

Newsletter

Spring Term: 22nd May 2026



The
ORATORY
RC PRIMARY
School

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

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful International Week we have had, developing ties in the community and strengthening the children's important sense of self-worth and confidence. Thank you so much to the many parents that have come in throughout the week to share your cultural heritage – this is such a special part of International Week and the children have thoroughly enjoyed your visits!

We have whizzed busily and productively through this first half of the summer term and it's hard to believe we are already at half term! The children have all been working so hard and thoroughly deserve plenty of rest and play over half term, ready and raring to go for our Sports Week when they return.

See you all on Monday 1st June. Wishing you all a very happy Pentecost and a wonderful week!

With my very best wishes,
Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

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
- 13 June** Y3 First Holy Communion 11am
- 15 June** Y3 FHC lunch & assembly
- 19 June** Y1 Class Assembly 9.15am
- 22 June** Infant Sports Day 2pm (St Luke's Pitches)
- 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

September

- 1 & 2 Sept** Inset Days (school closed for pupils)
- 3 Sept** Children return

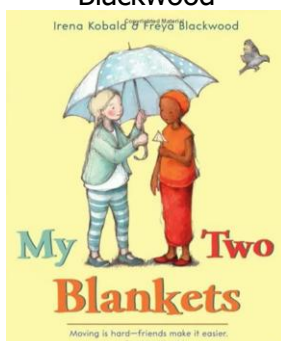
Please note: these dates do not include school trips. Please check on classlist, and in your child's bag, for other letters and announcements

This week's theme: INTERNATIONAL WEEK & PENTECOST

This week in assemblies we have been celebrating our variety of rich heritage and culture as well as celebrating the feast of Pentecost. Father James also led a special assembly this morning to mark the feast of St Philip Neri which is on Tuesday. He also gave all of the children a little prayer card which they have brought home today.

Story of the Week

My Two Blankets
By Irena Kobald & Freya Blackwood



Music of the Week

Jerusalema By Master KG and Nomcebo Zikode



Art of the Week

I Will Pour Out My Spirit On All My People By Marianne Gonzales



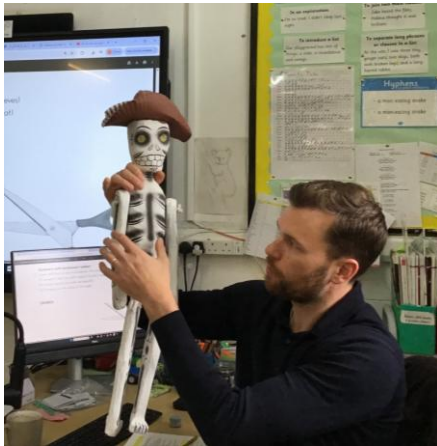
International Week

We have had such a wonderful week celebrating the children's huge variety of culture and heritage. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful learning and activities they have been doing in class for their class country focus. Particular thanks to the many parents that have come in to share their heritage with the children too – they have taken part in so many wonderfully enriching activities and having parents involved is always a highlight of International Week. Well done, everyone!

Making our Oratory Heritage Quilt



International Week in Year 6 - MEXICO



International Week in Year 5 - AUSTRALIA

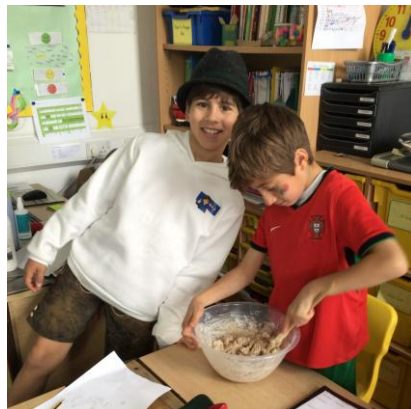


International Week in Year 4 - IRELAND

Enjoying empanadas made by Lorenzo:



Learning about France with John's Daddy, Austria with Max's Daddy and Ireland with Luc's Daddy:



International Week in Year 3 - MOROCCO

During International Week, Year 3 explored the country of Morocco and learned about its culture and traditions. We looked at the religious culture in Morocco and designed our own colourful prayer mats. The children enjoyed making Moroccan tagine and learning about traditional foods. We also read a book about the daily life of a Moroccan family, helping us to understand what life is like for children in Morocco. To finish the week, we created fact files to share all the interesting information we had discovered about the country.

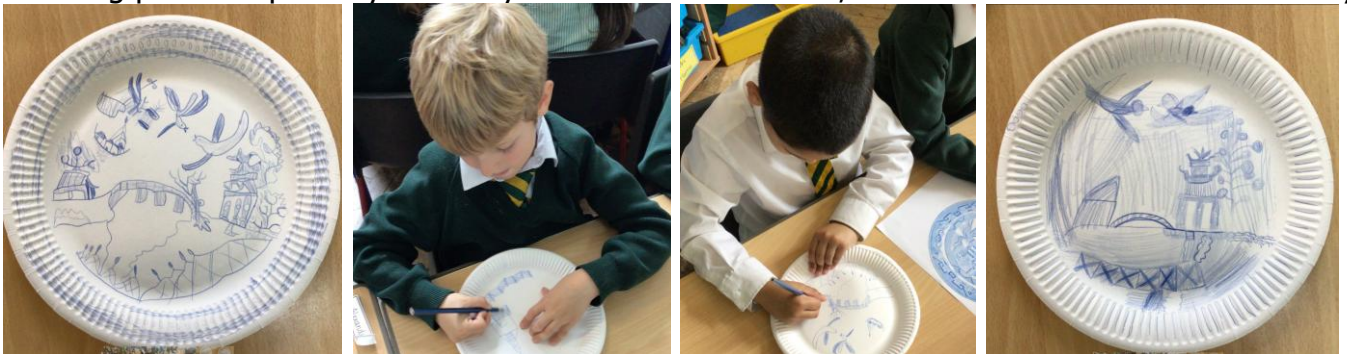


International Week in Year 2 - CHINA

Enjoying learning about France and tasting delicious croissants with Pierre's Daddy:



Decorating plates inspired by the story of the 'Willow Pattern', an old traditional Chinese folk story:



Learning about Ireland with Joshua's Daddy:



Making Chinese stir-fry:



Making Chinese lanterns:



International Week in Year 1 - KENYA



International Week in Reception - INDIA

Creating henna tattoos:



Indian block printing:



Creating Rangoli patterns and fireworks to celebrate Diwali:



Making our quilts with our Owls:



Chaplain's Corner - Fr James

Pentecost is the inauguration of the New Covenant, fulfilling the prophecy of Ezekiel: "a new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances." Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God offers us a new heart, by virtue of Christ's redemptive work. This Pentecost let us ask the Holy Spirit to come down upon us anew and renew our hearts, enabling us to be like Christ in all our thoughts, words, and actions, and walk on the path of salvation.

Wednesday Word

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

[20th May 2026](#)

Statutory Assessments

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](#)

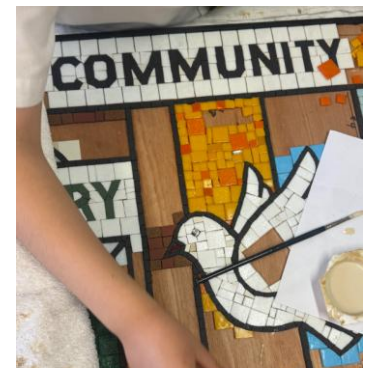
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check:

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](#)

Magnificent Mosaics!

Our Year 4 children have thoroughly enjoyed working with Adam this week to create their 'Community & Participation' mosaic – the second mosaic that Adam has created with our Junior children this term.



Little Litter Pickers!



SPORTS WEEK!

When we return from half term we will be celebrating our SPORTS WEEK and have many exciting events to look forward to.

Athletes in Schools

Most exciting of all is that, through the programme, Athletes in Schools, we will be having a visit from British sprinter, Chad Miller, on Tuesday 2nd June. Chad will be leading a hugely influential assembly for the children followed by PE sessions for every class. Therefore, please make sure all children come to school in their PE KITS on Tuesday 2nd June.



We will also have our annual swimming gala the following day and then the week will culminate with Junior Sports Day on the afternoon of Friday 5th June.

Bring on Oratory Sports Week!

May Bouquets for Mary

Our Pupil Chaplaincy Team thoroughly enjoyed creating beautiful bouquets for the month of Mary with one of our very talented parents. A very big thank you from them all!



Juniors' Sports Day Friday 5th June: 1.00pm-4.00pm

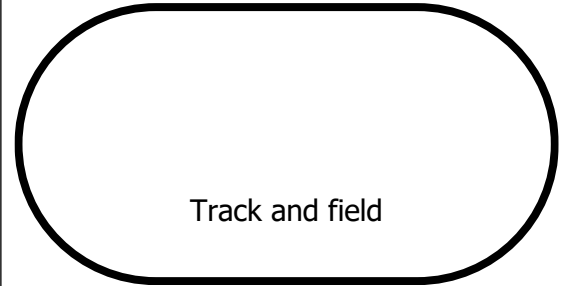
Battersea Athletics track

Our Juniors' sports day takes place on Friday 5th June from 1pm-4pm

- We will be leaving school with the children at 11.45am so that we have time for a picnic lunch in the park beforehand.
- It is too early to see an accurate weather forecast, but if it is likely to rain, please ensure your child brings their school raincoat if they have one. Otherwise, please put suncream on your child in the morning, and ensure they wear their house-colour sun cap and bring extra water.
- School P.E. uniform must be worn, including white trainers.
- The pupils will sit in their house groups; see the small map to the right to find out where your child will be sitting. Parents: please feel free to wear your child's house colour, cheer loudly and enter the parents' races!
- We will be following the same format as last year, with Year 5 and Year 6 starting with their track events while Year 3 and Year 4 take part in some fun field events inside the track. The two sets of year groups will then swap and then we will conclude with the final relays.
- We will then have the presentation to find out the winning house and present the trophy to the winning house Sports Captain.
- We will eat packed lunches in the park before Sports Day. Please make sure your child brings a lunch that is good for a picnic. Children who usually have school lunch will need a packed lunch please! You are more than welcome to join us for the picnic – we will gather on the grass patch alongside the river, opposite Battersea Children's Zoo at about 12.15pm.
- Otherwise, please meet us at Battersea Park Athletics track at 1.00pm.
- You will be able to take your child home from the athletics track at the end of sports day.
- We will also be bringing children back to school if you would prefer to pick them up from school or if they have an after-school club.
- If you have children in the Infants, a member of staff will supervise any siblings in school until sports day has finished and you can come to school to pick them up.

Stands

Blue	Green	Red	Yellow
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Staff supervision at the stands:

Red House: Miss Cornes
Yellow House: Mrs Bailey
Green House: Miss Linney
Blue House: Miss Mark

Reception at Chelsea Physic Garden

Reception class had a wonderful day visiting Chelsea Physic Garden yesterday. They learnt about the different parts of a plant, observed some insects in their natural habitat and talked about different types of edible plants. The children also took part in a scavenger hunt to gather sticks and leaves for a creative piece of artwork. We are very proud of Reception for showing The Oratory Way on their trip!



What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

Year 6 have had a wonderful week as we have focused on Mexico! As part of our International Week learning and in our other lessons, we have done the following:

- **Geography:** Compared and contrasted the human and physical geography of Mexico and the United Kingdom; Learned about The Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos) celebration traditions and presented our learning in presentations, animations, posters and fact files
- **English:** Read traditional Mexican folk tale stories and compared to other traditional tales; Drafted and edited narratives based on 'The Journey by Francesca Sanna'; Read and began performing our Leaver's performance(!)
- **RE:** The Transforming Spirit: To make links between the power of the Holy Spirit and how it transformed the apostles; To deepen our understanding of Peter the Apostle and how the Holy Spirit transformed him
- **Art:** Designed, molded and painted our own Dia de los Muertos masks; Had a visit from Agustin's mum who led us through the creation of a Diego Rivera-inspired mural and also how to make traditional Papel Picados;
- **Design & Technology:** Cooked (and ate!) Mexican fajitas; Designed and created felt heritage quilts
- **PE:** Cricket

Year 6 have earned a fun and sun-filled half term break - enjoy!!



Year 5

What a lovely week for our first half of the summer term. We loved celebrating International Week. Thank you so much to all our parent helpers who came to teach us about Ireland, Poland and Italy! Here is a snippet of what else we have been up to!

In English, we compared characters within our graphic novel and expanded on our persuasive language skills to create a persuasive letter in role.

In Maths, we started our new topic, *Converting Units*, focusing on weight and distance.

In History, we acted as Map detectives, enquiring how cities can change over time through the use of modern maps and historic maps.

In Science, we completed our *Forces* unit with a lesson on water resistance, testing how different liquid have differing levels of resistance.

In Art, we looked at Australian Aboriginal art and its contribution to culture and history. We then made our own versions using Australian animals in honour of international week.

In RE, we continue to focus on the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and how God's Holy Spirit grows in us.

In French, we revisited our modes of transport and placed them into larger sentences.

Have a wonderful half term!



Year 4:

Year 4 have enjoyed celebrating and exploring different cultures and learning all about Ireland. Sincere thank you to all the parent visitors for sharing your time and knowledge with us and enriching our International Week learning! Here's what we have been up to in our other subjects:

English: We finished our story 'Arthur and the Golden Rope'. We used prepositions and adverbials to add detail to our sentences and compared our impressions of Arthur at the end of the story to our profile of him from the beginning.

Maths: We practised converting analogue times to digital 12 and 24 hour format. We also started to look at different types of angles.

R.E: We looked at the development of the Catholic Church with the apostles and what an apostolic Church means. We also discussed how leadership in the Church is about serving others and explored some examples of this.

History/Geography: As part of International Week, we learned about some geographical and cultural differences between England and Ireland. As part of our Anglo-Saxon topic, we read the epic tale of Beowulf and discussed what we can learn about the Saxons from this source.

Art: We painted and decorated our Anglo-Saxon brooches. We also looked at the Book of Kells and created our own illuminated initials inspired by Irish manuscripts.

D.T: We planned and made our own traditional Irish soda bread.

Computing: We continued to work on sequencing programmes with our robots, building on our last session's learning.

Well done Year 4 on a wonderful week. We hope you all have a lovely half-term break! Year 4 Team



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a fantastic International Week celebrating all of our nationalities and finding out all about Morocco! They also celebrated an important milestone in their faith journey by making their First Confession with great thoughtfulness and reverence and as a result are the very worthy class of the week. Well done Year 3!

This week Year 3 have learnt:

- In Maths, we have learnt to tell the time on a digital clock and used am and pm.
- In English, we planned, drafted and published a retelling of Omar's crazy day using all the skills we have learnt so far in Year 3.
- In RE, we made connections with the life of the early Church and Catholics gathering for Mass today.
- In History, we learnt about the Olympic games which originated in Ancient Greece. We compared the Games then to the Games now.
- In Science, we learnt about the different forms of seed dispersal and how seeds are suited to their method of dispersal.
- In DT, we followed a recipe following Moroccan tagine.
- In PSHE, we learnt the emergency numbers we would need to call in emergency situations and what to say.
- In PE, we played a game of cricket using the skills we have built up this term.
- In French, we used our knowledge of hobbies and days of the week to respond to questions about activities in French.

Year 2:

We have had a wonderful week in Year 2! The children have really enjoyed International Week and we have done lots of lovely activities to celebrate our focus country, China. Thank you to all of the parents who came in to share their culture and heritage with the children. The children also sat their first week of SATs assessments, completing their Reading Comprehension papers. We have been very impressed by the wonderful perseverance the children have shown. Well done Year 2!

Here is what else we have been up to:

In **English**, we have written and edited book reviews of 'The Secret of Black Rock'.

In **Maths**, we have been telling the time. We have focused on minutes past the hour.

In **RE**, we have been wondering about the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and have been reflecting on how they can transform our lives.

In **Geography**, we used atlases to find out information about The Gambia.

In **PSHE**, we learnt about the rules for basic road safety.

In **Art**, we made paintings of plum blossoms, the national flower of China.

For **International Week**, our country focus has been on China. We learn all about the Chinese Zodiac and made our own Chinese lanterns. We listened to a traditional Chinese folk story and retold the story through illustrations on willow plates. We also cooked up a delicious vegetable stir fry!



Year 1:

The children have had a brilliant International Week and we have been so impressed with how respectful and engaged they have been. This is what we have been learning this week:

Art: In Art we have been learning about Elizabeth Catlett and have been making a relief print.

English: In English we have been learning about the animals in Kenya. The children researched, planned and wrote fact files about a meerkat, Giraffe or Zebra. They also worked in pairs and made a project and poster about all the facts they have learnt about Kenya.

Maths: In Maths we have started our fractions topic. The children consolidated their knowledge of halves and we started learning how to recognise quarters in shapes and amounts.

PE: In PE we have been working on ball control, catching and throwing.

Phonics: In Phonics we have been recognising split digraphs in real and nonsense words.

DT: The children read Handa's surprise and made their own fruit skewers!

International week: A huge thank you to our Parents. The children especially enjoyed having Matthias and Leon's daddies in to teach us all about France and Austria.

Religious Education: The children enjoyed a visit from Matilda's Mummy to teach them all about flowers in the Month of our lady, Mary. Thank you for our beautiful bouquets!

Have a lovely half term, Year 1 team.



Reception:

Reception have had so many lovely experiences this week to bring their learning to life! The children had a wonderful time celebrating International week with the class.

Phonics: Recapping reading and writing words using short vowel sounds.

Maths: Recapping on doubles, odd and even numbers.

Literacy: Retelling the story using new vocabulary and using capital letters accurately.

The children have loved taking part in International week activities. Our class focused on the crafts, celebrations and culture of India.

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers and all the lovely activities you planned for the class!



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 R	Richard
Year 1	Vigo	Isabella
Year 2	Lavinia	Duda
Year 3	Hayden	Mario
Year 4	Alvaro S	Lorenzo
Year 5	Leo M	Alex N
Year 6	Lola L	Yanis
Special Act of Kindness		Marcelo (Y5)

House of the Week

Blue House

Class of the Week

Reception (For a brilliant trip!)
AND

Year 3 (For their First Confession)