



# St Laurence Catholic Primary School



Summer 1 Newsletter – May 2026

*Through God’s grace, a community growing in knowledge and understanding*



*Mary Mother of God  
And our Mother too!*

*We pray for all the children  
around the world who will be  
honouring Mary this May.  
We ask Mary to pray for all of us,  
so that like her,  
we will joyfully share  
the love of Jesus with the world.*

*Lord in your mercy  
hear our prayer*



**Committed to the words of Christ and the Gospel values**



### SUMMER TERM DATES

Summer Term 1: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Half Term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Summer Term 2: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

#### **Executive Head**

Mrs. McGhee Wallace

#### **Head of School**

Mrs. Chalklin

#### **SENCo/ Inclusion**

Mrs. Harvey

#### **Our Classes**

**Wrens** Mrs. Chalklin

**Skylarks** Mrs. Gomez

**Kingfishers** Mrs. Groves

**Swallows** Miss Ward

**Doves** Mrs. Stewart

**Magpies** Mrs. Prokop

**Owls** Miss Corcoran

**Kestrels** Mrs. Khan-Blacker

#### **Admin Officer**

Mrs. Rokitnicka

#### **Admin Assistants**

Miss Tu and Mrs. Agustin

#### **Caretaker**

Mr. Tapp

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is such a pleasure to look through and read all the class pages within this newsletter. Every class has enriched their learning with a wide range of activities, trips and visits. Along with all the individual class activities this term we have come together as a community for our usual weekly gospel values, hymn practice and class led celebration assemblies. We have also shared an author visit, the children's piano concert and a very special Marian liturgy this afternoon.

Mrs Harvey, Mrs Gillen and I were pleased to attend Evensong with children from Year 3. Miss MJ sent the following message:

*"The children who attended gave so much during last Tuesday's Evensong; they surpassed all expectations and were truly wonderful! The behaviour and respect shown by them was impeccable, and it was a real joy to see them enjoying the experience and singing their hearts out!"*



Well done to Year 3 and well done to all our children across the school because I know that every year group would be equally excellent role models and wonderful ambassadors for our school and their families.

Please do have a look at your child's learning for after half term that can be accessed from this link [Click here to access the Curriculum Maps](#)

We are looking forward to the second part of the summer term as there are a good amount of school trips, visitors, sports day, arts week and the Year 5/6 end of year production.

The weather forecast for the week ahead looks beautiful! I am camping in Wales for much of the week so am particularly pleased that the forecast is looking so bright!

I hope you all have a lovely half term break and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

God bless

Mrs Chalklin



## Summer term in Wrens

### Kings and Queens

We enjoyed our class trip to Kings College Chapel.



We learnt about the amazing architecture; we counted the amount of king's crowns on both the inside and outside of the chapel. In the afternoon we enjoyed a picnic and playtime at Lammas Land.

Last week the children learnt about the Magna Carta. The children created their own Magna Carta charters and thought about the rules they thought were important for everyone to follow.

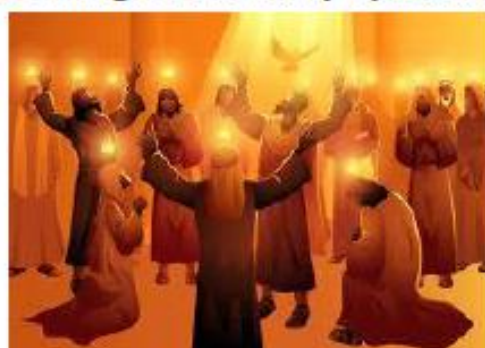


**This week we held a class election to help us start to understand the importance of governments and democracies. Teddy and Puppy were the candidates - Teddy won as he said that**



**Wrens should have playtime all day and all the children felt that this was an excellent idea!**

**We have enjoyed learning about the coming of the Holy Spirit at**



**Pentecost. We have made windchimes that make a beautiful noise in the wind.**



**This week we have read the book "Clean Up" by Nathan Bryon which has helped us to think carefully about looking after our planet. We have done some litter picking and we recycled old DVDs to make our windchimes. At the end of the week we had a BBQ just like in the story!**

**We hope you all have a lovely half term, see you on Monday 1st June**





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ST LAURENCE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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# Skylarks newsletter

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Issue No. | Summer 1

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The children had so much fun dressing up and carefully holding their poses as they recreated the famous Graham Children painting during our art lesson.

## **The Ascension and Pentecost**

In RE, the children have been deeply focused on learning about the Ascension of Jesus and Pentecost as the beginning of the Church. They have explored how the Holy Spirit strengthens our hearts and helps us share kindness, love, and God's mission with everyone around us.





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## Inside the Year 1 Classroom

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### Banana Toast Instructions

Writing has been one of our most important focuses this term within phonics. While developing their instructional writing skills and practising spellings, the children also had great fun creating and writing their very own banana toast recipes!



### Measuring Through Maths

In Maths, the children have been working hard on addition and subtraction involving length. They used manipulatives and real-life objects to help them understand measurements visually and apply their learning in practical ways.

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We wish all our families a wonderful and restful half term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for more learning!

Kingfishers



# KINGFISHER NEWSLETTER

## What We Learned

### Art and DT

This year in art we have looked at different artists and recreated portraits and landscapes in their style – copying Matisse, Picasso, Turner and Uzo Egonu. Overleaf are a selection of self-portraits and landscapes to reflect this.

### RE

We studied the events after Jesus' resurrection this term, focusing on Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. We learnt about the fruits of the Spirit and we responded to all our learning in artwork using pastels and paints.

### Maths

Kingfisher Class have worked very hard in maths this term, learning how to use the times tables to solve division problems. They are slowly mastering their 2,5 and 10 times tables.

## Great women

We enjoyed reading this picture book about Great Women who changed the world. Children were fascinated by the story of Rosa Parks and the Bus Boycott. Mary Anning and her fossil collecting story was also inspirational.

## Writing recounts

In writing, we wrote a non-chronological report on what plants need to survive. They were full of precise vocabulary and formal language.

## PE

We enjoyed doing PE outside this term, focusing on rolling, throwing and catching tennis balls. We also used racquets to focus on striking balls in the right direction!



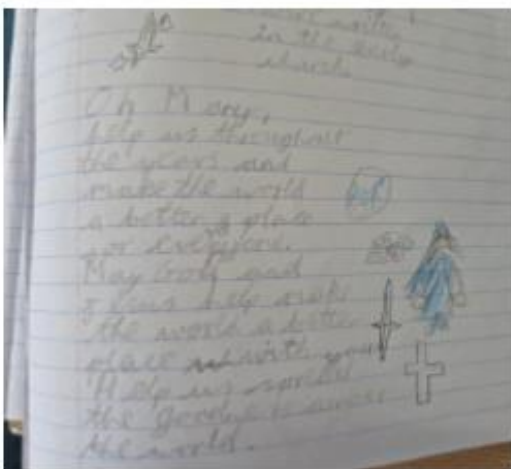


# Swallows

## Summer 1 Newsletter

Welcome to our summer 1 newsletter.

We were asked to create a piece of art based on our RE topic, To the ends of the earth. We have chosen the road to Emmaus. The class have been awed by the size of the finished piece.



As May is the month of Mary we chose to write prayers to Mary. We also spent time in the Marian garden, where the pupils had prayer and reflection time.

Our Art topic has been architecture and we have created tiles, with reliefs, ready to be painted. We are also working on our mosaics.



In computing the children have been designing newsletters, book covers and magazines, based on their interests.

This week we were treated to a workshop with The Arts theatre and the children got to use puppets and learn how to make a character move realistically.



Thank you to all those who have supported this half-term, with homework, baking, cooking and art. I as well as the children always appreciate your support and time. Have a lovely holiday.

# Doves Class Newsletter

## Summer Term 1

### *What we learned*

#### English

Doves enjoyed reading the incredibly engaging *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf and learning more about refugees, discrimination, and making people feel welcome in our country. Discussions around the book have been fascinating, and the children have been eager to read more each day, fostering a real love of reading.

#### Science

This term in Science, we studied plants and focused on developing our scientific recording skills by drawing detailed, labelled diagrams and describing the processes plants need to survive. We also carried out a fair test to investigate how water travels through a plant, using celery and coloured water.



#### Religious Education

In Religious Education, our learning has followed the *To the end of the earth* branch. We have learned more about the events after Jesus' resurrection and explored the links between the Early Church and how we celebrate Mass today, including our understanding of the Holy Trinity. Thomas' dad kindly visited to talk about what it means to be a deacon and how we can spread the Good News in our lives.



## *Doves Class Highlights*



## *Art*

This half term, we explored architecture, from the towering, symmetrical columns of the Ancient Greek Parthenon to the intricate, colourful mosaic tiles of Antoni Gaudí. We were inspired by nature in our creations and produced beautiful clay tiles, demonstrating our understanding of relief sculpture as used in architectural design, both historically and in the present day.

## *PE*

We enjoyed taking our PE lessons outdoors this half term, focusing on correct bowling techniques, batting skills, and understanding the roles of each position in a game of cricket. The children enjoyed friendly competition and particularly excelled in supporting one another and encouraging their teammates to improve and succeed.



## *Bread*

For our bread project, we looked to Guyana for inspiration and made a soft, sweet, plaited loaf. We worked collaboratively to weigh, mix, proof, and shape the dough, while learning about the bread's cultural significance for the Guyanese people. It smelled delicious, and many of the children were keen to take the recipe home to recreate it!



## *Looking Forward*

Enjoy the May half term as the weather continues to improve. As always, thank you very much for your continued support of our school community. I look forward to welcoming the class back for another term of learning and growth.



# Owls Class Summer Newsletter



Dear Families,

Summer 1 has been packed with exciting experiences, memorable trips and lots of opportunities for the children to challenge themselves, be creative and work together. It has been wonderful to see the confidence and independence growing across the class this half term.

## Celebrating Mary & The Month of May

Throughout May, we celebrated the Month of Mary in RE. The children planted flowers for Mary, prayed the Hail Mary together and learned songs in preparation for a special Marian Liturgy.

## Museums, Authors & Theatre



A real highlight of the term was our visit to the Museum of Zoology and the Whipple Museum in Cambridge. The children loved exploring the exhibits, studying real specimens connected to Darwin's work and developing their observation skills during the workshops.

We also had the exciting opportunity to meet author Lisa Thompson, while Year 5 took part in a creative writing workshop inspired by her visit. The children also enjoyed a special Q&A session with the Cambridge Arts Theatre, learning more about theatre and performance.

## A Busy Half Term

This half term included an important assessment period for both Year 5 and Year 6. We were very proud of the calm and determined attitude shown by the children throughout the week. Year 6 approached SATs with resilience and positivity, while Year 5 worked hard during their own assessments and showed great focus.

At the end of SATs week, Year 6 enjoyed time with their Reception buddies and were excited to receive their Year 6 hoodies. Owls Class also enjoyed spending time together in the forest after such a busy week.

## DT Day – Upcycling Fashion

One of the highlights of the term was our DT Fashion Day. Children explored sustainability and “fast fashion” before transforming old t-shirts into creative new designs.

As always, thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We are very proud of all the children have achieved this half term and look forward to another exciting term ahead.

Warm wishes, Miss Corcoran

# Owls' Class Gallery



Author Visit and Writing Workshop



The Museum of Zoology



Cambridge Arts Theatre Visit



Whipple Museum





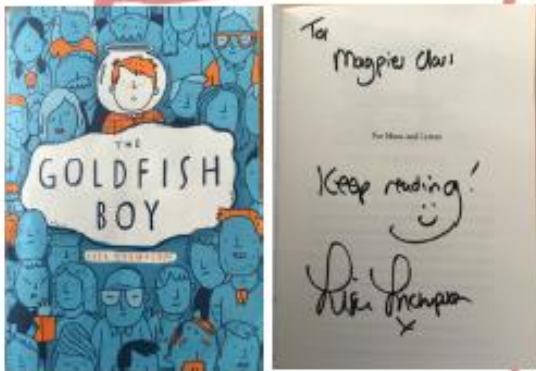
# Magpies Class Summer Newslette

May 2026



Magpies Class have had a very busy and exciting Summer 1 term! We were delighted to host a teacher student from Virginia, USA, who spent time learning alongside us and sharing experiences from her school.

In RE, we celebrated May as the Month of Mary by creating a beautiful class altar dedicated to Mary. The children took time each day to pray the Hail Mary together and reflect on Mary's importance within our faith.

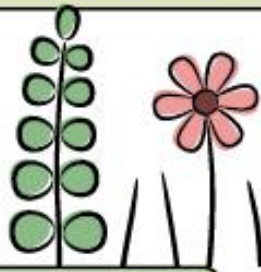


The children also had the wonderful opportunity to meet published author Lisa Thompson. They learned about the role of an author and the publicity process behind publishing books, while Year 5 also took part in an engaging writing workshop.

Another highlight of the term was our visit to the Museum of Zoology and the Whipple Museum of the History of Science in Cambridge, where the children enjoyed exploring fascinating exhibits and learning beyond the classroom.



Magpies

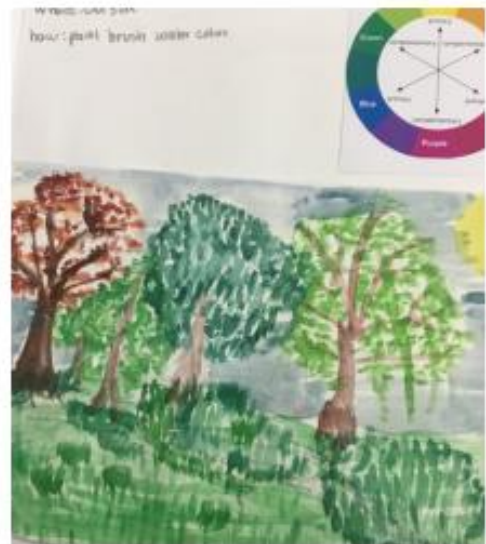


The second half of the term included SATs Week for Year 6 and Parallel Assessment Week for Year 5. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, perseverance and positive attitude shown by all of our students throughout this important time. To celebrate the end of SATs, the children enjoyed buddy time, cupcakes, a special lunch, extra playtime and the presentation of their leavers' jumpers – a huge thank you to the PTA for making this possible.





In Art, the children explored Impressionism and enjoyed creating their own plein air paintings inspired by the work of Claude Monet, Edgar Degas and Paul Cézanne.



We are looking forward to an exciting final half term ahead as we prepare for many more memorable experiences together. Thank you for your continued support throughout this busy term. We wish all of our families a restful, peaceful and blessed half term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for the final weeks of the school year.

Best wishes  
Mrs. M.Prokop





# Kestrels Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers, and Pupils,

It has been another busy and productive half term across Key Stage 2, and I am pleased to share some of the wonderful learning and experiences that have taken place.

## Core Text(s)

Our Year 6 pupils are currently reading 'Dare to Be You', a text that encourages them to reflect on their own identities and values. This book has sparked some thoughtful discussions in class about individuality, confidence, and acceptance. The pupils have engaged with the material maturely and shown genuine interest in the themes explored. It is encouraging to see them connect the messages from the text to their own lives and experiences.

Meanwhile, our Year 5 pupils have been enjoying 'Boy in the Tower', which has captured their imagination and developed their comprehension skills. Both year groups have benefited from these carefully selected texts, which support their literacy development whilst also promoting important personal and social learning.



## KS2 SATS

I would like to take a moment to recognise the impressive attitude our pupils have demonstrated during the Key Stage 2 SATs. Despite the pressures and challenges that come with these assessments, the children have shown resilience, focus, and a genuine commitment to doing their best. Their positive mindset and effort have been a credit to them, and we are proud of how they have approached this important milestone.

## Trips - Whipple Museum and Zoology Museum

This term has also included some exciting educational visits. Our pupils travelled to the Whipple Museum as part of our Science topic on light. This visit provided them with hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of how light behaves and interacts with objects. More recently, pupils visited the Zoology Museum to support our learning about evolution and adaptation. These trips have enriched our curriculum delivery and allowed pupils to see science in a real-world context. The enthusiasm and behaviour of our pupils on these visits have been exemplary.



## SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION DATE!

As we approach the end of Year 6, we are beginning preparations for our end of year production. This is an exciting event that celebrates the achievements of our Year 6 pupils and provides them with an opportunity to perform and showcase their talents. To ensure that rehearsals run smoothly and that we can plan the schedule effectively, I would be grateful if all Year 6 parents and carers could **inform their child of their secondary school transition date or day as soon as possible**. This information will help us coordinate rehearsal times and ensure that all pupils are able to participate fully in this special occasion.

As we reach the end of this half term, I hope you and your families enjoy a restful and well-deserved break. The pupils have worked hard, and some time to recharge will be beneficial for everyone. We look forward to welcoming them back refreshed and ready for the final weeks of the school year.

Warm regards,  
Mrs Khan-Blacker



## Dear Parents and Carers,

Bluebirds have had a very busy Summer Term 1. We enjoyed seeing the weather improve and being able to do what we like most — being outdoors. The children have loved exploring outside, taking part in outdoor learning activities, and enjoying the sunshine. We were also very excited to welcome a new pupil to Bluebirds this term, who is now part of our Bluebirds family.

### *Literacy*



We really enjoyed reading "The Tale of Peter Rabbit". The book inspired lots of great discussions about making good choices and not-so-good choices. The children explored cause and effect, as well as sequencing events from the story.

We worked very hard on improving our sentence construction using pictures from the book to support our ideas and writing.

Once again, the story inspired some fantastic artwork. All of the children decorated their own rabbit and worked together to create Mr McGregor's Garden.

This term, the children have also got into the habit of reading before lunch, and this is going really well. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm for books and quiet reading time continue to grow.

### *Maths*

In Maths, the children have been learning about fractions, 2D shapes, and angles. We also enjoyed taking some of our Maths learning outside. The children especially loved the games and activities involving fractions, where they could combine Maths with physical activity and teamwork.



### *Understanding of the World around us*

This term, we also enjoyed several Science lessons where we explored forces and magnets. One of the highlights was our parachute experiment, where the children investigated how air resistance affects movement. The children loved making predictions, testing their ideas, and discussing the results together.

In History, we learnt about inspiring individuals who changed the world. The children were particularly interested in the story of Nelson Mandela, showing great curiosity and understanding during our discussions.

### *Outdoor learning and physical activity*

Children in Bluebirds love learning outdoors. Their sessions with the sports coaches are greatly enjoyed by everyone in Bluebirds. This term, the children have taken part in basketball, football, tennis, and dodgeball, developing their teamwork, coordination, and confidence while having lots of fun.



The children have especially loved making the most of the good weather. We also continued our weekly sessions in the forest, where the children enjoyed playing team games and working together outdoors.



### *SEMH*

We have continued exploring our feelings and how to communicate them effectively and safely. This term, we focused on strategies to help us manage big feelings, as well as improving the language we use to express ourselves clearly and respectfully.

### *Other highlights*

In our cooking sessions, we started writing a cooking diary to record what we had made and the skills we used. The children especially enjoyed being creative and designing their own foods, such as sandwiches and pizzas. These activities encouraged the children to share ideas, make choices, and develop their confidence and independence.



*Looking ahead, we hope that all the children and their families have a wonderful Half Term. Thank you for your continued support throughout another busy term in Bluebirds.*

# FREE BREAKFAST CLUB!

**ST LAURENCE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Start your day the right way – with  
a healthy breakfast and a happy smile!**

**WHEN: Every weekday morning**

**TIME: 8:15 – 9:00 AM**

**FOOD SERVED UNTIL: 8:40 AM**

**LAST ENTRY: 8:45 AM**

**WHERE: School Hall**

**COST: Absolutely FREE for all pupils**

**Join us for a delicious selection of cereals, toast,  
fruit, and a great way to get ready for learning,  
meet friends, and start the day positively!**



- ✦ All children are welcome!
- ✦ Run by our friendly staff  
in a warm and caring  
environment



**We look forward to seeing you there!**

# SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU

Available Monday to Friday

Day	Breakfast Options
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bagel and cheese spread</li><li>• Toast</li><li>• Cereal</li></ul>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beans on toast</li><li>• Toast</li><li>• Cereal</li></ul>
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Toast</li><li>• Porridge</li><li>• Cereal</li></ul>
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potato waffles with beans</li><li>• Toast</li><li>• Cereal</li></ul>
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jam on toast</li><li>• Toast</li><li>• Cereal</li></ul>

- Notes:**
- Cereal & Toast are available every day
  - Fruit & yoghurts encourage a healthy start to the day
  - Surprise fruit Wednesday for a fun midweek treat!

