroughly looking forward to fantastic cultural celebration!

Parents' Involvement

Parents are invited to participate in our International Week. Our parent body has such a wealth of experience to share, and it would enrich our international week greatly if some of you would consider coming into school to share some of your knowledge with the children.

Parents may wish to:

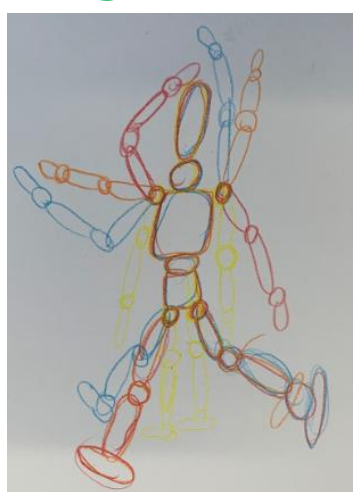
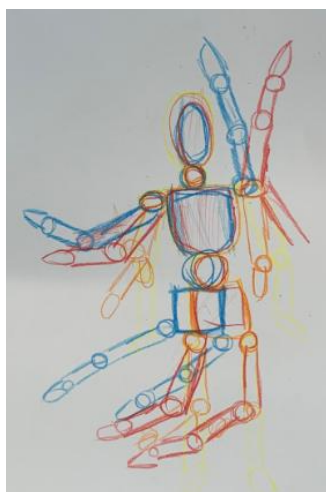
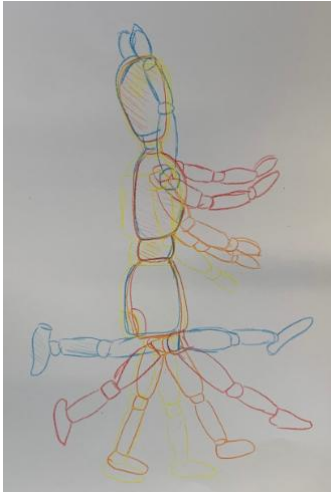
- Read a traditional story from their own country
- Cook a national dish with small groups (check allergies beforehand)
- Give a talk about when they are from
- Do a language or craft activity

Please liaise with your child's class teacher to agree a suitable time and activity.

You are more than welcome to go into another class if their country focus is linked to your own heritage.



Art Club – Colour & Movement Drawings



TCS Mini London Marathon in Schools

Well, what wonderful perseverance every child in the school demonstrated for our Oratory Mini Marathon. They ran and ran and...RAN with such determination and with smiles on their faces (most of the time!). Well done to all of our Oratorian athletes who should be very proud of their well-deserved plaque that is now proudly displayed in school.



Year 5 at Hampton Court Palace

On Monday, Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Hampton Court on a bright, sunny day. We explored the palace and learned all about the Tudors, including the life of King Henry VIII and his court. It was an exciting and educational experience that brought our history learning to life!



A Quiz Night not to be missed!

**ORATORY RC
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

QUIZ NIGHT

**7
MAY
2026**

**6:30 - 9PM
SCHOOL HALL**

**TICKETS: NOW FOR £20 ON CLASSLIST
(INCLUDES AN OPEN BAR, FOOD AND SNACKS)
ADULTS ONLY!**

Our annual Quiz Night is always a highlight of the year. Come and join your class and have a wonderful evening with delicious food, drinks and a touch of magic!

No special quiz knowledge needed ... unless of course you think you can beat the teachers!

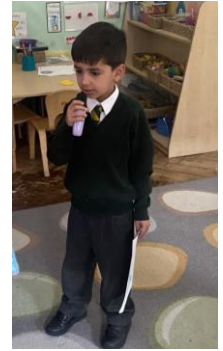
Chirpy Chirpy Chicks in Reception!

What a superb job Reception have done looking after their special fluffy visitors! They have taken such good and gentle care of them - as you can see here. A well-deserved class of the week for Reception!



Auction Prize Karaoke with Mrs Steinart

The highlight of Mrs Steinart's week was without doubt enjoying karaoke with some of our Reception children as part of our Auction Prizes. We sang and danced the afternoon away (and even enjoyed an ice lolly too!) – brilliant karaoke, Reception!



Auction Prize Headteacher for the Day!

As one of our Auction Prizes, we were delighted to welcome Miss Leah our excellent headteacher for the day. She hasn't stopped – with handing out certificates in assembly, awarding Super Steinart's galore and handing out terrific tick prizes like never before! What a brilliant headteacher and thank you, Miss Leah!



FAMILY Rosary

and snacks



led by Fr James

Pray together.
Grow together.
Stay close to *Jesus.*



St Wilfrid's Hall,
Brompton Oratory



Friday 8th May



4.15pm



All welcome,

BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS



May procession
in honour of Our Lady
at Brompton Oratory



Sunday 3rd May



4pm



What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

It has been another fantastic week for our brilliant Year 6s! They have been as diligent as ever in their SATs preparations and are more ready than ever! In the classroom, we have focused on the following:
Maths: Shape: Angles in Quadrilaterals; Parts of a Circle; Drawing 2D Angles & Shapes; 2D Nets of 3D Shapes; Position & Direction: To plot points and solve problems using all four quadrants of a coordinate grid; To translate coordinates in all four quadrants.

English: Reading Focus: *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna; Writing Focus: To write a poem to move the reader; To use emotive language to express a character's thoughts. Grammar & Punctuation Review: Whole curricular review: Grammatical terms or word classes; Functions of sentences; Combining words, phrases and clauses; Verb forms, tenses and consistency; Punctuation; Vocabulary; Standard English and formality.

Science: Living Things & Their Habitats: To understand how to classify a range of animals based on their features.

RE: *The Transforming Spirit*: To know about the Ascension and to reflect on what it was like for the Apostles; Creating art as part of May Procession

History: Migration: To understand what migration is and reasons people may choose to migrate.

PE: Mini-Marathon, Cricket, Gymnastics

Next week will be the final week before SATs and I know the Y6 children will continue to bring forward their most earnest efforts!



Year 5

What a fantastic week of learning this week, from Hampton Court to litter picking in our community. We have been busy! Here is a snippet of what else we have been up to:

In English, we have been using our graphic novel, *'Tom's Midnight Garden,'* to think about our descriptive writing. Using the garden as a stimulus to use imagery alongside powerful adjectives.

In Maths, we continue to focus on our *'Statistics'* unit. We have studied line graphs as well as interpreting data from tables.

In RE, we described what happened at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples.

In PE, we continue to persevere in our swim lessons and have shown great progress. We also thoroughly enjoyed our 'mini-marathon,' where we all showed great resilience!

In French, we have been focusing on weather phrases and how we can describe the weather in full sentences.

In Art, we began to add colour and detail to our Elizabeth I portraits. We are excited to show our finishing portraits with you!

In Science, we have been reviewing the work of our topic *'Forces.'*



Year 4:

Year 4 have had another fantastic week of learning. Here's a look at what we have been up to.

English: We continued working with our new story Arthur and the Golden Rope. We wrote journal entries in role and applied our learning of inverted commas using quotations for a newspaper report.

Maths: We practised writing fractions as decimals and on finding equivalent fractions.

R.E: We discussed Peter's relationship with Jesus. We also learned about the connection between Peter and the Pope as his successor.

Science: In Science, we discussed the chemical and mechanical digestion in the body and the role of enzymes .

P.E: We continued our netball skill development and also took part in our mini marathon!

P.S.H.E: We learned about the effects of alcohol on the body and the risks associated with it.

History: We started our learning on the Anglo-Saxons for this term and the Britain that they arrived to following the Romans.

Computing: As part of our researching skills, we explored how search engines work. We then applied this to use key words to find information on Iceland. As part of our coding lesson, we had an amazing time programming movements and sequences for our mini robots.

Well done all on another brilliant week, I hope you all enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend!

Year 4 Team



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a wonderful week. This week Year 3 have learnt:

-In Maths, we been learning about money. We can now use pounds and pence, adding and subtracting different values.

-In English, we read about Omar's difficulties he is having with a bully at school. We wrote a letter to Omar giving him advice.

-In RE, we listened carefully to Matthew 28:16-28, The Great Commission. We were able to establish the link between this scripture and the Concluding Rites we hear at Mass.

-In PE, we practised our batting skills as part of our cricket topic. We also took part in the TSC Mini Marathon!

-In History, we explored the city-state of Athens in Ancient Greece.

-In Science, we investigated how water is transported in a plant by the stem.

-In Art, we continued working on our Greek Pottery project. We painted our pots with black and drafted our designs that we will add next week.

-In PSHE, we took some time to get to know people in our class that we don't know as well. We discussed as a class how we can find the best in others and keep our class inclusive.

-In French, we identified the names of the week.



Year 2:

Year 2 have had a great week! The children have been working hard and they finished the week showing wonderful perseverance completing their mini-marathon! Here is what they have been up to:

In **English**, we have written diary entries about Erin's experience falling into the sea and discovering the secret of Black Rock. We focused on trying to include powerful adjectives, verbs and adverbs in our work. In **Maths**, we have started our unit on 'Fractions'. We have been finding and recognising a half and a quarter.

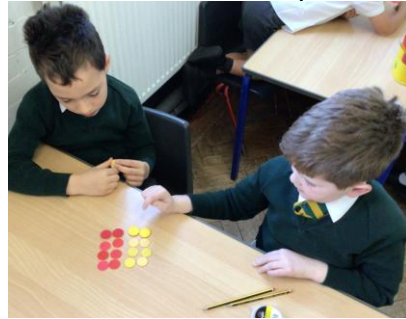
In **RE**, we have been exploring symbols of the Holy Spirit in art and music and have been thinking about our personal response to artworks depicting the Holy Spirit.

In **Science**, we planted our own basil seeds which we will observe and nurture over the next few weeks. We have learnt about the first step in a seed's growth – germination.

In **Geography**, we have been looking at the geographical similarities and differences between London and Tobermory.

In **PSHE**, we learnt about the importance of sun safety.

In **Art**, we continued to look at the work of Alma Thomas. We used watercolour paints and drew inspiration from Alma Thomas' use of a warm colour palette in our own paintings.



Year 1:

This is what we have been learning this week:

Phonics: In Phonics we have been recapping the 'ng', 'ore', 't' making the 'ch' sound and words ending with 'ing'.

Maths: In Maths we have finished our measurement topic by finding out about capacity and volume. The children practically represented full, empty, nearly empty and nearly full. They compared volume. We have started our multiplication topic by counting in 2's.

Literacy: This week in Literacy we have been rewriting our own versions of Send for a superhero. The children broke up the story into the beginning, middle and end. They created their own villains and superheroes and retold their own story, deciding how the villain planned to destroy the city, and how the superhero saved the day! We focused on the -ly suffix and capital letters and full stops.

Science: In Science, we have been learning about the names and purposes of parts of a plant. The children labelled a diagram and wrote sentences.

Religious Education: In Religious Education this week the children explored the Disciples emotions and how they felt at different moments including the resurrection, Jesus revealing himself and at Pentecost. They then explored how the Holy Spirit is represented in different moments in the Bible.

History: The children ordered significant events in Mary Seacole's life and explored different reasons why she was remembered.

Handwriting: In Handwriting we have been focusing on the 'm' and 'n' letter formation.

Art: We have been drawing realistic vegetable pictures using watercolours inspired by Beatrix Potter's illustrations. Have a lovely weekend, Year 1 team.



Reception:

Reception have had an exciting week of learning, where their learning has really come to life!

Phonics: This week, we focused on recognising the short vowel sounds a,e,o,i and u.

Literacy: The children enjoyed reading the new class text "The Tiny Seed". We focused on adding description to sentence writing using nouns and adjectives, based on key vocabulary in the text.

Maths: This week, we focused on manipulating and composing shapes, as well as replicating 3D models.

UTW: This week, we discussed what a seed will need to grow as a living organism.

EAD: The children spent time creating the book cover of The Tiny Seed using different skills such as printing and splatting.

PD: The children practised their dribbling skills while moving as well as taking part in the mini marathon.

RE: This week, we talked about how we are all a part of a community and family at home, in school and in the church.



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	Naia	Lucas & Jaime
Year 1	Leon	Matthias
Year 2	Adele	Ludovica
Year 3	Kazimir	Daniel
Year 4	Bella	Juliette
Year 5	Baltazar	Kai
Year 6	Anna	Camille
Special Act of Kindness		Thiago (Y2)

House of the Week	Class of the Week
Blue House	Reception For taking care of the chicks so brilliantly!