

Headteacher's Update – 9.5.25

Dear Parents,

Although the weather wasn't the best, I do hope you enjoyed the long weekend.

Welcome to Our New Pope

As you are no doubt aware, yesterday, a new Pope was chosen as the leader of the Catholic Church. He was previously known as Cardinal Robert Prevost and has taken the name Pope Leo XIV. The last pope with this name was Pope Leo XIII, over one hundred years ago, whose work was the basis for Catholic Social Teaching.

Pope Leo XIV is the first Pope ever to come from the United States of America. He is 69 years old and originally from Chicago. He has also spent many years in Peru, helping people there.

In his first message to the world, Pope Leo XIV spoke about peace. He said he wants the Church to "build bridges" and "welcome everyone."

This is a time of new beginnings, and we look forward to hearing more hopeful messages from our new Pope soon.



Year 6 SATs

Next week, from Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May, our Year 6 pupils will be taking their SATs. We know they have all been working incredibly hard in preparation, and we are immensely proud of their dedication and progress. These assessments in English grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading, and mathematics are a chance for them to demonstrate all they have learned during their time at primary school.

We want to reassure both pupils and parents that these tests are just one measure of their many talents and abilities. Our main focus is that the children feel confident and do their best, remembering that their effort is what truly matters.

Please continue to support your child by ensuring they have a calm and restful time at home, get plenty of sleep, and eat healthy meals. Maintaining normal routines as much as possible can also be beneficial. We are here to support every child and encourage you to speak with their class teacher if you have any queries. We wish all our Year 6 pupils the very best for next week; we know they will make us, and themselves, proud!

Sporting workshop

We were disappointed that some of our planned workshops were not able to go ahead this week, due to circumstances beyond our control. However, we were delighted that the Quiddich workshop was able to go ahead.

As a school, we are keen to ensure all our pupils have the opportunity to discover a love for physical activity and develop their confidence. To support this, we have enjoyed offering a range of workshops which include a wider variety of less traditional activities, such as glow-in-the-dark dodgeball, curling, fencing and now Quiddich. By introducing sports that may be new to most, if not all, pupils, we create a wonderfully level playing field. This approach means everyone comes to these activities fresh, without any pre-conceived ideas about whether they are "good" at them or not. It's a fantastic way for children to explore new skills,

potentially unearth hidden talents, and build enthusiasm for sport in an environment where the focus is on participation, learning, and fun, free from past experiences or expectations.

Thanks once again to Mr Wassell for organising them. As you can see the Year 4 classes had a great time!



Information from Aylesbury Music Centre

If your child is interested in discovering or developing their musical skills and talents, please see the statement below which may be of interest:

Aylesbury Music Centre offers a wide range of exciting musical activities for children of all ages and abilities. From ensemble groups and instrumental lessons to choirs and music theory classes, there's something for everyone to explore and enjoy. Joining the Centre gives children the chance to develop their musical skills, build confidence, and make new friends in a supportive and fun environment. Whether your child is a beginner or an experienced musician, Aylesbury Music Centre can help them reach their full potential. For more information about what's on please go to www.bucksmusic.org or email us at aylmusic@bucksmusic.org

Praying the Rosary

Mary is the month of Mary. The Rosary is a meditative prayer that reflects upon the life, ministry and death of Jesus and also on His Blessed Mother. As we repeat the familiar

prayer, we allow our minds to think about the lives of Jesus and Mary here on earth – a mystery.

With this in mind, it was lovely to receive the following pictures of some of our pupils participating in the Crowning of our Lady statue at their local church. They processed around the grounds praying the rosary and finished it off with Lorelai Crowning our Lady and Cassius and Tavian being the brown bearers. A very sweet moment for the start of May!



Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs Machin

A Prayer for Pope Leo

Almighty God

we give thanks for the gift of Pope Leo.

May he witness faithfully to the Gospel,

leading with humility and compassion

and inspiring all people to be pilgrims of hope.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Nursery

We have been learning: about caterpillars and the cycle of a butterfly. We have our caterpillars in the Nursery and we will watch them transform into beautiful butterflies.

You can help at home by: talking to your child about the cycle of a butterfly.

Reception

We have been learning: about different types of vegetables. We enjoyed trying the different varieties.

You can help at home by: encouraging your child to eat different foods.

Year 1

We have been learning: to write a fact file about animals in Antarctica.

You can help at home by: researching a new animal and creating a fact file.

Year 2

We have been learning: to find $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ of numbers up to 30.

You can help at home by: giving your child questions and seeing if they can draw a sharing shape to find the answer.

Year 3

We have been learning: about conversions in maths for mass and capacity.

You can help at home by: asking your child 'How many millilitres in a litre? How many grams in a kilogram?'

Year 4

We have been learning: about effective searching in computing.

You can help at home by: asking your child to define 'search engine' and how to research online safely.

Year 5

We have been learning: about percentages.

You can help at home by: asking your child how to show percentages as decimals.

Year 6

We have been learning: about changing the brightness of a bulb and explaining the reasoning behind this.

You can help at home by: asking your child how voltage is shared in series circuits.