

*'Treat others the way you want to be treated.'*

*Matthew 7:12*

9/5/25

Dear Family,

This week has been a momentous time within the Catholic community, as we have been eagerly preparing for the announcement of our new Pope. As the week has developed, the teachers have been sharing the process of how a new pope is selected. Filled with ancient traditions, unique Latin phrases and symbolic rituals, there is much to learn about how the Church chooses it's next leader. A papal conclave is filled with many beautiful, sacred traditions, full of rich symbolism and emphasizing the importance of the role of the Pope and the election of his successor.

The universal Church prays and celebrates together. During a conclave, people from every continent wait to hear the news as the process develops. Thousands travel to Rome to be present for the historic event. This unites people across the world; the Catholic Church is for all people, and the new Pope will be celebrated globally.

Yesterday, the white smoke emerged from the Sistine Chapel, signaling that the election process has been completed. Cardinal Robert Prevost, of the United States, has been elected as the 267th pope of the Catholic Church and the first American pontiff in history. He will be known as Pope Leo XIV. We look forward to learning more about our new pope over the coming weeks and we pray for him as he fulfils his new calling.



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# Fun & Learning

This week, Reception have been investigating whether or not different materials float or sink, as part of their DT topic this term. The children first learnt about a range of everyday materials such as plastic, glass and wood. We then found different objects from around our class to test. We found that thin wood or plastic would be the best materials to use to create our boats. We look forward to sharing our designs and creations over the next few weeks!

Float  
or  
Sink?





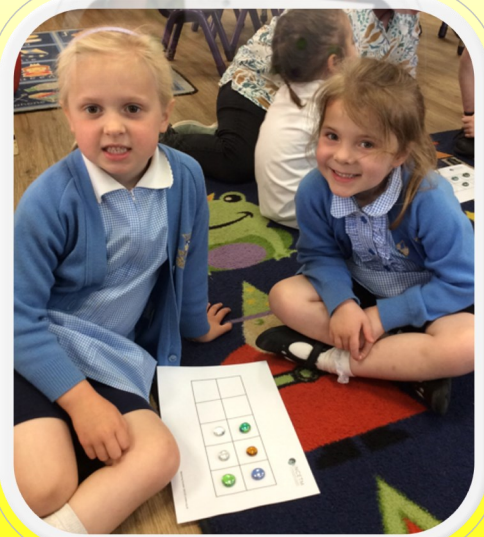
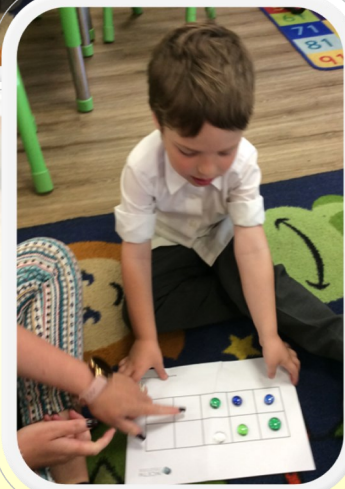
# gymnastics

Fantasia class are really enjoying their gymnastics lessons. This week's focus was partner work to create a sequence of balances. The children thought carefully about the shape and height of the balance and the different parts of their bodies that they could balance on.



# Maths in Reception.....

This week, Reception have continued to develop their subitising skills (seeing the quantity without counting) in increasingly complex arrangements. A key focus this week was to use the children's developing understanding of doubles to support their subitising skills. By moving away from counting for sets that can be subitised, the children have developed their abstract understanding of number, which will help to support future calculation strategies.





# Forest School

During Forest School this week, Reception and the Oakleaves had a woodland animal scavenger hunt, working on their prepositional language. After finding the hidden animals the children worked together to create homes for them, discussing each animal's different habitats.



# Cooking Club

This week at Cooking Club, the children helped to bake Pizza Pin-wheels. We first started by stretching out our dough and added our tomato pizza base. We then shredded the ham and added this to the pizza, as well as lots of cheese! Once our toppings were on, we rolled up our pizza into a long sausage and cut it into discs. These then became our pizza pinwheels!





Our St Joseph's gardeners are full of the joys of Spring and so are our flower beds! Today we planted out all of the seeds we had sown in the last couple of months. Now in our Nursery garden our sweet peas, runner beans and marigolds can grow happily in our soil. We learnt lots from Roy today—the biggest tip was to never plant in dry soil. Always water the soil before and after planting for happy, growing plants!





This term, Year 3 have been diving into the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt. One of the highlights has been learning about the mummification process and discovering how the Ancient Egyptians cared for their dead.

To bring history to life, we carried out our own mummification experiment—using tomatoes! First, we carefully made an incision to remove the top of the tomato, then scooped out all the insides (which was a bit messy—but fun!). After cleaning the tomatoes thoroughly, we treated them with a special balm, just like the Ancient Egyptians did. Finally, we packed them with salt and wrapped them up in bandages to complete the process.

It was a hands-on and memorable way to understand how this ancient ritual worked—and a lot of fun too!





# NURSERY IN ACTION THIS WEEK...

A MESSAGE FROM MRS LEREGO...

This week in Nursery we have been exploring our senses - smelling and tasting. We have done some fruit tasting, played with scented jelly and loved fruit printing onto paper plates.

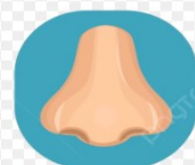
The babies have enjoyed exploring their new tent and emptying and filling containers with the water and sand.



## 5 SENSES



HEARING



SMELL



TOUCH



# Star of the Week

Jenny - for being a good role model to her friends



**...COMING  
NEXT WEEK!**

Next Monday 12th May, our year 4 children will be venturing to London for their three day adventure! We are really looking forward to this trip and the weather forecast also looks promising, which will be a bonus for us! We are booked to visit the Tower of London Monday afternoon and so we'll be able to see the new special commemorative display of ceramic poppies installed at the heart of the Tower, to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Mrs Murray has sent home a last minute letter, this week, just to reiterate the final details of our trip. We look forward to updating our families via our social media platforms for the duration of our trip!

Miss Jenn has also been busy preparing goody bags for our travels....



**Year 6  
SATs**

From next Monday 12th– Thursday 15th May, our Year 6 children will be completing their end of key stage 2 assessments. They have all worked so hard towards these assessments and we are so proud of all of them; demonstrating positive attitudes and commitment to their studies.

Mr Patel and Mrs Vernon have organized a cooked breakfast each morning in the sports hall for them and so they can enjoy time together and be super charged- ready for their day! We will be marking the end of their SATs with a trip to the Seven Seas restaurant in Ross on Thursday afternoon, in true St Joseph's tradition!

# Summer Term

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 London Residential
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs Week – Year 6
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Class photos
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception Class visit Noah's Ark Farm Park
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	New Reception induction morning
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Nursery trip to Little Hedgehogs
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Break up for Half Term- Non uniform Day
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	FSJ May Fayre!
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	ST JOSEPH'S SCIENCE FAYRE! @ 3:00pm
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Cheltenham Science Festival
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Nursery Sports Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 and 6 residential parent meeting at 3:45pm
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception induction morning
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole School Music Concert
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 trip to Dudley Zoo
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole School Sports Day
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception families picnic @ 1:00pm
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Years 4, 5 and 6 visit Gloucester Mosque – Other Faiths topic
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Date – Whole School Sports Day
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 and 6 Residential to Cornwall
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1 Cattle Country
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 trip to the Beach
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term Mass
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Surprise Trip
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Annie the Musical Junior Performance
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery Graduation
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Colour Run
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly@ 2:00pm
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Summer Term

# PARKING & SAFETY

Please can we ask that all our families park safely and considerately at drop off and collection times.

The Conservative Club have recently contacted us regarding people using the car park without permits.

Thank you as always for your continued support in this matter.

Save the date

# MAY FAIR

This year we will be holding our Summer Fayre on Friday 23rd May from 1:30pm. The FSJ are working hard behind the scenes organising this event and the children are also involved in preparing for this too. Thank you to everyone for donating bottles and chocolates for the tombolas. If you are able to help the FSJ setting up on the day of the fayre please contact the school office. Many thanks

## GREAT Attendance

<b>SWIFTIES</b>	<b>98.08%</b>
<b>ABBA</b>	<b>90.09%</b>
<b>FANTASIA</b>	<b>95.45%</b>
<b>ZIMMER</b>	<b>99.07%</b>
<b>ALISHA</b>	<b>93.48%</b>
<b>MIRANDA</b>	<b>96.47%</b>
<b>SHEERIOS</b>	<b>95.83%</b>



Our school photographer will be visiting on Monday 19th May, for end of year class photos and year 6 leavers photos. Please ensure the children are looking extra smart and wearing the correct uniform on this day. Many thanks as always.

# Pot of Gold



Next Monday 12th May, Year 3 will be visiting Ross Community Gardens in the afternoon. Please can the children bringing in a change of clothes suitable for this activity and comfortable shoes as we will be walking down to the gardens.

"Have the courage to be truly happy!"

*Pope Francis*



Enjoy your weekend

God Bless

Mrs Francis

