

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break—filled with rest, fun, and maybe even a few chocolate eggs!

Whether you spent time with family, enjoyed the spring sunshine, or just had a chance to relax, we're so happy to see everyone back at school. This term is always an exciting one, with lots of learning, new challenges, and fun activities ahead. From classroom projects to sports days and creative arts, there's so much to look forward to!

Let's all start the term with big smiles, ready to try our best, help each other, and make the most of every day. We can't wait to see what amazing things we'll achieve together this term. Welcome back, everyone!

We were astounded and so proud of all of the children's efforts and creations – so artistic! The winners, awarded by one of our Governors Mrs Sambo, are:
Eleanor in Year Three,
JP in Year Four and
Max in Year Six.



Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following people who received awards this week:

Nursery: Ivy

Reception: Nathan, Purvika, Zainab

Year 1: Jani, Tommy, Flo

Year 2: Rocco, Rachith, Zena

Year 3: Eleanor, Joe, Jakub

Year 4: James M, Mariam, Charleigh

Year 5: Inayah, Lewis, Nadia

Year 6: Matthew, Jagoda, Musa



House Points

Earth: 310 (7647)

Fire: 218 (7760)

Water: 362 (7629)

Air: 230 (7511)

Attendance to 4th April 2025 (we always report a week behind)

EYFS	91.6%	Year One	97.9%
Year Two	94.1%	Year Three	87.5%
Year Four	97%	Year Five	84.5%
Year Six	94%	Whole School	92.3%

Remembering Pope Francis

We were very sad to hear the news that Pope Francis has passed away. As the leader of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis was loved by many people all around the world for his kindness, his humility, and his message of peace. Pope Francis always reminded us to care for one another, to help the poor, and to look after our planet. He believed in treating everyone with love and respect, no matter who they were. Many people looked up to him as a wise and gentle guide who helped bring hope and comfort. In school, we might take a moment to remember Pope Francis through prayer or quiet reflection. We can also honour his memory by being kind, helping others, and making good choices in our everyday lives—just as he encouraged us to do. May Pope Francis rest in peace, and may his example continue to inspire us all.



Birthdays



An important message about birthdays!!!

Children can come into school in non-uniform on their birthday. This is so wonderful as everybody within our school community who sees them will know that it is their special day. If their birthday falls on a weekend, on PE day or within a school holiday the child may come in non-uniform on the Friday before or the Monday afterwards.

This week, and during the holidays, we celebrate:

Theo – 21st April

Julianna – 25th April

Cailean – 22nd April

Anliya – 26th April

Connie – 23rd April

Joyeesha – 27th April

Ryan – 24th April

Jagoda – 25th April



Safeguarding

If you have concerns that a child may be in immediate danger, call the police on 999 or MASH on 0345 050 7666.

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child or family, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01295 263740 and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

Alternatively, you can email our DSL (Maureen Collier) directly:

familysupport@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk

Early Years Class News

All the Early Years children have returned well rested and enthusiastic for a new term. They been so happy to be back amongst all their friends and very excited to welcome several new siblings into Nursery! We acted out the final instalment of the Easter story with great enthusiasm on our first day back and the Nursery children especially have been revisiting this during Exploring time and are having some really good conversations about the events. We have been making some Easter gardens and we enjoyed showing off our Easter bonnets and Easter story headbands.



Year One Class News

This week in Year 1, we dived straight back into our phonics learning. We've been brilliant at spotting digraphs in words and sentences – well done, everyone! We also dedicated some special time to creating prayers for Pope Francis, which we shared together during our prayer service. To end the week, we had a fantastic time at the Easter Bonnet Parade. There were so many fabulous and unique bonnets on display – what a joyful way to celebrate Easter!



Year Two Class News



🐰🥚 EASTER BONNET FUN 🐰🥚

The KS1 children looked INCREDIBLE during their Easter Bonnet Parade this week 🥚🐰🥚. SO much effort went into making their bonnets and they looked AMAZING! They had a great time showing them off whilst parading to music around the playground 🎵

Year Three Class News

Year 3 have made a wonderful start to the new term, their highlight of the week being the Easter bonnet parade. It was lovely to see the class being so supportive of the younger children, and they also built some fantastic Easter gardens. In the classroom, we have started on a variety of new and exciting topics, and are especially keen to learn more about the Romans, since it links together so many aspects of our learning in other subjects (like RE and Art). We also played our first game of rounders in P.E., and the children demonstrated impressive ball skills and teamwork. Well done!



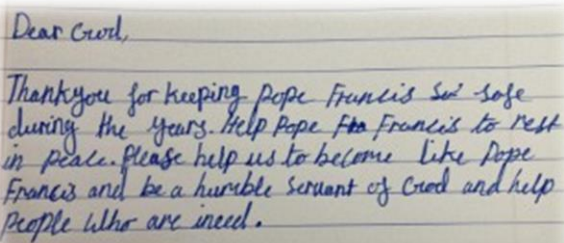
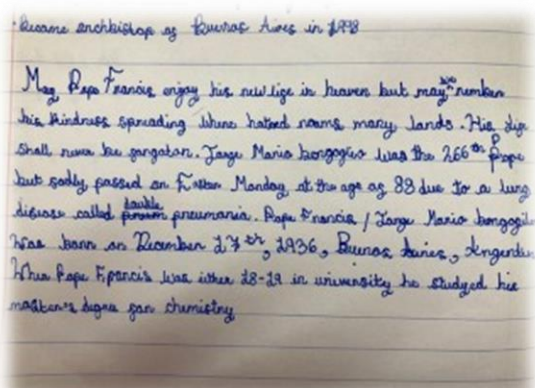
Year Four Class News

This week we took part in our very own debate in the classroom. We used role play to debate reasons for and against Jesus' death

with many of us taking on the role of Pharisees or bystanders. We argued our thoughts and opinions referring to what we have read in scripture and learnt about in our lessons. We definitely got into character and thought of some really inspiring and thought-provoking arguments both for and against the death of Jesus!!

Year Five Class News

Following the death of Pope Francis, Year 5 have taken time to reflect on his remarkable life and legacy - from his early years in Argentina to his time as the leader of the Catholic Church. We wrote thoughtful biographies that highlighted his humility, compassion, and commitment to social justice. We also created personal prayers, giving thanks for his example and asking for strength to live out the values he championed. It has been a moving and meaningful, and I am proud of the respect and insight shown during this time of remembrance.



Year Six Class News



This week, Year 6 have been reflecting on the life and legacy of Pope Francis, following the sad news of his passing on Monday. The children recalled many facts about his life and work that we had explored earlier in the year, remembering him as a humble and compassionate leader of the Church. As part of our tribute, we created a remembrance page in our Catholic Life book, where the children wrote and added their own heartfelt prayers. We continue to pray for the repose of his soul—may he rest in peace.

Key Dates

Tuesday 22nd April	School begins – School opens at 8:45am
Wednesday 30 th April	Key Stage 1 All Stars Cricket Festival at BGN
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Wednesday 7 th May	EYFS class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Monday 12 th May – Thursday 15 th May	Year 6 SATs week
Thursday 15 th – Friday 16 th May	Year 4 residential to Youlbury
Monday 19 th May	Key Stage 2 Quadkids at BGN
Wednesday 21 st May	Year 5 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Friday 23rd May	School finishes for May half term 3:20pm
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May - Half Term	
Monday 2nd June	School begins – School opens at 8:45am
Monday 2 nd June – Friday 13 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Table Check
Thursday 5 th June	Year 5 & 6 Dynamo Cricket at Banbury Cricket Club
Monday 9 th June – Friday 13 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 11 th June	Whole School Pilgrims of Hope Retreat Day
Wednesday 18 th June	Year 2 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 25 th June	Year 3 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Thursday 26 th June	Year 3 Multi-skills at BGN
Saturday 28th June	Year 3 First Holy Communion, 10.00am, at St John the Evangelist Church
Monday 30 th June – Thursday 3 rd July	Year 6 transition week at BGN
Wednesday 2 nd July	Year 4 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 1 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 class assembly – all invited 9:05am
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Play
Thursday 17 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Mass at school (10:30am)
Friday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' assembly (9:05am)
Friday 18th July	School finishes for summer 1:30pm
Monday 21 st July	INSET Day for staff – school closed
Tuesday 22 nd July	INSET Day for staff – school closed