



Pope Francis
@Pontifex

Over 360 million Christians around the world experience persecution and discrimination because of their faith. More and more of them are being forced to flee their homelands. Peace also requires the protection of religious freedom.

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have come back with energy and ready to learn which is wonderful to see. We are looking forward to the Science dome visiting next Wednesday which is always a valuable and exciting experience.

We have also had good news that the school choir has gained a place at the Celebration concert at Snape for the second year running. This is a wonderful occasion for the children and something else to look forward to.

Thank you for those who have responded to the Parent Survey, we will be closing the survey on Monday afternoon.

Please keep Fr Joseph in your prayers as he has been quite unwell over the Christmas period and is still recovering.

Have a lovely weekend.

Warmest regards,

Lucille Martin

School Office

A very warm welcome to Mrs Michelle Power, our new Office Manager. We are very glad she has joined the St Pancras team and a huge thank you to our wonderful Mrs Ransom, who has gone above and beyond while holding the fort in the school office these past couple of months.

TERM DATES 2023-24

Half term

Monday 19th to
Friday 23rd February

Spring Term ends
Thursday 28th March

PD Day—Friday 12th April

Pupils back
Monday 15th April

Our Gospel Values

Creativity
Courage
Forgiveness
Generosity
Humility
Joy
Perseverance
Stewardship

Head teacher

Mrs Lucille Martin

Assistant Head teacher

Mr Ross McGill

SENCO

Mrs Rebecca McGill

Our Classes

Rainbows Miss Aldous
Mrs Iannelli
Class 1 Mrs Thackeray
Mrs Nwafor
Mrs Durston
Class 2 Mrs Veitch
Ms Hughes
Ms Abbott
Class 3 Mr Grimwood
Mrs Harvey
Class 4 Mrs Crowther
Mrs Tella
Class 5 Mrs Jones
Mrs Smith
Mrs Katkuniene
Class 6 Mr McGill
Ms Borley

SPOTLIGHT ON YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a busy few weeks.

Before Christmas, we spent our DT lessons making waistcoats. First, the children planned their design, thinking about the cut that they wanted to make, as well as any aesthetic features. They then sourced their own fabric.

In class, our first step was to cut out front and back pieces and ensure that they were the correct size. We then pinned these in place. As predicted, threading the needle was tricky, but we all managed very well and then began sewing. I was very impressed with the outcomes - most of the class produced a wearable, symmetrical waistcoat and made these independently!

Recently, in computing, to finish off our coding unit, we have had a look at programming our new Microbits. These small devices connect to the laptops and we can programme them to perform lots of functions. We simulated a magic 8 ball, as well as rolling their names across the screens.

We are currently getting stuck into our Electrical unit in Science and have recently investigated the effects of adding or subtracting voltage from a simple circuit. Next week we shall be investigating switches.

In History, we have begun studying the rise of Hitler and how the consequences of WW1 for Germany led to the rise of his party and then ultimately WW2. The children are asking some brilliant questions during this unit and there has been lots of independent research conducted at home.

As usual, we are making great progress in Maths, reading and writing. We have read some great books so far this year including Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman and the class are always enthusiastic about these lessons. In writing, we are currently writing a third person adventure narrative and we have just begun our ratio unit in Maths.



MR. MCGILL'S WEEKLY UPDATE - ONLINE SAFETY!



New devices

As I'm sure lots of our children will have received new devices for Christmas, this is a timely reminder that they need to be taught how to be safe online.

Below are a few things as parents that you can do to help support with this.

1. Phones can be monitored by parents, so you can view their history and control their settings - you can decide yourself on the level of supervision that you want to have.
 2. Time restrictions can be put into place.
 3. Inappropriate games can be blocked.
 4. Youtube can be replaced by Youtube kids.
 5. Child-friendly messaging platforms can be used rather than age-restricted ones, such as Whatsapp.
 6. Your child does not **need** to be part of a class Whatsapp chat - they see each other everyday at school!
 7. You can set screen-time boundaries and encourage plenty of time offline.
- Social media is legally aimed at children aged 13+.

- 1 As educators, we are concerned about several key themes online at the moment.
1. The accessing of inappropriate material and content, as well as the ease with which children can hide their access. As a parent, how do you actually know what they are doing online?
2. A lack of awareness among children about how to behave decently and respectfully online - this follows the same etiquette as face-to
3. Online predators and the ease with which they can communicate with vulnerable children.
4. The lack of understanding of AI and it's potential abuse as the technology develops rapidly.

The ease in which even mature adults can be scammed online.

Please support the school in ensuring that **all of our children** are safe online, by making sure that **your child** is being safe and responsible online.

Upcoming Dates for the Spring term:

Wednesday 17th January—	Science Dome visit
Wednesday 28th February—	Ignite Lent workshops for Year 2 and Year 4
Tuesday 5th March—	Class group photographs
Friday 8th March—	Bringing books to life workshops
Monday 11th March—	Mother-figure morning
Friday 15th March—	School choir at Snape
Monday 25th March—	Parent consultation evening
Tuesday 26th March—	Parent consultation evening