

Newsletter

Spring Term: 8th May 2026



The
ORATORY
RC PRIMARY
School

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

Dear Parents,

We have had a very special week with lots going on as we continue to whizz through this very productive summer term...read on for all of the details! I would like to wish our wonderful Year 6 children the best of luck for their SATs week next week – they have already made themselves and all of us very proud indeed! I'd also like to particularly draw your attention to the information below about our very exciting upcoming International Week - many thanks to the parents that have already offered to come in and take part in an activity with the children – we so appreciate. Please do let us know if you would like to come into school during International Week. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

With my very best wishes, Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

May

- 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 – 6pm
- 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
- 13 June** Y3 First Holy Communion 11am
- 15 June** Y3 FHC lunch & assembly
- 19 June** Y1 Class Assembly 9.15am

June (cont.)

- 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: MARY

This week in assemblies we have been continuing to focus on the theme of Mary – remembering how kind and faithful she was and reflecting on how we can be like her in our own lives. We learnt about the Rosary and how it helps us to pray, think and remember. We listened to a story about Mary planting seeds in a spring garden which taught us that, just like a garden in springtime, our hearts grow when we choose kindness, peace and prayer. The children then thought about the many wonderful qualities that Mary shows us and we wrote these on our flowers to display in the hall, such as, love, kindness, faithfulness, joy, hope, gratitude and many more.

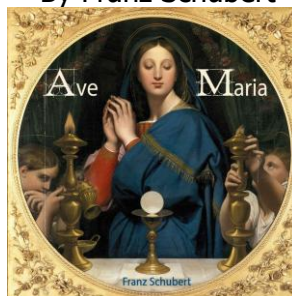
Story of the Week

Mary's Song
Luke 1:46-55



Music of the Week

Ave Maria
By Franz Schubert



Art of the Week

Madonna of the Rosary
By Caravaggio



Growing with Mary and the Rosary

In assembly this week, we managed to create a 'human rosary' to help us learn and remember how to pray to Rosary. We talked about how the Rosary is like a quiet journey and each bead is like a step with Mary walking with us, helping us to think about Jesus. We reflected on how repeating prayers like this can help us to feel peaceful and calm and is like taking a quiet walk with God. The children then helped me solve the puzzle of my missing Rosaries and were brilliant Rosary detectives which were hidden around the hall. Each Rosary then had a 'Kind Action Challenge' for us to make sure we complete throughout the month of May.

These children did a brilliant job of representing the different beads of the Rosary (using hockey balls!) so that everyone could feel confident and ready to pray the Rosary ahead of our May Procession.



May Procession

As part of our celebration of Mary for the month of May, the whole school took part in a very special May procession with Father James on Tuesday. The children each made a beautiful flower which they then placed around Mary before processing behind Father James around the outside of the school as we said the Rosary.



Year 6 SATs

Next week, 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 have also reminded the other classes to be extra quiet, to allow Year 6 to concentrate well.

[KS2 SATs Information for Parents](#)

We all wished Year 6 lots of luck in assembly this morning with a double thumbs up and big 'GOOD LUCK' from the whole school!

Statutory Assessments

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[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](#)

Quiz Night!

What a fantastic evening we had last night for our PTA Quiz Night.

With brains buzzing, magnificent magic and terrific teamwork all round, it was certainly an extravaganza enjoyed by all!

Huge thanks to our brilliant Quiz Masters, Claudette and Markus, for treating us all to such a wonderful evening. As always, thank you to all those parents who kindly helped with setting up and clearing away -these events would not be possible without all of you.

Apologies from the teachers who were this year's champions – you'll be pleased to heart though that the children gave us an enthusiastic cheer in assembly this morning!



Chaplain's Corner - Fr James

In this Sunday's Gospel, Our Lord says: "If you love me, keep my commandments."

Very few of us would associate obedience with love, yet Our Lord tells us that obedience is the expression of authentic love of God. Who better than Our Lady can we think as the model of this obedience: she lovingly obeyed the message given her by the angel and in so doing conceived in her womb the Saviour of the world? Let us ask her to pray for us, that we may likewise be docile to the will of God in our lives, principally by being obedient to His Commandments.

Wednesday Word

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

[6th May 2026](#)

Children's Mass at the Little Oratory

Children's Mass will be at the Little Oratory at 11:15am this Sunday 10th May.

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.

Secondary Transfer Meeting

There will be a secondary transfer meeting for parents of children in **Year 4 and Year 5** that would like to come on Wednesday 13th May at 3.45pm in the Year 5 classroom. This is a repeat of the meeting held earlier in September. All information will be sent out on Classlist following the meeting.

Reception Learning to Grow!

Reception have been very busy learning all about plants and seeds. They used their knowledge of flowers and colours to carefully paint different types of flowers, and then they talked about the different parts of a plant and their functions. They have also been doing some brilliant instructional writing, explaining how to plant a seed. Finally, the children then planted their own seeds, which they are now taking very good care of and enjoying watching them grow in their classroom. Well done, Reception Scientists!



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 – Transparent Objects



Year 4 Art

Our Year 4 Oratorian Artists have been working hard in their art lessons with Ms Nuttall in which they have been looking at Georges Rouault and Anglo Saxon stained glass to produce these brilliant portraits.



Farewell and Thank You!

Our Year 4 children said a fond farewell and a very big thank you for all that she has done for them to Miss Reznikov this week.

They read her a poem, made a special card and then enjoyed a refreshing ice lolly on the roof. We wish Miss Reznikov the best of luck for her new chapter and have told her to make sure she comes back to visit us!

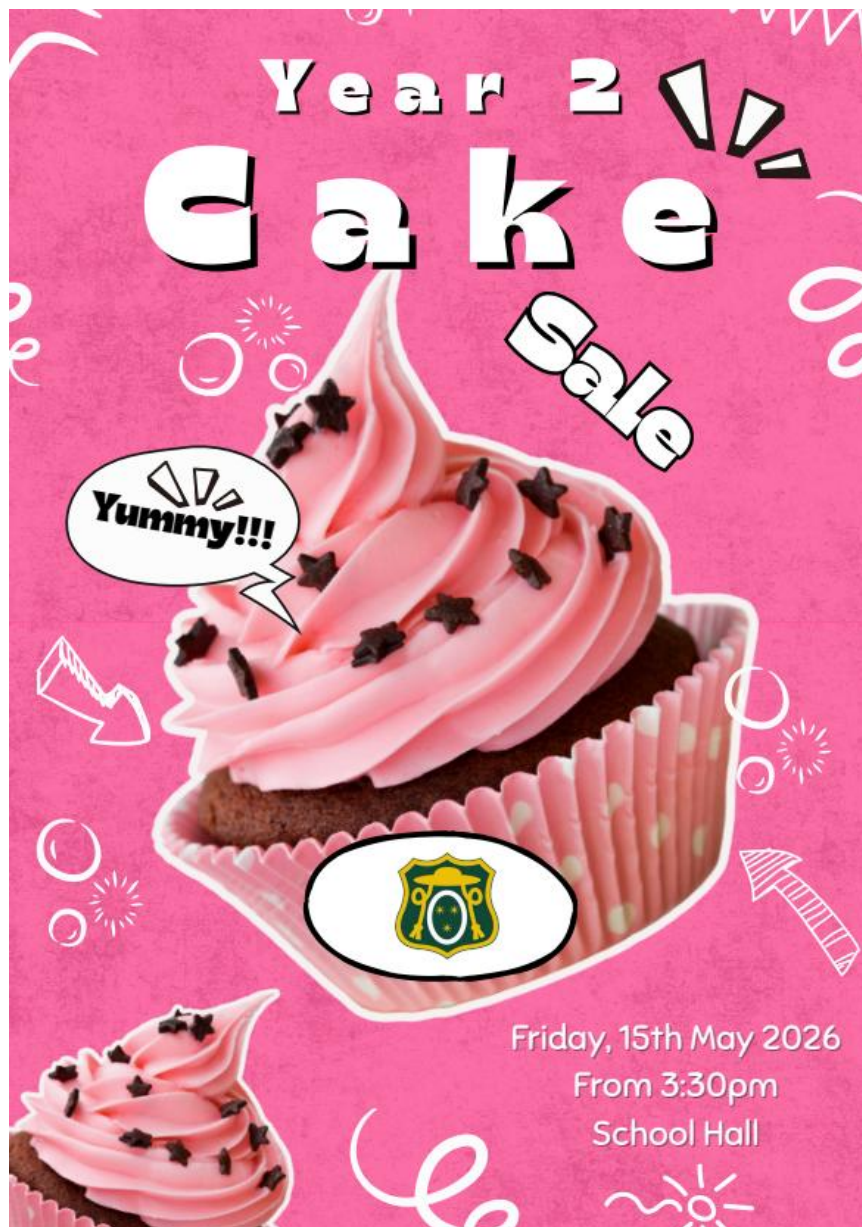
Thank you, Miss Reznikov!



Super Steinart's for Super Poets!



Well done to these brilliant Year 5 poets who read out their wonderful poems to me, full of description and figurative language. Not only are they brilliant poets, but they also illustrated their poems beautifully too! Well done, Year 5!



What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

It has been another fantastic week for our amazing Year 6s! They have applied themselves so well in the run-up to the SATs and are completely ready for next week! In the classroom, we have focused on the following:

Maths: Shape: Translating shapes on a coordinate grid; Reflecting shapes on on coordinate grid. Arithmetic Focused Review: Formal Multiplication; Formal Division; Percentages; Multiplying & Dividing Fractions; Adding & Subtracting Fractions; Reasoning Focused Review: Problem solving with: 2D shape, 3D shape, money, angles in triangles, angles in quadrilaterals and angles in polygons.

English: Reading Focus: Assessment practice on Retrieval questions, Inference questions; Word meaning questions; Summarising questions; Prediction questions.

Grammar & Punctuation: 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 plants based on their features.

RE: Celebrating the month of Mary with the May Procession.

Art: To create an abstract design in the style of Mildred Jean Thompson.

PE: Cricket, Gymnastics

The Year 6 children are more than prepared to let their brilliance shine next week. Have a good, restful weekend and we will see you on Monday!



Year 5

We have had a brilliant week of learning in Year 5. The children have been working hard and have produced some lovely work as a result. Here is what Year 5 have been up to this week:

In English, inspired by our graphic novel '*Tom's Midnight Garden*,' we have been focusing on our senses when writing descriptions. We have been planning a senses poem, which we look forward to writing next week.

In Maths, we have finished our 'statistics' unit by reading and interpreting data presented in a table.

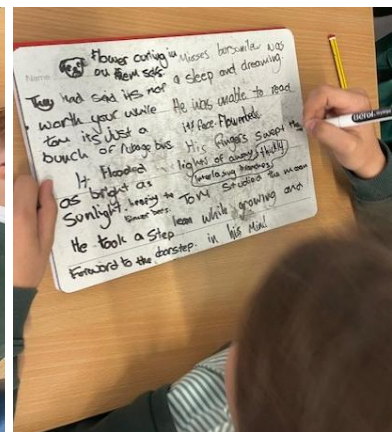
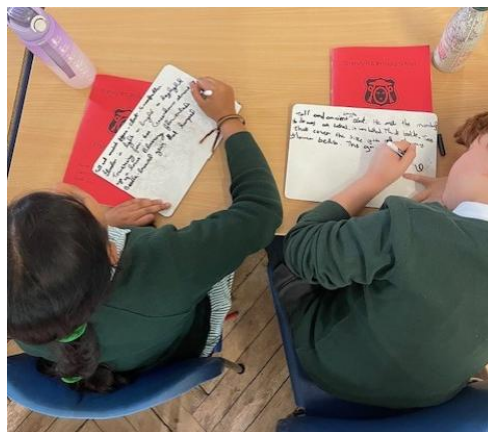
In History, we have been looking at Henry VIII and his six wives.

In Art, continue to work on our wonderful Elizabeth I portraits.

In Science, we tested the force of friction across different surfaces.

In RE we have been reflecting on the meaning of the Pentecost to us and using artwork to symbolism this.

Have a lovely weekend!



Year 4:

Year 4 have had a wonderful week on learning and have been working hard across all areas.

English: We looked at the structure of narratives and summarised narratives based on a journey in our text.

Maths: We made amounts of money and used decimals to represent the amounts. compared and ordered amounts of money and rounded decimal amounts to the nearest £1 and £10.

R.E: We discussed Peter's role and the connections between our Pope as Peter's successor. We reflected on how their role as leader of the church.

History: We learned about the Anglo-Saxon invasions on Britain and discussed the reasons why they wanted to settle in Britain.

Science: We conducted an experiment which demonstrated what happens to food in the stomach and the differences between mechanical and chemical digestion.

French: Using our topic vocabulary, we constructed sentences describing activities we will do in the near future.

P.E: We continued to develop our netball skills.

Computing: We continued to practise coding sequenced events and programming our mini robots.

Art: After examining some samples, we discussed characteristics of Anglo-Saxon shields and drew our own.

Well done Year 4 on all your hard work. We wish you all a wonderful weekend.

The Year 4 Team



Year 3:

Year 3 have had a wonderful week.

This week Year 3 have learnt:

-In Maths, we calculated with money and found change.

-In English, we researched and recorded information from non-fiction texts to create our own informative report about Ramadan.

-In RE, we reflected on Mary's role after the Ascension and how we continue to pray with Her, as the disciples did in the upper room.

-In History, we explored the city-state of Sparta in Ancient Greece. We compared Sparta to what we know about Athens.

-In Science, we learnt about pollination and the role bees and other insects play in the process.

-In Art, we continued working on our Greek Pottery project. We sketched our designs onto our pottery pieces.

-In PSHE, we learnt about First Aid and what we should do in an emergency to stay as safe as possible.



Year 2:

Year 2 have had a great week this week and have been putting lots of effort into their learning. Here is what the children have been up to:

In **English**, we have been focusing on persuasive writing. We planned and wrote our own speeches with the aim of persuading the villagers not to destroy Black Rock and to appreciate how important he is.

In **Maths**, we have been finding and recognising one, two and three quarters.

In **RE**, we have been learning that Luke wrote the Gospel and the Act of the Apostles. We wrote fact files focusing on 'Who is Luke?' and thought about some of our favourite stories from Luke's writings.

In **Science**, we made observations of our basil seeds and discovered that germination has taken place! We talked about the difference between seeds and bulbs and planted bulbs which we will observe over the next few weeks.

In **Geography**, we thought about what jobs people might do in London and Tobermory and compared them.

In **Art**, we learnt about the life and work of J.M.W. Turner. We looked at how he uses colour in his paintings to create mood.



Year 1:

This is what we have been learning this week:

English: This week we have been reading 'the secret sky garden' and have been using adjectives to describe a character. We have also written a letter to the council using the prefix "un-" to write descriptive sentences. We have also been asking questions using question words such as who, what, where, when, why, and how.

Maths: This week we have been counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. We have been finding equal and unequal groups and finding doubles.

Science: In Science we have been learning about garden and wild plants. The children then drew their own gardens containing garden plants, and another garden only containing wild plants.

Religious Education: In Religious Education this week we learnt about how Pentecost is celebrated across the world and the children made their own liturgical calendars.

Phonics: This week we have been focusing on reading compound words and the digraphs 'ch', 'sh', 'wh' and 'th'.

Art: This week the children have been working on their art work inspired by Beatrix Potter. They have been using watercolours and pencils to draw different vegetables.

PSHE: We have been learning about different ways to stay safe on the internet.

Have a lovely weekend, Year 1 team



Reception:

Reception have had another busy and full week of learning!

Phonics: We have been reading and writing words and sentences using the **ck** digraph.

Literacy: The children have been busy writing instructions on how they planted a seed.

Maths: This week, we have been focusing on subtraction and knowing that when you take away, the amount gets smaller.

UTW: This week, we talked about the different parts of a plant and their functions.

PSED: This week, we talked about setting goals and waiting for what we want.

EAD: The children used their knowledge of flowers and colours to accurately paint different types of flowers.

RE: This week, we discussed how the Holy Spirit brings us joy, happiness and peace.



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	Christian	Domitilla
Year 1	Mateo	Paul
Year 2	Thiago	Harrison
Year 3	Olivia	Cahl
Year 4	Giulio	Liam
Year 5	Claudio	Gabriel
Year 6	Luis	James
Special Act of Kindness		Leon (Y1)

House of the Week	Class of the Week
Yellow House	Year 6 (For being so ready for their SATs!)