



## Value of the month – – Forgiveness

### Dear Parents and Carers

#### Science Week

This week is British Science week, and the theme is 'Change and Adapt'. The children have enjoyed taking part in lots of activities.



**Reception** have been learning about marine life and their adaptations through our PE lesson..

**Year 1** the children have been learning about similarities and differences between animals in various groups.

**Year 2** the children have been having fun with balloon science. We made balloon rockets and learned about the static in our bodies and how it can make balloons stick to different places. We also made thaumatropes and had fun investigating how whiteboard pens work in water.

**Year 3** the children have been learning about Mary Anning, who was famous for discovering fossils. The children enjoyed investigating light using lemon juice to make invisible ink and torches to read their messages. They were so inspired, and the classroom smelled amazing afterwards!

**Year 4** the children have been learning about some of the remarkable adaptations that allow animals to thrive in different habitats around the world. The children researched the meaning of 'Adaptation' with a focus on animals including tigers, polar bears and emperor penguins. They created and played a matching game, matching animals to their adaptations. We also had great fun doing some deep-sea yoga!

**Year 5** the children learned about Isaac Newton and exploring forces. They had great fun investigating how water resistance affects movement and discovering ways to adapt to it. They also looked at how different animals have adapted to living underwater!

**Year 6** the children have been learning about Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace. The children have been working in mixed groups across the year group to explore the theme 'Change and Adapt'.

#### Hornbeam Assembly

Hornbeam delivered their class assembly on Solidarity this morning to KS2 and parents. Solidarity is us all working together to make the world we live in a better place for all. The class did an amazing job in delivering their parts with all children participating.

#### Cake Sale

Tommy and Orlaith from Year 6 are organising a cake sale to raise funds for new playground equipment. Please support their effort by bringing in nut-free cakes for them to sell on March 20th!



#### Inset Day

Please remember school is closed to pupils tomorrow Friday **14<sup>th</sup> March**

Best wishes for a lovely long weekend.  
Mrs McGrath and Staff

Calendar Dates	
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
19 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Disco 6pm – 7:15pm Yr 5 &amp; 6</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Cake Sale -
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Beginning Lenten Reflections <b>Reception / Year 1</b> - Palm Sunday Parents invited <b>9.10am</b>
28 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Disco 5pm-6:15pm Yr 1 &amp; 2</b> <b>6:45pm – 8pm Yr 3 &amp; 4</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>Year 2-</b> Jesus in the temple-Parents invited <b>9:10am</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Year 3-</b> Washing of the feet-Parents invited <b>9.10am</b> <b>Year 4-</b> The Last Supper-Parents invited <b>2:45pm</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>Year 5-</b> The betrayal and The last supper -Parents invited <b>9.10am</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>Year 6-</b> Station of the cross-Parents invited <b>9:10 am</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> April	School Finishes For The Easter Break <b>@1pm</b>

### Absence Procedures

In August 2024 the DFE published new guidance with regard to attendance in schools, 'Working together to improve school attendance'. The Children's Commissioner for England has put together a document outlining why attending school regularly is so important for children and parents' responsibilities. If children are taken out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), Please see grid below.

Absence Category	0 - 21 Days	22 -28 Days	More than 28 Days
First Absence since 19 August 2024	£80	£160	Prosecution
Second Absence (within 3 years of first Penalty Issue date)	£160	£160	Prosecution
Third Absence (within 3 years of first Penalty Issue date)	N/A	N/A	Prosecution

## ROTARY EASTER BUNNY FUN RUN



**SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

1 km Fun Run starts 10.00 a.m.

5Km Race starts at 10.30 a.m.



All finishers will receive an Easter Egg  
Prizes for 'Best Dressed Bunnies'

**Queens Park  
Caterham-on-the-Hill**

Registration Fee and a Signed Form are required for each runner

**£5.00** 1km Fun Run | **£7.00** 5km Race

**DOUBLE ON THE DAY**

Enter Online [caterhamrotary.org.uk/event](http://caterhamrotary.org.uk/event)

Or by mail: **Rotary Runs, 11a Queens Park Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5RB**





## Legoland – INSET Day 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

All Legoland tickets have now been distributed. Looking forward to a great day out and seeing some of you there. Please take lots of photos and hopefully we can share some of the best ones in the PTA newsletter

### School Discos for Y1-Y6

The school discos for Yrs 1-6 will be going ahead as follows, please note these are 'drop and go' so parents are not able to stay with the children.

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – 6pm – 7:15pm Yr 5 & 6**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March – 5pm-6:15pm Yr 1 & 2**

**6:45pm – 8pm Yr 3 & 4**

Disco tickets are available to book here:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stfrancisschool/>



**New Sound System!!** The new sound system for the school, paid for by PTA funds, has been installed. The system has multiple speakers and can be seen in the photos below.



### Save the Date!!!

Please see below some dates for your diaries:

4<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - School Summer Fayre (TBC)

5<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - PTA Survival Social - Venue and time TBC - the PTA would like to invite any parent that wants to come and have a drink with us to join us

4<sup>th</sup> October 2025 - Something exciting is coming!!! ... Please save this date

Thank you!

PTA

Last week's riddle: I have branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves. What am I?

Answer: A bank

This week's riddle: What can't talk but will reply when spoken to?