



Newsletter

March
2026

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those who attended our recent parent consultations. These meetings are invaluable in discussing children's progress, sharing ways to support learning at home, and strengthening our home-school partnership.

A special congratulations to Year 5, who performed *The Passion* on Wednesday. Their acting and singing clearly reflected the tremendous effort put into rehearsals. It was a truly moving retelling of Christ's final week on earth before making the ultimate sacrifice for us. Thank you to all involved.

Information about Holy Week services at our local parishes is available on the school website - click [here](#).

Our KS1 'Story Time' continues to grow in popularity. It provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to join their children in school, fostering a love of reading while building confidence and engagement with books.

We are pleased to share progress on our outdoor area development. Recent additions include a handwashing station, water fountain, new astro surface, bridge and tunnel, and the base for a covered outdoor classroom. We extend our thanks to Naio for their work in transforming this space. We are currently awaiting planning permission for the pergola, which will further enhance outdoor learning throughout the year - before and after photos [here](#)!

As the days become longer and warmer, a reminder that summer uniform may be worn after Easter and is compulsory from the first Bank Holiday in May. Please ensure your child has the correct uniform. Cycling shorts, leggings, and hoodies are not permitted for P.E., and school blazers remain a required part of summer uniform.

A reminder of our Healthy Schools expectations: children should bring healthy snacks, and sugary treats should be avoided to support concentration and wellbeing. Free fruit is available for all pupils. 'Healthy Eating' whole school letter [here](#).

Following parent consultation, weekly class updates will no longer be issued. Instead, key information will be shared via MyEd, the Friday Flyer, and Google Classroom when needed.

Wishing you and your families a blessed and peaceful Easter.

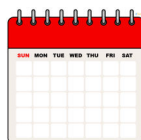
We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 13th April.

Mrs C. Peear



SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please click [here](#) to view.



CATERING NEWS

NEW Summer Menu Week 1

Please click [here](#) to view.





Catholic Life of the School



THE BIG LENT WALK

Today, pupils, staff and parents have taken part in the CAFOD BIG Walk to help fight poverty around the world. With a range of distances, all children have been able to take part in the challenge, enjoy themselves and raise money for this worthy cause.

The children completed age-appropriate routes: EYFS and KS1 completed circuits of the school field, while KS2 pupils walked all the way to the statue of Byrhtnoth and around the Prom. It was a wonderful opportunity for the whole school community to come together in support of a meaningful cause.

By raising money together, we are supporting our brothers and sisters around the world and living out our school mission. The funds raised will be shared equally between CAFOD and the school, contributing towards our outdoor classroom project. Well done to everyone who took part and many thanks to all the volunteers who accompanied us today on our walk.

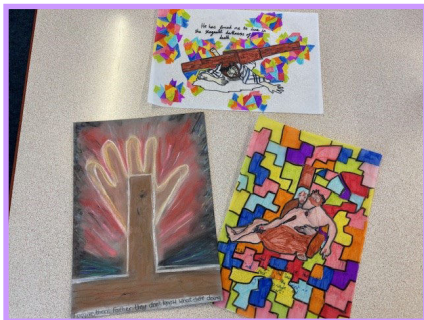
Donations can still be made in cash via the school office until Friday 17th April 2026, or alternatively through Parent Pay. Thank you.

Click here for [photos!](#)

Stations of the Cross

Over the last few weeks, each class has explored the Stations of the Cross in an age-appropriate way. Through prayer and reflection, the children have learned about Jesus' journey and sacrifice.

This important Lenten tradition helps deepen their understanding of love, compassion, and forgiveness, and encourages them to follow Jesus' example in their daily lives.



Reconciliation

On Tuesday 24th March, KS2 pupils took part in a Lenten Reconciliation Service, reflecting on their lives and how they can follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

During this season of Lent, the children were reminded of God's love and the importance of saying sorry and seeking forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Thank you to Father Jerold for celebrating the Sacrament of Confession with our Year 5 and 6 pupils.





Catholic Life of the School



The Passion

On Wednesday, Year 5 delivered a moving performance of *The Passion* to parents and pupils. Through narration, drama, and music, the children retold the story of Holy Week with confidence, teamwork, and clear understanding, creating a respectful and reflective atmosphere.

"The children were an absolute credit to the school, their teachers and their families. The standard of the singing and acting on display was truly impressive, as was the way in which they all conducted themselves."

A huge thank you to Miss McKean and Mrs Stone for their hard work in creating such a special experience for the children. The moving final scene, with flowers laid at the foot of the cross, was a fitting reminder of the significance of this time of year.

Mr N. Tisi - Foundation Governor



Wednesday Word [click here for links to 'The Wednesday Word Gospel'](#)



Please continue to pray for all those in our school community in need of our prayers.

Click [HERE](#) for the Ten:Ten 'Prayers for Home' newsletter





Catholic Life of the School

Which holy destinations have our **St. Francis Bears** journeyed to?

*All Saints Church, Maldon; St Peter's Basilica, The Vatican City, Italy;
St Paul's in Bergen; St Mary's in Bergen and Oslo Cathedral.*

Where will he go to next?



A **BIG** thank you to everyone who made a donation to Little Havens and took part in our non-uniform day on Thursday 26th March.

We raised...£232.40!

Little Havens is an Essex-based charity providing free, specialized palliative nursing and supportive care to babies, children, and young people (up to age 18) with complex or incurable conditions. They offer respite breaks, emergency stays, and end-of-life care - both at their hospice and in family homes - aiming to make everyday life easier, often involving fun, therapeutic activities and bereavement support.





Congratulations!



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children

Reception	Alex Whymark
Year 1	Reuben Richardson
Year 2	Kian-Myles English
Year 3	Fleur Clarke
Year 4	Lily-Rose Fletcher
Year 5	All children in Year 5
Year 6	Erone Topacio

Reader of the Week

is awarded to

Colby Lockwood in Year 3
&
Oakley Johnson in Year 1



Pen Licences

Congratulations to:

Amelia Alvarez-Mayne
Fraser Kirkaldy
Elsie Mead
Raphael Olanisebe
Seth Pettitt
Esmie Quinney

who have all gained their Pen Licences this term

ATTENDANCE

Class	% Attendance
Year 6	99.09
Year 2	98.67
Year 3	97.59
Year 1	95.77
Year 4	95.67
Year R	93.10
Year 5	90.31
Whole School	95.56

Today's Attendance: 89.90

PUNCTUALITY

The class with the best punctuality each week will be awarded the 'Punctuality Pup'.

This week's winners are:



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ Years 2 & 4 ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



House Cup

Congratulations to

St. Teresa House!



St. Teresa - 201
St. Anthony - 177
St. Mary - 175
St. Francis - 136



Class News



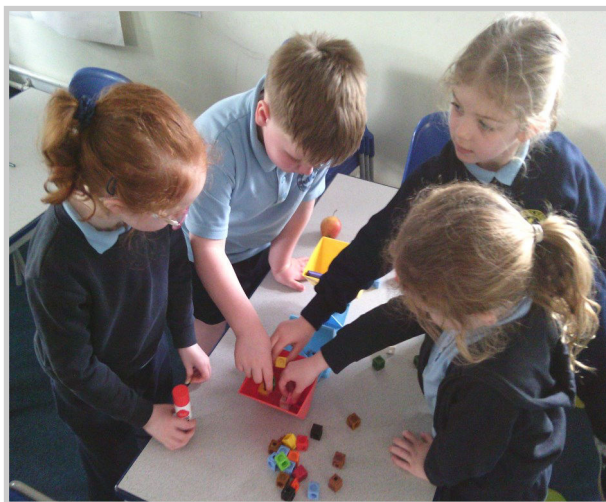
Reception

The Reception Class enjoyed celebrating the start of the St Francis Jubilee year with their Year 3 buddies!



Year 1

Year 1 have been very busy in Maths, practising their division and measuring skills through practical activities. To deepen their understanding of Easter, the children re-enacted Palm Sunday and The Last Supper, helping to bring these important events to life.



Year 2

This half term children in Year 2 have been learning all about The Great Fire of London!



Year 3

Year 3 recently enjoyed a fantastic day at Hyde Hall where they explored the wonderful world of plants and nature. Click on the photo to find out more about their day!



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *

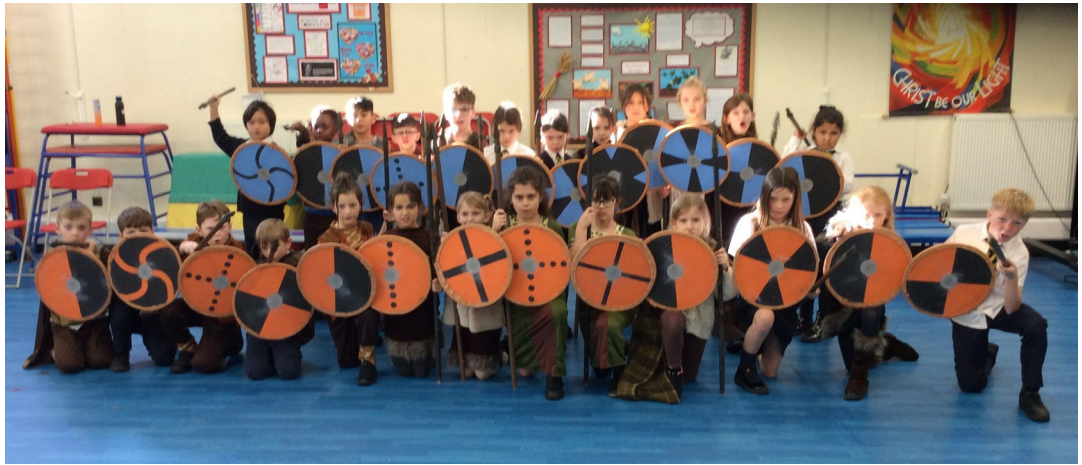


Class News



Year 4

Year 4 recently took part in a Viking workshop, where they spent the day exploring what life was like during the Viking era!



Year 5

This half term Year 5 enjoyed a very exciting trip to London!



Year 6

Year 6 have been exploring Japanese-inspired art this term, taking delicious inspiration from sushi!



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



Around the School



UK Parliament



The whole school recently attended a special assembly focused on democracy and how the United Kingdom is governed. The assembly aimed to help pupils understand the role of Parliament and why democratic participation is important in our society. Click on the pictures to find out more.

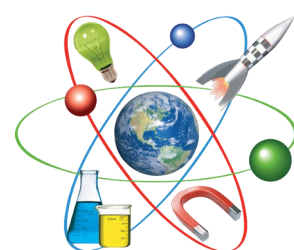


Science Workshop March 2026

We were delighted to welcome a fantastic whole-school science workshop kindly funded by our PTA.

The session was highly engaging from start to finish, with activities carefully tailored to suit all age groups across the school.

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising and funding such a memorable event. It was a wonderful experience that inspired curiosity, excitement, and a love of science in all our children.



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



Around the School



WORLD BOOK DAY®

5 MARCH 2026



Book fun
with our buddies!



KS1 Story Time

Our KS1 'Story Time' continues to grow in popularity. It provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to join their children in school, fostering a love of reading while building confidence and engagement with books.

This week parents and children were able to enjoy our new outdoor area as a space in the sun to enjoy their stories.



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



Around the School



Our annual talent show was a great success with 8 groups in the Grand Finale!

Find out who won by clicking on a picture!



Rock Steady Concert

Well done on such a fantastic concert - congratulations to all the musicians involved.

The performance was truly impressive, and it was clear how much dedication and effort had gone into preparing for it.



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



100%



ATTENDANCE AWARD

A huge congratulations to the following pupils who have had
100% attendance this term:

Penelope Barter	Caden Lockwood	Evie Marquis	Willow Newman	Seraphima Scarlat
Mayson Vata	Harry Charie	Primrose Cook	Rosie Meehan	Rachel Olanisebe
Maisie Pilgrim	Freya Riva	Lyra Riva	Millie Stevenson-Roberts	Mary Burton
Toby Greene	Zachary May	Albie Shearing	Molly Tisi	Nathaniel Whenman
Finley Belham	Esmail Cooch	Matilda Lee	Colby Lockwood	Arthur May
Gabriel Olanisebe	Isabella Page	Lily Pilgrim	Autumn Sharman	Grace Tychus
Adeline Cresswell-Cook	Eliza Kingsford	Louella Rose	Maria Scarlat	Darcie Stevenson-Roberts
Emma Tisi	Jenson Wagstaff	Amelia Alvarez-Mayne	Evan De Bank	Evie Farmiloe
Jessica Greene	Luna Healy	Florence Lee	Joshua Lickfold	Oscar May
Raphael Olanisebe	Chloe Pardoe	Teddy Taylor	Wren Bannon	Jessica Budd
Minnie Kingsford	Luke Langer	Elsie May	Devon Nutt	Ethan Ppear
	Oliver Pilgrim	Vienna Rae Randall	Erone Topacio	

Well done!

These children have
100% attendance this
academic year.



Sports



KS2 Cross Country Tournament

With the sun shining brightly, our children gave it their all in this year's KS2 Cross Country Tournament, creating a truly uplifting and memorable event. Click on the photos to read more!

National Skipping Day

Today, with their remaining energy after completing the BIG Walk, the children marked National Skipping Day.

It was wonderful to see such high levels of participation in skipping games at lunchtime, as well as individuals practising their skills.

TAG Rugby Tournament

Today, children from Years (2) 3 - 6 took part in a TAG rugby tournament hosted by Maldon Rugby Club at Drapers Farm.

The children have showed great enthusiasm, teamwork, and determination during their training sessions... but you'll have to wait until after Easter to find out just how they got on!



Please click on the links for more information

[Independent Learning Dates](#)

[St Francis Parent Letters](#)

[News Listings](#)

[Class Trips/Workshops \(MyEd forms\)](#)

[Sports Events](#)

[Ten Ten Parents Newsletter](#)

[Parent Lunch Dates](#)

[Sports Tournaments](#)

[Community Events](#)

[After School Clubs](#)

[St Francis PTA](#)

[Wraparound Care](#)

[Class Assembly Dates](#)

[Academic Term Dates](#)



Coming Soon...



13 Back to School - Summer Term begins

14 Year 4 Swimming

16 Year 4 Parents' Meeting 3:30 pm re: Year 6 residential Trip

15 KS1 Fun run 3:45pm - 5pm (Selected pupils only)

16 Parents find out Reception place

21 Year 4 Swimming

22 Year 5 Retreat Day at Newhall School
Reception Parent Lunch 12pm

24 KS2 Independent Learning 9 - 9:20am

28 Year 4 Swimming

29 Year 6 depart for Hilltop Residential Trip
Year 1 Parent Lunch 12pm

30 Year 6 Residential—Hilltop
Year 2 Class Assembly 9:10am



1 Year 6 Residential—Hilltop

2 Year 6 to Bewilderwood and then return to school approx. 4pm

Month of Mary
Mental Health Awareness Month

4 Bank Holiday Monday - no school

5 Year 4 Swimming

6 Year 2 Parent Lunch 12pm

7 Procession for Mary— Please bring in a bedding plant

8 Hot Chocolate Friday
KS1 Independent Learning 2:45 - 3:10pm

11-15 Year 6 SATS Week

12 Year 4 Swimming

14 Ascension of The Lord

15 Year 6 Say 'YES' Day

19 Year 4 Swimming

20 Year 3 Parent Lunch 12pm

21 Year 1 Class Assembly 9:10am

24 Pentecost

25th - 29th May Half Term



Please support our school by clicking
HERE
to sign up and shop.



Please see the following links to our Facebook and Instagram accounts:

[St. Francis Facebook](#)

[St. Francis Instagram](#)



PTA NEWSLETTER



HAPPY EASTER

PTA Impact Update: Winter & Spring Terms

A massive thank you to our incredible school community! Whether you baked for the cake sale, bought a raffle ticket, or clicked a link while shopping online, your support adds up. Since September, we have raised a fantastic £3,431.77. Here is the breakdown of how we reached that total and, more importantly, how we've invested those funds (alongside our existing reserves) back into our children's education.

💰 Where the Money Came From

We've had a busy few months! From corporate grants to school-run fun, here is how the total was reached:

Events & Cake Sales	£1,447.00
Tesco Stronger Starts Grant	£1,125.00*
Gift Aid (Tax reclaimed on donations)	£268.14
Direct Donations	£250.00
Xmas4Schools	£156.00
Easyfundraising & Stikins	£129.63
Parentkind Lottery	£56.00
Total Raised	£3,431.77

**We are still awaiting a final £325 instalment from Tesco!*

💡 Where the Money Went

By combining this year's fundraising with our existing savings, we have been able to donate a total of £7,524.08 back to the school for some brilliant enrichment projects:

- Playground Tunnel (£3,450.00): A huge hit for outdoor play and physical development!
- Chromebooks (£3,100.00): Providing essential tech for modern learning.
- Science Workshop (£750.00): Bringing hands-on "wow" moments to the classroom.
- Reading Books (£113.45): Refreshing the KS1 Classrooms with engaging new titles for our younger readers.
- Drama Costumes (£110.63): Supporting our budding performers for school productions.

PTA socials, click for links:



TOTAL RAISED: £3,431.77
TOTAL SPENT: £7,524.08

PTA NEWSLETTER



HAPPY EASTER

OUR PTA DONATIONS TO SCHOOL THIS TERM £7,524.08 GIVEN BACK TO OUR CHILDREN!

PLAYGROUND TUNNEL
(£3,450.00)



HUGE HIT FOR OUTDOOR PLAY!

CHROMEBOOKS



(£3,100.00)

ESSENTIAL TECH FOR
MODERN LEARNING.

SCIENCE WORKSHOP
(£750.00)



HANDS-ON 'WOW' MOMENTS!

READING BOOKS
(£113.45)



REFRESHING KS1 CLASSROOMS!

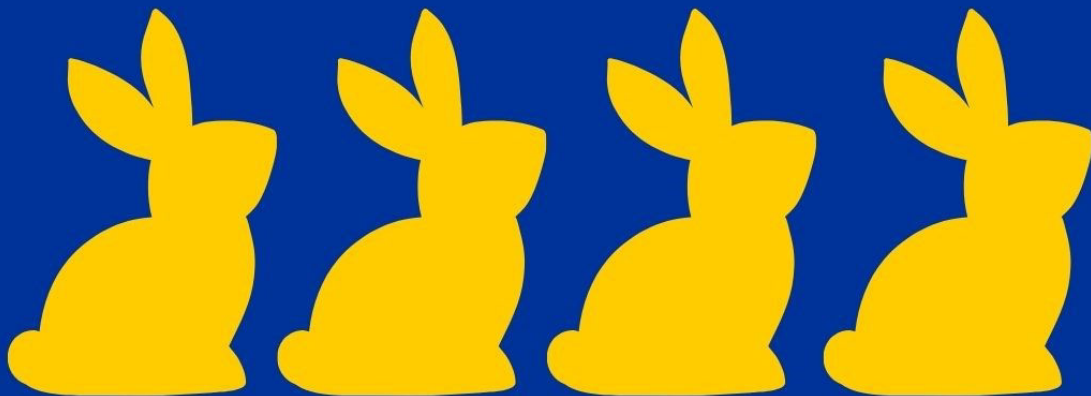
DRAMA COSTUMES
(£110.63)



SUPPORTING OUR
BUDDING
PERFORMERS!

YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION! THANK YOU!

*MADE POSSIBLE BY RECENT
FUNDRAISING AND EXISTING RESERVES



PTA socials, click for links:



PTA NEWSLETTER



HAPPY EASTER

🍷 Coming After Easter: Theme Hamper Raffle!

Get ready for our next big fundraiser! Following the success of the previous "Rainbow Raffles," we will be holding a Theme Hamper Raffle after the Easter break.

We will be asking each class to help us build these amazing prizes by bringing in items linked to a specific hamper theme. It's a wonderful way to create some truly spectacular prizes together. Keep an eye out for your class theme announcement after the holidays!

🌍 Celebrating a Legend!

In May, we are incredibly excited to support a very special school event to celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday.

There will be dedicated activities for the children to get closer to nature and reflect on the incredible legacy of Sir David. The goal is to help the children understand the world we live in and the vital importance of protecting it. Dates for all the various events will be shared after Easter.

🚀 What's Next? Save the Date: 20 May!

We have an exciting, eco-friendly fundraiser coming up that won't cost you a penny! On 20 May, we will be hosting the Little Recyclers. They will be coming to school to collect any unwanted clothes, which they then turn into cash for our PTA funds.

How you can help:

- **Spring Clean:** If you are planning a clear-out over the Easter break, please hold onto your unwanted clothes and textiles.
- **Eco-Impact:** This is a fantastic way to support the school while promoting environmental sustainability. It's a great lesson for the children on the importance of recycling and the circular economy!
- **Zero Cost:** You help us raise vital funds simply by clearing out your cupboards.

More details on how and where to drop off your bags will follow after the Easter holidays!

Have a great Easter break!

PTA socials, click for links:

