



CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe how quickly this term is flying by. Although the sunshine seemed to disappear on us yesterday, there has certainly been no shortage of energy and enthusiasm across the school!

We have a busy and exciting few weeks ahead, with many activities and events planned for our pupils. You will find full details listed below, and we are very much looking forward to seeing the children take part, learn, and enjoy these opportunities.

I would also like to take a moment to say a huge well done to our Year 6 pupils. They approached their SATs week with maturity and determination, and the tests ran very smoothly. Most importantly, the children tried their very best, which is all we could ever ask for. We are incredibly proud of them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Vanessa

Mrs Vanessa Bingham

Interim Headteacher

Christ the King Catholic Primary School & Nursery, with The ARK, A Specialist Resource
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Families of Faith

May 2026

Good News from the Gospel	Prayer Corner	Families Faith in Action
Sunday 3 May - Fifth Sunday of Easter -Following Jesus is a way to a place in God's house. Sunday 10 May - Sixth Sunday of Easter - By following his commandments, we show love to God. Thursday 14 May - Feast of the Ascension -We must follow God's commandments and make disciples of all nations. Sunday 17 May - Seventh Sunday of Easter -We are protected and united as a community because Jesus prays for us. Sunday 24 May - Pentecost Sunday -Forgive others with the help of the Holy Spirit. Sunday 31 May - Holy Trinity- Our world is saved because God sent his son.	Prayers and music to consider for Mary and the month of May: The Magnificat Salve Regina Hail Mary	World Fair Trade Day - 14 May: 'Do for others what you would want them to do for you.' (Matthew 7:12) Make a point of buying a fair-trade product this week. Friendship Fun Day - 20 May: Make a point of talking to someone new. Deaf Awareness Week - 4-10 May: Teach your parents Makaton or BSL Hail Mary Mental Health Awareness Week 11 - 17 May: 'Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you.' (1 Peter 5:7) Share a positive affirmation or a simple action of kindness with someone.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Inset Day – 1st June

Corpus Christi Procession at Douai Abbey – 4th June

Environment Day – 5th June

Transportation Trip for Ducklings – 10th June

Father's Day Tea – 12th June

KS1 Sports Day – 16th June

KS2 Sports Day – 17th June

Yr 6 Enrichment Week – 17th June

Miss Scott's Collective Worship - parents invited – 19th June

Ducklings Sports Day 2pm-3pm -19th June

Summer Fayre 3.30-5.30 – 19th June

Ark & Ducklings Ufton Court trip – 22nd June

Reception Sports Day 2pm – 23rd June

Yr 6 Leavers Mass at Douai Abbey – 23rd June

KS2 Reserve Sports Day – 24th June

KS1 Reserve Sports Day – 26th June

Enrichment Week for yr 6 – 29th June

EYFS Collective Worship – parents invited – 3rd July

Class Swap Day AM/International Day PM – 10th July

Reception New Classes AM – 14th July

Yr 6 Leavers Play/ Reports to go home/ Nursery Last Day – 17th July

Reception/Nursery Home Visits – 20th July

Yr 6 BBQ after school – 20th July

Yr 6 Leavers Mass – 21st July

Reception/Nursery Home visits – 21st July

End of Term finish 1.30 - Wednesday 22nd July

Start of New Academic Year – 3rd September

A big thank you to all our parents and children for supporting the Scholastic Book Fair. Thanks to your enthusiasm and generosity, we raised an incredible £260, which will be used to purchase new books for our school. Your support not only helps us grow our library but also plays a vital role in promoting a love of reading and inspiring children on their learning journeys. We truly appreciate your efforts in helping to raise the profile of reading and encouraging a lifelong passion for books.

Tayla Machado

Mrs T Machado
Reading Lead

Today we are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Hazleton and Mrs Asif. We would like to thank them both for their hard work and the support they have given whilst with us at Christ the King. We wish them both well for the future.

Thank you to the PTA, staff and volunteers who organised and helped at the school disco, which was a great success and enjoyed by all the children who attended.

Summer Fayre 19th June 3.30pm -5.30pm

If you would like to have your own stall at the Fayre please contact the office. The cost is £20.

If you are available to help out at the Fayre on one of the school stalls please let the office know. We would really appreciate any items you no longer use, that could be sold on a stall and that you are would be happy to donate. Please drop them off to the office.

Thank You

May Procession

May is the month when we think of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. On Friday all the classes took part in a May Procession. The children presented flowers and took part in a moment of silent reflection.





Church news

CTK Youth Music Group: There is a very good core group but more singers are needed. It is for anyone in School Years 3 - 13 who enjoys singing or playing an instrument. This group meets once a month. The next Practice is Friday 22nd May, 6.00 - 7.15pm. The group will sing Evening Prayer at 7.00pm and also sing at the Sunday 10.00am mass.

Main Choirs: Welcome anyone who enjoys singing. Practice is on Monday, 7.00 - 8.45pm (entrance via side door of church.) **Contact Theresa Conlon (07747188445)** if interested in being part of CTK Music.

HALL BOOKINGS

Christ the King parish hall is available for hire. If you would like to book the hall for any events, please do so by contacting the parish office on: 0118 931 4469. Or ctk@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

COFFEE AFTER MASS

You're warmly invited to join us for tea and coffee in the church hall after Sunday Mass. It's a lovely chance to catch up, share a smile, and meet new friends in our parish community.

School Uniform- Please ensure your child/ren come to school in correct uniform

Navy-blue sweatshirt or cardigan with or without school badge

White polo shirt with or without school badge

Skirt or dark grey trousers with white or grey socks

Sensible shoes - Trainers, jelly shoes or sling-back sandals are not acceptable for general wear.

Boots may be worn in winter to and from school; however, pupils must change into black shoes once in school

Religious head coverings, where worn, should be in school colours or black

Children come into school in their PE kit on their PE day

PE Kit consists - T-shirts should be in the child's house colour (red, green, yellow or blue), White t-shirts are acceptable with navy shorts and plimsolls.

Tracksuits in black or navy may be worn and trainers are acceptable when P.E. is outside, but not for indoor P.E. sessions

Children are not permitted to wear jewellery in school. Only small, simple studs in pierced ears and wrist watches are acceptable

“Smart” watches are strictly prohibited.

Children should not wear jewellery to school on PE days

If children do attend school with jewellery, they will be asked to cover or remove objects before Physical Education lessons or any other lessons where the wearing of such items constitutes a potential safety risk

Teachers and other members of staff do not take responsibility for the safe keeping of jewellery which has been removed.

Mid to long length hair should be tied back. Hair accessories should be minimal and should be brown or black.

No markings should be shaved into hair or on scalp and hair dye, both temporary or semi-permanent is not permitted unless authorised as part of a school event.

The wearing of make-up, nail varnish or false nails is not permitted.

The wearing of temporary tattoos is not permitted.

In consultation with the headteacher, exceptions on the grounds of medical evidence may be granted.

Mini Vinnies



The Mini Vinnies have launched their Summer campaign to help local families in need.

Supporting the Readifood '30 for 30' Challenge, each class is being challenged to collect 30 items of food in 30 days.

Food items include:

- Boxes of cereal
- Tins of fish
- Bag of rice
- Tins of ready meals
- Tins of potatoes and vegetables
- Tins of baked beans
- Tins of chopped tomatoes
- Tins of soup
- Pasta
- Tins of rice pudding
- Tins of fruit
- Biscuits
- Tea or coffee
- Carton of fruit juice

Donations can be brought into school after half-term. The Mini Vinnies will collect the items from the classrooms and they will be donated to Readifood, who will use them to make food parcels for local families. Thank you for your support.

Nursery - Miss Parsons

This term in nursery, our children had a wonderful time exploring the exciting world of transport! Throughout the weeks, the children learned about different types of vehicles and how they help people travel on land, in the air, and across water. The children enjoyed a variety of fun activities including recycled modelling aeroplanes, building roads and train tracks, painting colourful busses and cars, and taking part in imaginative role play as drivers, pilots, and passengers. We even made a car wash and washed all bikes and cars. We also learnt new songs in our music lessons and all themed around transport. We listened to a variety of stories about journeys and adventures.



Our outdoor play included riding bikes and scooters, helping to develop their coordination and teamwork skills while learning about road safety and taking turns.



We are excited to share that we have been continuing to develop our nursery garden area. The children have been enjoying spending time outdoors exploring nature and caring for our growing garden. Over the past few weeks, the children have taken part in planting, watering and learning about how things grow. These hands-on experiences encourage curiosity, responsibility and love for the natural world. We have also created some welcoming outdoor spaces including a new maths area, construction, painting station, growing garden, mark making shed and mud kitchen. Thank you to all the families who have kindly donated for the mud kitchen and construction area. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps us continue to create exciting learning opportunities for the children.



In RE this term the children have been learning all about the Month of Mary. Throughout the month, we gathered together for simple prayers, songs, and quiet reflections. The children enjoyed taking part in a variety of activities including creating beautiful flower pictures, making rosaries and even decorating our special prayer area dedicated to Mary. We also encouraged the children to think about ways we can show kindness, love, and care to others, just as Mary did.



This week, the children enjoyed taking part in Walk to School week. We encouraged the children to walk, scoot, or cycle to nursery where possible to celebrate the importance of staying active and healthy.

The children learned about the many benefits of walking, including keeping our bodies strong, helping the environment, and staying safe near roads. The children were excited to share their journeys to nursery and enjoyed discussing the different things they could see and hear while walking. As part of this the children became minibeast detectives and we made our very own magnifying glasses. Thank you to all the families for supporting this special week.



A gentle reminder to all parents and carers to please continue checking the nursery website regularly for important updates, upcoming events, and useful information. We aim to keep the website updated with the latest news and activities so that families can stay informed and connected with what the children have been learning and enjoying.

We would also like to continue to encourage all families to regularly check their child's Tapestry account to keep up to date with their learning and development at nursery. Tapestry allows us to share special moments, observations, photographs, and achievements. We also love seeing and sharing with your child the contributions from home. Parents are welcome to upload photos, comments, and special achievements to help us build a fuller picture of your child's learning. If you are having any difficulty accessing your account, please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to help.

We have also been delighted to welcome new children and families to nursery. It has been wonderful getting to know everyone and seeing the children begin to settle into their new environment. A very warm welcome to you all and we are so happy to have you as part of our nursery family!

We will be excited to welcome everyone back for the Summer Two term and look forward to another fun filled term. The children will continue exploring through play, creativity and outdoor learning. As the weather becomes warmer, we will be making the most of the outdoor spaces with water play, gardening, physical activities and nature exploration. We will also be looking at life cycles and observing butterflies and frog spawn.

Please remember to send children to nursery with appropriate clothing for the weather, including sun hats and labelled water bottles.

★ Our Stars this Month ★



Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to the final summer term together as some of the children prepare to transition into Reception in September.

The Nursery Team.



CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC NURSERY

The Perfect Place to Play,
Learn & Grow!

NOW ENROLLING FOR SEPTEMBER !

Limited Spaces Available

At Christ the King we follow our Mission Statement
“Loving, Learning, Growing together as Christ’s
family”

A happy, caring, and safe environment where
children learn through play, creativity, and
exploration.

OPEN MONDAY – FRIDAY

8:45AM – 11.45 AM

Christ the King Catholic Primary
School, Lulworth Road, Reading,
Berkshire, RG2 8LX

REGISTER NOW!

admin@christtheking.reading.sch.uk,
0118 901 5434

Ducklings – Miss Nyilas

Stars of the week – Whole Class - 17th of April, Seth and Fathima – 24th of April, Akosua and Blake – 1st of May, Ezekiel – 8th of May, Arabella – 15th of May.

The Duckling children have worked extremely hard this term. We started reading The Gruffalo in English. Where we looked at the characters of the story and how to describe the Gruffalo himself.

In Maths, we continued our number recognition with counting on from 11-20. We've practiced making numbers with resources and understanding how many tens and ones go into numbers from 11-20.

Science we explored plants; parts of the plant, what they need to grow and the difference between wild and garden plants.

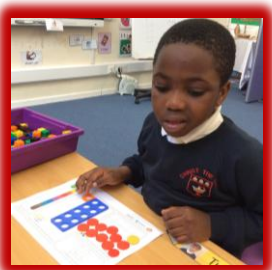
In History we started exploring transportation and we're surprised by how many different forms of transportation there is! We collaged our own cards, made boats out of tin foil and tested if our boats could float and how many teddy bears could we put in them before sinking. We also enjoyed a pretend plane ride where we used out passports and boarding passes to get on the plane in our classroom.

In Art, we've been exploring 3D sculptures with paper, and we've made some beautiful pieces.

Mary has been our focus for May, we participated in a whole school procession, and we made our own flowers and Rosary's to celebrate her.

In PSHE, we've been talking about how we keep ourselves healthy. We talked about we need good food, water, exercise, sleep and clean bodies to life a healthy life. We have had a lot of fun in May. Can't wait to see what June brings.







Reception – Mr Taplin

Hello Summer!

We hope you are all enjoying the warmer weather and feeling excited as we begin our final term of Reception. The children have already jumped into learning with so much enthusiasm, here's a look at what we've been up to!

Literacy

Our literacy adventures have taken us into outer space with '*Aliens Love Underpants*' by Claire Freedman.

The children have had so much fun with this topic. First, they stumbled upon mysterious pants hidden all around the outdoor area, cue lots of giggles and guesses about who (or *what*) they belonged to. Then a sparkly alien spaceship suddenly appeared in the Reception garden, inspiring imaginative stories about cheeky space visitors. To protect our playground from any more alien mischief, we joined forces to create a magical spell, complete with actions and silly words. All this cosmic chaos led to brilliant conversations about what we might spot in outer space, from twinkling stars to wiggly aliens, helping the children grow their vocabulary while letting their imaginations zoom far beyond Earth. I particularly loved their ideas about what we would need to pack to visit space!

Maths

Our space theme continued in our maths lessons with the children practising their skills through lots of playful, hands-on activities. They've been using stars, planets, and rockets to explore addition, turning number sentences into mini space missions. Subtraction has been just as exciting, with alien-themed challenges helping them work out what's left when items (and pants!) disappear into outer space.

Religious Education

This term, we've been exploring three key themes in Religious Education. We began with Easter, thinking about the idea of new life and the joy of celebration. We then learned about Mary, discovering her special role and why she is such an important figure in our faith. Finally, we explored Pentecost, where the children enjoyed hearing the story of the Holy Spirit and learning about what many call the birthday of the Church.

Art

The children have shown wonderful creativity this term, producing a delightful range of artwork inspired by our space adventures. They designed scribble aliens bursting with colour and personality and carefully constructed 2D shape rockets to strengthen their understanding of different shapes. They particularly enjoyed painting on tin foil, discovering how the shiny surface added a unique texture and sparkle to their work. To complete the topic, the children created thoughtful planet paintings, blending swirling colours to imagine what far-off worlds might look like. Their enthusiasm and growing artistic confidence have been a joy to see.

Have a wonderful Half Term,

Mr Taplin

OUR STARS OF THE WEEK:

Leo Riverlea	Gracie Valentina	Connor Rosh
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Year 1 – Miss Scott

In May, the children have been very busy and have worked incredibly hard across all areas of their learning. We are so proud of the progress they are making and the enthusiasm they bring to the classroom each day.

In Maths, we have been focusing on division and fractions. The children have been learning how to share into equal groups and are becoming more confident with fractions. We have explored finding halves and quarters of shapes and numbers using practical resources to support their understanding.

In Writing, the children have been reading the story *Beegu*. We have innovated the story by changing the setting and thinking carefully about who the alien met on her journey. The children showed great imagination when creating their own ideas and worked hard to apply what they have learnt in phonics and sentence writing. They focussed on using capital letters, full stops and describing words to make their writing more interesting. We are incredibly proud of the children's beautiful writing,

In History, we have been learning about significant people from the past linked to flights. We have looked at the achievements of Amelia Earhart, the Wright Brothers and Neil Armstrong. The children have really enjoyed learning how flight has changed over time and why these people are important.

In Science, we have been learning about what plants need to grow. The children explored the importance of water, sunlight and warmth, and we planted sweet peas to observe how plants grow over time.

In Art, we explored sculpture and 3D work using clay. We looked at the artist Rachel Whiteread and developed our clay skills, including pressing, scoring and slipping to join pieces together.

In RE, we celebrated the Month of Mary. The children spent time learning about Mary and why she is important to us. We took part in prayer and reflection as we honoured Mary during this special month.

Thank you for your support with homework. It has been lovely to see the children engaging with their learning at home and sharing their work in class.

We have also loved welcoming our Mystery Readers into class. The children were so excited and really enjoyed taking part. Thank you so much to all the parents who came in and supported us. We have included some photos to capture these special moments. We are always looking for more volunteers, so please do let us know if you would like to take part.

Our Stars- Jonathan, Nancy, Bella, Dakshina, Olivia and Cherry



Year 1/2 – Mrs Uminska

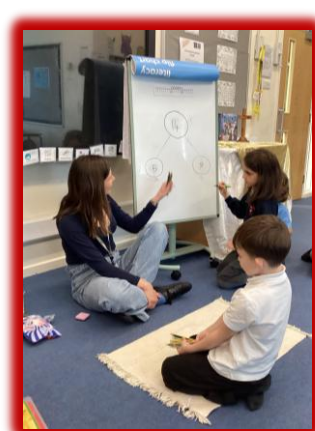
English

The children have been working on *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon this half term. We boxed up the original story to look at how it was built, and then the children had a go at writing their own version — changing what the alien looked like and who he met along the way. To celebrate all their hard work, the children took their finished stories down to Reception and read them aloud to their younger friends. It was such a special moment — seeing our writers sit beside the Reception children, turn the pages of their own books, and share stories they had built from the ground up. There were lots of smiles, lots of careful listening, and a real sense of pride in what they had created.



Maths

Lots of practical, hands-on learning. The children have been introduced to simple multiplication and division through grouping and sharing activities — using counters, cubes, and real objects to see what the operations actually mean before working with numbers on paper. We have also been practising counting in ones, twos, fives and tens to 100, and tackling fun word problems that bring the maths to life.

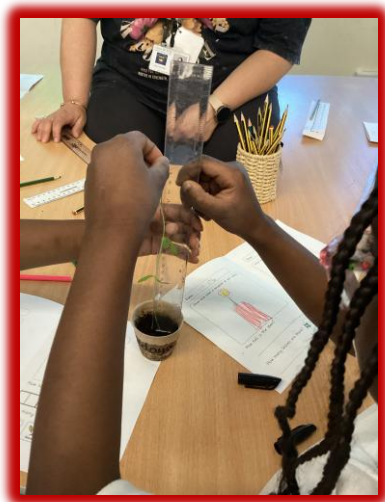


History — The History of Aviation

A real favourite this term. The children have learnt about the Wright Brothers and their first powered flight, Bessie Coleman, Amelia Earhart, and the Moon Landing. We've had role-play of the famous scenes, paper aeroplane design and testing, and a Wright Brothers knowledge quiz that the children took very seriously. Ask your child to tell you something they learnt about one of the pioneers — they have a lot to share.

Science — The Plant Journey

The children have planted sweet peas and learnt about the conditions a plant needs to grow — water, light, warmth, and soil. They have measured their plants' growth each week and looked after them carefully. It has been a lovely way to see the children take responsibility for something living and to watch their excitement as the seedlings appear.



RE — Month of Mary and Sikhism

In May we celebrated the Month of Mary. The children learnt why Mary is important in our faith, the colours and symbols associated with her, and ended the topic by placing flowers in front of her statue in our Peace Garden — a quiet, special moment that the children clearly took to heart. Alongside this, the children have also been learning about Sikhism, exploring the beliefs, traditions, and practices of another world religion.



PSHE — Relationships (Jigsaw)

The children have worked through Jigsaw's *Relationships* puzzle this half term, covering families, making friends, greetings, the people who help us, being your own best friend, and celebrating special relationships. The focus has been on what makes a good friend, how to ask for help when we need it, and recognising the people who are important to us.

PE — Target Games

Practising overarm and underarm throwing with beanbags through a series of fun target games. The children have been developing accuracy, control, and teamwork.

Art — Clay Tiles

The children have designed and made their own clay tiles, taking the project from initial design through to creation. They have been thoughtful designers and careful makers — the finished tiles are coming home soon and we hope you enjoy them.



Phonics Screening —

We have been practising a great deal for the upcoming Phonics Screening Check, working on blending, segmenting, and reading both real and nonsense words. A huge thank you to all the parents who are practising at home as well — it really does make a difference, and the children's confidence is growing every week.

Yr 2 – Miss Lockwood

This half term has been full of creativity, curiosity and brilliant learning across the curriculum. The children have worked incredibly hard and should feel very proud of themselves.

English

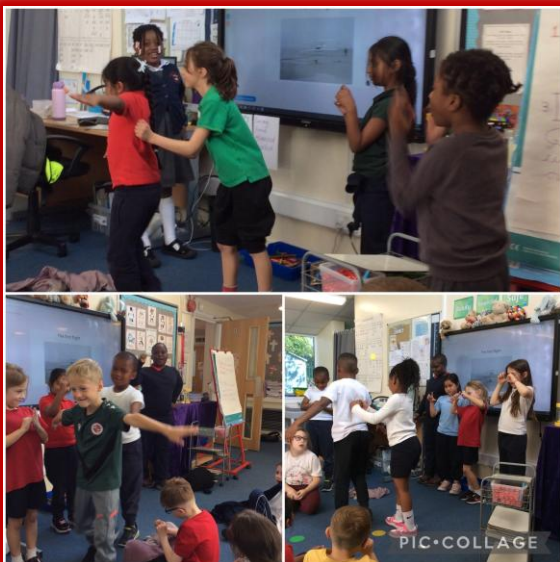
In English, we have been exploring the story *The Paper Bag Princess*. The children have enjoyed reinventing the tale by replacing the original characters with their own imaginative creations. They have been using fantastic adjectives, thoughtful punctuation, and are becoming much more confident writers. Their enthusiasm has been wonderful to see.

Maths

In Maths, we have been learning all about 2D and 3D shapes. The children have been identifying shapes, naming them, and counting their faces, edges, and vertices. They have shown great determination when tackling trickier shapes and are becoming shape experts.

History

Our History topic this term has been Flight. We have learned about significant figures such as the Wright Brothers, Bessie Coleman, and Neil Armstrong. One of the highlights was recreating the Wright Brothers' very first flight — which lasted only 12 seconds! The children loved imagining what it must have felt like to be part of such an important moment in history.



May Procession

In May, we celebrated Mary by laying flowers at her statue and saying the Hail Mary together. The children were beautifully respectful and took great care in honouring this special tradition.



Art

In Art, we have been working with clay, experimenting with different techniques to create a variety of sculptures. Our most recent pieces were inspired by houses, but with an abstract twist. The children showed brilliant creativity and weren't afraid to try new ideas.



A Big Thank You to Our Secret Reader

A huge thank you to our Secret Reader this term. The children absolutely loved having a surprise story shared with them — they are already asking when the next one will be! If you would like to come in on a Friday afternoon to read to the class, please let me know. We would love to welcome more parents in.



Thank you for your support with homework. It has been lovely to see the children engaging with their learning at home and sharing their work in class.

Years 3 – 3/4

We warmly welcome back our teaching team for the new term, with a special mention to Mrs O Pearce in year 3, Mr Casey and Mrs M Pearce in year 4. We can't wait to see the exciting learning and achievements that await our pupils after half term.

Year 3

This month in maths we have been working with fractions of shape and revisiting time.

In English lessons we have been exploring the text *Lights on Cotton Rock*. We have immersed ourselves into role as the main characters by writing character descriptions, newspaper reports and diary entries.

Science this month has been learning all about electricity and circuits. We have been testing different circuits and trying to identify which materials are conductors or insulators.

For humanities we have been unpicking what changed in Britain after the Anglo- Saxon invasion.

We've had a wonderfully creative month in Art.

The children have been exploring structure building and took part in an exciting bridge-building challenge. Working in teams, they were given just ten sheets of newspaper and one metre of cellotape to design and construct a bridge. It was a brilliant opportunity for them to practice teamwork, problem-solving, and imaginative thinking and they rose to the challenge with enthusiasm.

May is the Month of Mary, to celebrate this we had a procession in the hall which ended in the peace garden where we lay flowers by the statue of Mary and a prayer in the hall.



Year 4 – Miss Thompson

Stars of the week

Week 1- Michelle Lilly and Ezra

Week 2- Georgie and Jeramiah

Week 3-Wynford and Milosha

Week 4- Rasheed and Oscar James

Week 5- Darcy, Rion and Miss Rees

Week 6- Henry M and Carrick

English

We have had a truly fantastic time this term exploring *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. As Master Readers, the children have shown great enthusiasm, enjoying rich discussions and sharing their favourite characters and exciting moments from the story.

Alongside this, we have been studying *The Boy Who Banned the Dark*, which has inspired the children's creativity brilliantly. They are thoroughly enjoying writing their own imaginative stories about things they think a headteacher might ban! We are very proud of their ideas and effort, and we are looking forward to bringing their work together into a special class book. This will be shared with another school, and we are excited about the opportunity for the children to receive a reply and build a meaningful connection through their writing.

Math

This term, Year 4 have had a fantastic time exploring decimals. The children approached this new learning with great enthusiasm and, although it was tricky at first, they showed excellent determination and resilience to master the concept.

Building on this, we have also been learning about money, length, mass and volume. The children have confidently applied their understanding of decimals across these areas, and it has been wonderful to see their growing independence and accuracy in a range of practical contexts.

Art

In Art, Year 4 have loved creating abstract sculptures using cardboard, fabric, paint and other materials. They have shown fantastic creativity, producing impressive 3D pieces while developing skills such as problem-solving, resilience and teamwork.

We are incredibly proud of their work and look forward to sharing it with you on Friday.

Multiplication Tables Check Preparation

Year 4 have been working incredibly hard on their times tables since the beginning of the year, particularly over the last few months—well done to them! We are so proud of the effort and determination they have shown in building their confidence.

The official Multiplication Tables Check will take place over the two weeks following half term, and the children are well prepared for this. Please ensure that children are in school each day so they can take part fully. We would also encourage a little extra practice over the half term break to keep their skills sharp.

If your child is absent on a test day, please inform their class teacher so that an alternative testing slot can be arranged.

A Celebrating Term in Year 4

It has been a fantastic term, and we are incredibly proud of the children's hard work, creativity and enthusiasm for learning. We thank God for their many achievements and the joy they bring to our school community.

Year 5 – Miss Webb

This term in Year 5 we have had a new teacher and worked hard to settle into this new routine.

We read a book called *The Lost Thing* in English and used this to write newspaper reports, poems and a story. Some of these pieces of work were really impressive, particularly two poems written by Cameron.

We also read a book in Master Readers called *Tom's Midnight Garden* about a boy who finds a garden which appears only at midnight when staying with his aunt and uncle. This book gave us lots of opportunities for predictions of events which might take place and gave us the chance to explore a book that is almost 70 years old!

We developed our maths skills in a range of subjects and, in history, learnt about the Tudors and how different life was for people at the time with kings and queens ruling them. We talked about how Henry VIII had six wives, what happened to them, and why Henry kept remarrying.

In art we have been studying the Austrian artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser who was known for his use of bright and bold colours as well as designing buildings with bold patterns. Using some of his artwork as inspiration, we created our own versions in groups.

There has been some outstanding behaviour and work produced this term and several children have been celebrated with Stars of the Week; Heidi, Emma, Tenzing, Ethan, David and Davayah. There have also been some children who have made progress in their Maths Ninjas; Heidi, Klarke, Kyra and Bartosz. Well done to all of those who have been recognised for their hard work this term and for the rest of the class for their focus and determination too.

Year 5/6 – Mrs Powell



April 24th : Isaac, Romel, Melody

May 1st : Zach, Myra

May 8th : Freya, Annie, Georgie

May 15th : Whole Class

Ninjas:

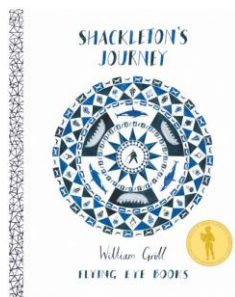
Kudan and Nidan: Rayaana

SATs Week

We are incredibly proud of both our Year 5 and Year 6 children during SATs week. The Year 5 children proved themselves to be exemplary role models as they helped children in younger classes while the tests took place. The Year 6 children arrived at school early every day to enjoy a breakfast together and consistently showed focus, determination and resilience in the tests, working hard to succeed and giving 100% effort throughout the week.

English

In English, we have been discovering the story of the incredible Antarctic expedition led by Ernest Shackleton. 'Shackleton's Journey' has inspired the children to write as members of Shackleton's crew about the epic adventure; they are now writing their own biographies based on an inspirational person of their choice.



Year 6 Production

We are delighted to announce that our Year 6 Summer production will be, "I'm an 11-Year-old Get Me Out of Here!" Auditions are taking place this week and we can't wait to start rehearsing for what promises to be a hilarious and fantastic performance.

Art

We have been studying the work of artist and architect Zaha Hadid and took the art lesson outside to draw our own school buildings in her style.



Year 5/6 - Mrs Bloom



April 24th: Maya & Gesilla

May 1st: Franek & Sadia

May 8th: Finley &

May 15th: Whole Class

SATs

It has been a very busy term, particularly with preparations for the Year 6 SATs. The children have worked incredibly hard, and we are very proud of their effort and determination. Year 5 have also been fantastic, showing great maturity by supporting and encouraging their Year 6 peers.

English

Having heard the story of the incredible Antarctic expedition led by Ernest Shackleton, the class are writing their own biographies based on an inspirational person of their choice.

PE

We have also been very fortunate to welcome Ben Foster from Reading Primary Stars, who has been teaching cricket this term. The children have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions – thank you for providing such a valuable experience.

Year 6 Production

Looking ahead, we are excited to be holding auditions for our Year 6 production of I'm an 11-Year-Old... We can't wait to see the children showcase their talents and begin preparing for what promises to be a fantastic performance.



The Ark – Mrs Machado & Mrs Allwood

Stars of the Week	Leo	Loveaya
	Nelly	Siraj

This term in Geography we have been learning about Zambia and a little village called Mugurameno. We have been comparing Reading to this village, looking at their houses and ours, what animals we have in Reading and the fact they wake up to elephants in their garden. The highlight of this topic was when we made Nshima a traditional Zambian food dish.



In English the children have been learning how to write formal letters! We have spent the half term learning how to persuade our audience and brainstorming ideas for upgrading our courtyard! The children have decided to throw a fundraiser in order to raise money for new paint and some new equipment. If anyone has some outdoor toys / equipment they would like to donate, we would be extremely grateful!

In between working hard, some of our children enjoyed the school disco and we have marked religious days within the month of May. May is traditionally dedicated to Mary, and it's been a wonderful time to engage our children in prayers, crafts, and activities that honour her life and role as the mother of Jesus. This included learning the Hail May and taking part in a procession, making flower crowns and laying flowers at the statue of Mary in our peace garden.



MAY HALF TERM

AT READING MUSEUM



SATURDAY 23 MAY - SATURDAY 30 MAY

THROUGHOUT HALF TERM

ACTIVITY CART
Free, drop in

OH CRUMBS! BISCUIT TRAIL
£1.50 per trail, pay on the day

BISCUIT TOWN ACTIVITY PACK
£2.50 per pack, pay on the day

TUESDAY 26 MAY

**EVERYBODY'S WELCOME: ILLUMINATION
AND MINIATURE PAINTING**

A visual art workshop with Fakhria Nezami
Families, 1 hour sessions 10am, 11.15am, 1pm
& 2.15pm
Suggested donation £4, book online

WEDNESDAY 27 MAY

**EVERYBODY'S WELCOME: FORBURY
EXPLORERS**

Aimed at ages 5+, with accompanying
adult, 1 hour sessions 10am, 11.15am, 1pm
& 2.15pm
Suggested donation £4, book online

THURSDAY 28 MAY

SUNNY SUNFLOWERS

All ages, families, 1 hour sessions
10am, 11.15am, 1pm & 2.15pm
£4, book online



MUSEUMS PARTNERSHIP READING

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MUSEUMS PARTNERSHIP READING

**READING
MUSEUM**



FRIDAY 29 MAY NATIONAL BISCUIT DAY

From 1870 until the 1970s, Reading was
known as 'Biscuit Town' because of the
fame of Huntley & Palmers biscuits

Reading Museum on Wheels will be out and
about at Didcot Railway Centre, talking
about our famous tin collection:
www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk

At Reading Museum we will also be handling
tins from our Huntley & Palmers collection
and families can enjoy our special biscuit
themed trail and activity pack!

FRIDAY 29 MAY

**VICTORIAN SCHOOL ROOM EXPERIENCE IN
THE ABBEY GATEWAY**

Ages 5+, 11am & 2pm (meeting at the Abbey
Gateway)
£2 per person, book online

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
RHYMETIME AT READING MUSEUM**
Families, 10.30am - 11am, drop in

**EVERY SATURDAY
MUSEUMS, MY WAY**
A breakout space, aimed at
neurodivergent visitors and
their families.
Free, drop in

www.readingmuseum.org.uk