

Newsletter

Autumn Term: 23rd October 2026



The
ORATORY
RC PRIMARY
School

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

Dear Parents,

We have had a wonderful final week of this first half term, celebrating poetry in all its forms! The children have all had a hugely positive and productive start to this academic year, endeavouring and living out The Oratory Way in all that they do. They all deserve a well-earned rest over half term and we are very much looking forward to seeing what they can all work hard to achieve next half term.

Thank you for all of your wonderful support this half term - our collaborative school community and partnership is absolutely key to our success. Wishing you all a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 3rd November.

With my very best wishes, Mrs Steinart

Upcoming dates

November

- 2 Nov** Inset Day (no children)
- 3 Nov** Children return
- 6 Nov** Y6 Class Remembrance Assembly 9.15am
- 6 Nov** Y5 Cake Sale
- 8 Nov** Children's Mass at Little Oratory
- 9 Nov** Friendship Week
- 9 Nov** Odd Socks Day!
- 12 Nov** Spirituality Day
- 16 Nov** Coffee Morning & Uniform Sale 8.30am
- 16 Nov** Y6 & Reception Class Family Mass 2.15pm
- 18 & 19 Nov** Parents' Evening
- 20 Nov** Glass Door pyjama & hot choc fundraising day

December

- 1 Dec** Christmas Fair in hall 3.30pm
- 10 & 11 Dec** Infant Nativity 2pm
- 13 Dec** Children's Mass at Little Oratory
- 16 Dec** Junior Carol Service 7pm

December (cont.)

- 17 Dec** Children's Day (Christmas party)
- 18 Dec** End of term 1.30pm

January 2027

- 4 Jan** Inset Day (no children)
- 5 Jan** Children return
- 6 Jan** Feast of Epiphany
- 8 Jan** House of the term mufti day
- 12 Jan** Y3 Family Mass & First Holy Communion meeting 2.15pm
- 15 Jan** Winter mufti day
- 15 Jan** Year 4 Cake Sale 3.30pm
- 18 Jan** Coffee Morning & Uniform sale 8.30am
- 22 Jan** Y5 Class Assembly 9.15am
- 25 Jan** STEM Week
- 26 Jan** Y2 & Y4 Family Mass 2.15pm

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

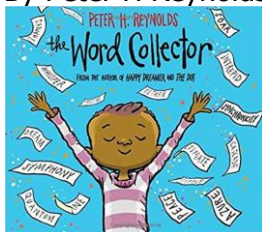
This week's theme: Poetry and the Power of Words

This week in assembly, we explored Poetry and the Power of Words. We thought about how words can encourage, comfort, inspire and help us notice the world around us in new ways. Through our story of the week, 'The Word Collector', the children reflected on the value of carefully chosen words and considered words such as joy, courage, love, hope, forgiveness and togetherness. We also explored how the Psalms are prayers written as poetry, using rich language and imagery to express feelings such as joy, sadness, fear, hope and wonder. Our Artwork of the Week helped us reflect on Mary's words, "Let it be with me according to your word," and on listening and trusting God. We linked this with our Music of the Week, 'Let It Be' by The Beatles. Finally, we connected the theme to our school mission: using our voices and our words to bring kindness where there is hurt, hope where there is sadness, and joy where it is needed.

Story of the Week

The Word Collector

By Peter H Reynolds



Music of the Week

Let It Be

By The Beatles



Art of the Week

Annunciation

By Fra Angelico, c.1440-1445



PERFORMANCE POETRY

The children all did a brilliant job with their poetry performances in assembly this morning. With Year 6 starting us off by performing three different poems brilliantly; Year 5 teaching us a very important lesson about how people will always need people; Year 4 taught us about the wonder of words; Year 3 gave an excellent performance about a rat who loved cheese; Year 2 did a wonderful job performing their favourite Michael Rosen poem. Year 1 wowed us all with their brilliant Ning, Nang, Nong performance with actions for every beat and finally, Reception, the smallest of all our performers, transformed into little monsters for their performance! Well done, Oratorian poets!

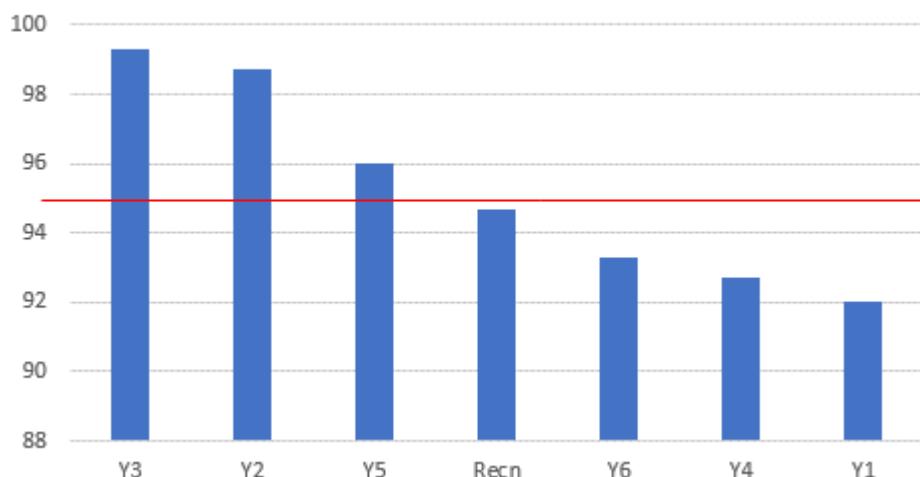


Attendance Spotlight - Growing Together in Faith and Learning

Every day in school matters, and strong attendance helps our children make the most of every learning opportunity. Each week, we will celebrate the class with the highest attendance across the school.

This week's Attendance Champions are: **YEAR 3**

Attendance Data W/E 23/10/26



Year	%Attend
Y3	99.3
Y2	98.7
Y5	96
Recn	94.7
Y6	93.3
Y4	92.7
Y1	92

Well done to everyone in for a fantastic week with 99.3% attendance!

Thank you to all our families for supporting regular and punctual attendance.

Thank you to all our families for adhering carefully to our term dates as we approach the half-term break; your support with attendance and punctuality is greatly appreciated. Every day really does count - helping the children participate fully and make the most of the gifts God has given them.

School Uniform – Blazers



As the weather becomes cooler and wetter, we would like to remind parents that **all children must come to school wearing their school blazer**, as this is an important part of our school uniform.

We have also noticed that a number of children are arriving at school without any sort of coat (blazer duffle coat or school raincoat). We are keen for children to enjoy fresh air and outdoor playtimes throughout the autumn and winter months, including when there is light rain. To make this possible, **all children need to** have either their blazer, duffle coat or school raincoat. Please help us by ensuring your child comes to school appropriately dressed for the weather.
Thank you!

Absence

Please phone the school before 8.30am and leave a message on the designated absence line if your child will be absent and please also follow this up with an email to info@oratory.rbkc.csch.uk to ensure the absence is authorised. Wherever possible you should provide evidence of any medical appointments in the form of a hospital letter or text reminder.

Punctuality

An increasing number of families are arriving late for school. Please remember that school starts each day at 8.55 and the doors to the playground open at 8.30 if you wish to take your child to school early.

Arriving on time helps children to start the day calmly, settle quickly and take part fully in the important routines and learning that begin first thing in the morning. Regular lateness can be unsettling for the child, can mean missed learning, and can also disrupt the class once lessons have begun.

We would be very grateful for your support in ensuring that all children are in school and ready to learn by 8.55am.

Fun at the Farm for Year 1!

Year 1 had a fabulous time at Vauxhall City Farm this week, showing The Oratory Way from beginning to end and even making some new furry friends! Well done, Year 1!



Reception's Delicious Cookie Creations!

Reception had a wonderful afternoon baking delicious cookies as their well-deserved pom pom reward treat! What a fantastic way to celebrate all their hard work and brilliant behaviour and what a wonderful class of bakers you are, Reception! Well done, everyone!



Chaplain's Corner – Father James

During the half term break the Church will keep the great feast of All Saints, in which we celebrate and pray to all the saints, known and unknown. The Saints in Heaven are the 'Church Triumphant' because they have won the victory over death and sin through their union with Christ, and now share His Glory to the full in Heaven. The feast is a good day to remind ourselves that death does not sever our human relationships: by praying to the saints, we remain in communion with them and hope to one day share in their joy.

All Saints Day Celebration!



THE BROMPTON ORATORY

All Saints Day PARTY



Sunday, November 1st



After the 10:00 AM Mass



St Joseph's Hall

Please join us for a very special coffee hour
after the 10a family Mass.

Children are invited to dress up as their
favourite saint, with a

PRIZE FOR THE BEST COSTUME!



Weather permitting, we'll also have
a parade around the church grounds!



Hope to see you there!

Wednesday Word –

Half Term Wednesday Word

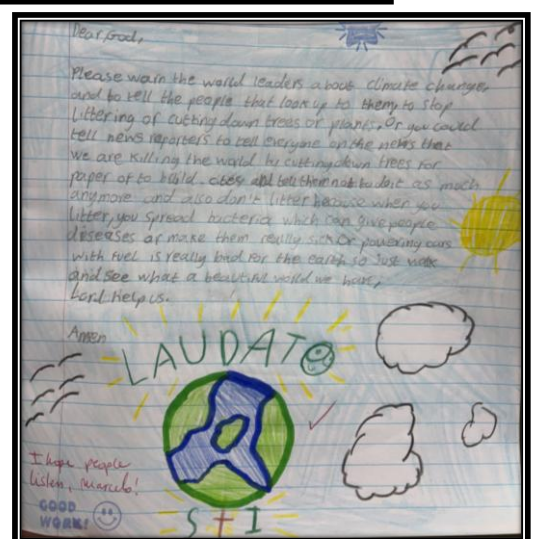
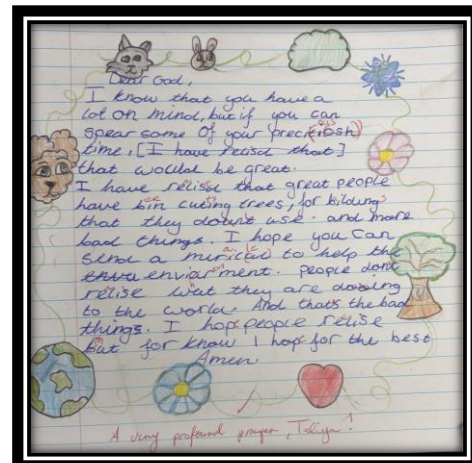
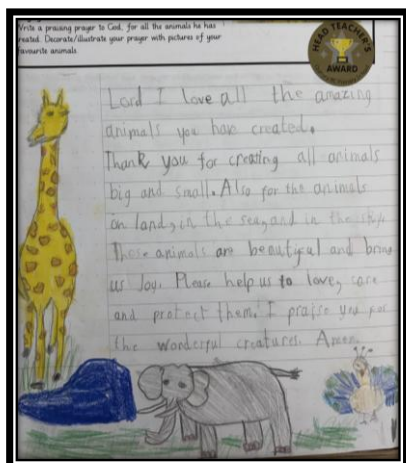
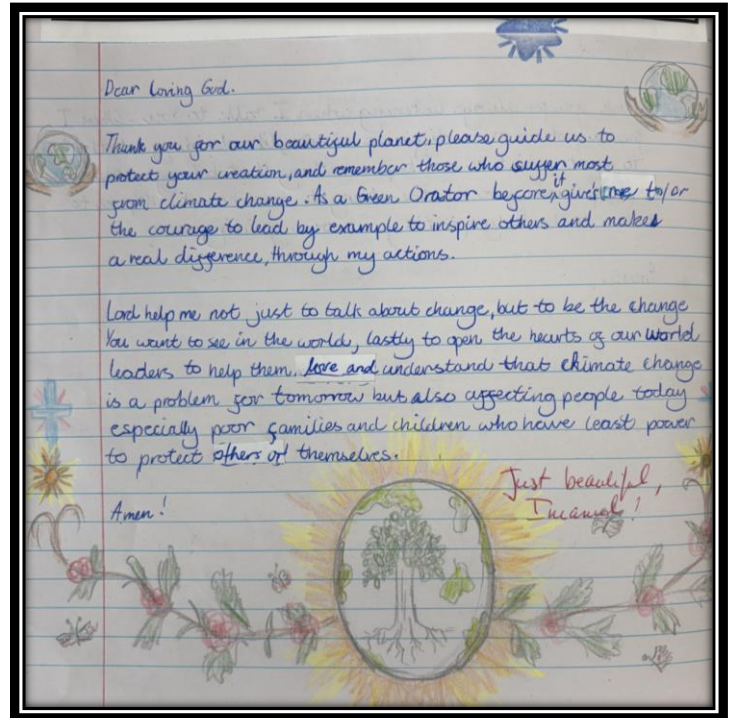
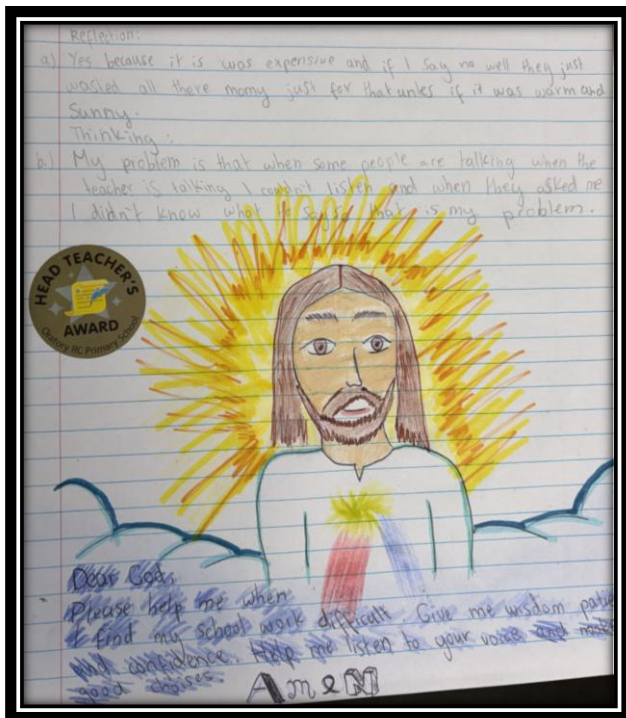


SHARING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL
WITH SCHOOLS,
PARENTS & FAMILIES



I was filled with joy by the number of children who came to show me their beautiful Prayer Journal entries this week. It was wonderful to see such thoughtful and reflective prayers, alongside the care, creativity and effort that so many of you put into presenting your very special prayer journals.

A particular thank you to Taliya and Marcelo in Year 6, who led us in prayer in assembly this morning by reading their beautiful prayers.



Year 3 Orienteering Adventure in Hyde Park!

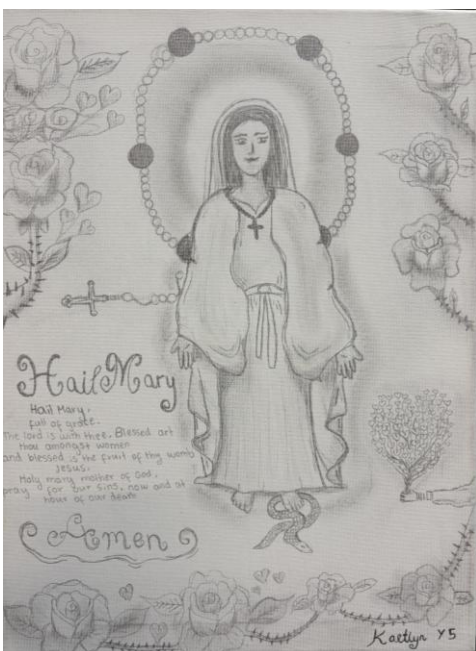
Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Hyde Park, where they put their orienteering skills to the test! The children had great fun developing their understanding of directions, using compasses and working with coordinates. Despite the rainy weather, everyone showed wonderful enthusiasm, resilience and teamwork. The children demonstrated The Oratory Way brilliantly throughout the trip. Well done, Year 3!



October Art Competition

We were absolutely delighted by the incredible response to our October Mary Art Competition. The standard of the entries was so high that our brilliant Year 6 Art Prefects had the very difficult task of choosing winners - and in the end, there were simply too many wonderful pieces to recognise with just one or two prizes!

We therefore had MANY winning categories, including creativity, choice of medium, partner work, runners-up and overall winners. Here you can see all of our fantastic winners proudly displaying their beautiful entries. A huge well done to everyone who took part. We received over 100 entries, and every child who entered has received a Super Steinart for the care, imagination and effort they put into their work. We are now looking forward to creating a beautiful display in school so that all of the wonderful entries can be celebrated and enjoyed by our whole school community.



Parent Helpers Needed!

There are many wonderful upcoming events where parent helpers are very much appreciated – please let Markus or your reps know if you are able to help at any of the following:

Thursday 12th November: Spirituality Day

(a few parents required on a rota basis throughout the day to help man prayer stations).

Friday 20th November: Glassdoor Pyjama and Hot Chocolate Fundraising Day

(parents needed to serve the hot chocolate to all classes).

Monday 30th November: Wreath making

(to sell at the Christmas Fair).

Tuesday 1st December: Christmas Fair

(in the hall 3.30pm-5pm - help needed with set up, manning stalls and clear up).

Thursday 10th & Friday 11th December: Infant Nativity Play

(help needed with handing out drinks and nibbles after the performance).

Thursday 17th December: Children's Day

(help needed with setting up the hall for lunch, serving lunch, clearing the hall ready for discos in the afternoon, helping at Junior discos).

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Safe School Shoes

We have noticed that some of our Infant children who wear loafer-style school shoes are slipping more frequently during playtimes, and their shoes are also coming off more easily when they are running around. In comparison, children wearing Velcro-fastening shoes seem to have a much more secure fit, allowing them to run and play with less risk of slipping or their shoes falling off.

With this in mind, we kindly ask parents to consider choosing school shoes with Velcro fastenings when purchasing their child's next pair of school shoes. Our priority is to ensure that all children can enjoy their playtimes safely, while still having plenty of fun being active with their friends!

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all of the children safe and happy at playtime.

What's been going on in class this week?

Year 6

The Year 6s have had a brilliant final week of the first Half Term. It is hard to believe how quickly it has flown by. The Year 6s greatly enjoyed their poetry focus and did a superlative job in the Poetry Performance assembly today. In the classroom this week, the children focused on:

Maths: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication & Division: Multi-step problems; Order of Operations; Reason from known facts.

English: *Reading Focus:* WW1 Poetry: In Flanders Fields by John McCrae; For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon *Writing & Performance Focus:* To analyse remembrance poetry and plan an original composition; To compose and refine an original remembrance poem; To perform my own composition using appropriate intonation, volume and movement so that meaning is clear. *Grammar & Punctuation Focus:* Adverbs; Sentence boundary focus - capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks review.

Science: To understand how batteries work and how they are important to our future.

Latin: To recap Latin nouns, verbs and adjectives.

RE: Creation & Covenant: To articulate and evaluate different viewpoints on faith and science.

History: To use and compare sources to analyse what happened at the Battle of the Somme.

PSHE: To learn about prejudice, bullying and discrimination: what they mean and how to challenge them; to learn about protected characteristics from the Equality Act 2010 such as race, age and disability

Computing: Computer Science: Words, Words, Words: To develop and accurately use a wider computing vocabulary.

PE: Fair, Share & Dare; Evade, Invade & Capture

The Year 6s have earned a restful and fun half-term break. Enjoy and we will see you in November!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a wonderful week of learning. Some highlights have included our Family Mass on Monday, practicing our performance poem "People Need People" for the poetry assembly on Friday, as well as being popcorn, popping up with prayers of thanks, in our Act of Worship on Monday. This is what else we have been up to:

English: We continued exploring the poems of Benjamin Zephaniah, and exploring how poets use language to express their views and feelings. In that vein, we then wrote our own poetry expressing a feeling.

Maths: We have continued adding and subtracting with exchanges, as well as using inverse and rounding to check our answers.

R.E.: We considered the Catholic Social Teaching strand "The Common Good" and how it is our responsibility as Christians to love our neighbours. We reflected on how loving our neighbour includes those who are far away, and those who are vulnerable, like refugees.

History: We have been decoding hieroglyphs!

PSHE: We reflected on the importance of self-respect, and how we can set goals as a way of showing self-respect.

Science: We explored the impact of air resistance, and when it is beneficial, and when we might want to lessen its impact.

PE: We have enjoyed working collaboratively as a team during relay activities, while developing our balance, coordination and control.



Year 4:

Year 4 have had a busy week to finish off our half-term.

English: We enjoyed learning about imagery and use of shape in poems. We also planned and wrote our own concrete poems.

R.E: We explored the story of Joseph and how he lived out the virtues and how God's providence came to be in his story.

Maths: We practised subtraction using 4 digit numbers.

History: We discussed the legacy of the Romans in Britain and the positive aspects that they introduced to British society.

P.S.H.E: We discussed the reason for rules and regulations and why we should follow them, including age restrictions.

P.E: We developed our handling skills using different equipment.

Art: We completed our mosaic grids in our sketchbooks.

French: Putting all our learning from this term together, we created our won monsters and described appearances to play a game of 'Guess Who'

Well done everyone on a fantastic week. Have a wonderful half-term!

Miss McVeigh and Ms. Mark



Year 3:

We have had a fantastic first half of term in the Juniors. This week Year 3 have learnt:

-In Maths, we subtracted 1s to 3-digit numbers where we have to cross the 10 and subtracting 10s where we have to cross the 100s. We have also been consolidating our number bonds to 10 and 100 and rounding to the nearest 10.

-In English, we wrapped up poetry fortnight by exploring 'elfje' poems and exploring performance poetry. The children enjoyed planning, editing and publishing their poems.

-In RE, we learnt about St Francis' Canticle of Creation and wrote our own stanza's celebrating creation.

-In French, we used our learning from this term to write a short personal narrative.

-In PE, we enjoyed creating an obstacle course to follow by giving instructions.

-In Science, we reflected on our forces and magnets topic by creating fact files.

-In History, we explored Chelsea in the past and workforces.

-The children enjoyed going to Hyde Park to explore learning about directions, using compasses and coordinates.

Have a lovely half term, Year 3 team.



Year 2:

Year 2 have been enjoying our second week of Poetry Fortnight and they performed their poem 'Oh Dear' by Michael Rosen brilliantly this morning! Here is what else they have been up to this week:

-In **Maths**, we have been adding and subtracting ones and have been focusing on the method of 'making 10' when using addition.

-In **English**, we have been focusing on poetry from Michael Rosen's collection in 'Jelly Boots Smelly Boots'. We wrote our own poems using homonyms inspired by the poem 'Imagine'. We have also been investigating rhyme and pulse in Rosen's 'Dustbin' poems, which we performed before creating our own.

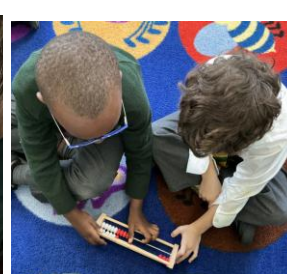
-In **RE**, we have started Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise. We learnt about how a prophet communicates a message from God inspired by the Holy Spirit. We focused on Isaiah and John the Baptist and completed character studies on them.

-In **Science**, we continued to think about how animals are suited or not suited to different habitats. We came across a lost polar bear in the forest and wrote letters to WWF explaining why they are not suited to live there and asking for help.

-In **History**, we placed the events of the Great Fire of London in a chronological order on a timeline.

-In **PSHE**, we discussed the importance of a healthy diet. We explored the meaning of a balanced diet and created 'balanced food' plates.

-In **Art**, we used paper to create collage structures of Tudor Houses, set against the fire backgrounds we created in our previous lesson. We focused on different shapes and line in the buildings when creating the structures.



Year 1:

We have had a fabulous week in Year 1! We started the week with a trip to Vauxhall City Farm, we got to feed the sheep and goats and pet a rabbit, a guinea pig and a hen! We learnt all about their habitats and the different food they eat.

We also learnt:

English: We've been planning and writing our own poems using onomatopoeia and practicing performing poems aloud.

Maths: This week we have been learning to write number sentences and have been using the equals and the plus symbols. We have also been matching numerals to their words.

Geography: This week we role played being weather reporters and researched the weather in different countries around the world.

Phonics: This week we have learnt the alternative spellings ir, ur and ew.

Art: In Art we used clay to create our very own ammonites.

Science: This week we took part in a feel test and a smell test and classified the different smells into groups.

RE: This week we learnt to pray the Our Father and looked at all the prayer types that are in this beautiful prayer.

PSHE: In PSHE we learnt about keeping our bodies clean and healthy. We looked at a balanced diet and the importance of a good night's sleep.



Reception:

The children have had another great week of learning! We are very proud of how quickly they have taken on "The Oratory Way". They have had a wonderful first term and deserve a restful week!

Phonics: This week, we have been practising reading and writing words with known sounds.

Literacy: The children have enjoyed comparing the texts "Brown Bear Brown Bear What Do You See?" and "Polar Bear Polar Bear What Do You Hear?"

Maths: This week, we have focused on learning how the value of numbers 1,2 and 3, focusing on the language of more and less.

PSED: This week, we have focused on the emotion of anger and talked about the red zone.

PD: The children enjoyed taking part in a PE lesson in St. Luke's. They participated in games to practise using the space around them safely and listen to instructions.

EAD: The children enjoyed using watercolour paints to create characters from the Brown Bear story. They used different shades and strokes to create their paintings.

UTW: We used our knowledge of the senses to help compare the texts and resources around the classroom.

RE: This week, we focused on how God made each of us unique and special. We also discussed how we are part of a family at home, in school and in the church.



We did not award certificates today, simply because after the children's brilliant performance poetry it would have been almost impossible for the teachers to choose! Every class performed with such confidence, expression and enthusiasm, and the children should all feel incredibly proud of their brilliant performances!

Well done, however, to **Blue House**, who were awarded House of the Week this week!

Have a very happy half term, everyone and happy All Saints Day for when it comes!

