



9th October 2026

Laleham Lea

A Catholic Independent School for boys and girls aged 3 to 11

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Dear Parents,

What an action-packed end to the week with a whole day of African Drumming courtesy of Primary Workshops for Schools, who filled the Long Room with inspirational beats as part of our Black History Month celebrations. Next Tuesday the celebrations will continue when our Orchestra will be performing a variety of music inspired by Black History Month outside at 4.15pm as children are dismissed from clubs.

October is also the Month of the Holy Rosary and students across the school have been learning more about this and praying the Rosary together.

A reminder that the deadline for ordering your school photographs is this coming Sunday if you want to save on postage and have them posted to school for distribution.

Thank you to everyone who had donated items for Purley Food Hub so far. The deadline for donations is this coming Monday, so please do give generously if you have not had the chance to do so already.

Our footballers remained positive despite defeat away at a strong St Cyprian's side this week. Whilst the final score was 8-3, they did win the second half with a hat-trick from a Year 5 player (one of three who was playing year up against Year 6 boys).

Hopefully you have all had the chance to book your parents' consultation slots for next week. We look forward to seeing you then.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Mrs Reece

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

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| • 12th October — Parent Consultation Meetings (3.30—5.30pm) | • 9th November—Anti Bullying week |
| • 16th October—Year 6 Class assembly 9am | • 11th November—Year 1 Pizza Express Trip |
| • 19th—30th October—Half Term | • 13th November—Catholic Schools' Cross Country |
| • 2nd November—Return to school winter Uniform | • 4th December—EYFS/KS1 Nativity Plays |
| | • 8th December—Christmas Carols |



The Catholic life of the school



Celebration of The Word

In our class assemblies this week we learnt a beautiful truth about how God the Father sent Jesus the Son to be with us.

We also learnt to understand that we can invite Jesus in to our hearts each day and as we move into a quiet prayer time we ask Jesus comes closer to us.

Jesus said, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. Matthew 21:42-43

Month of the Holy Rosary

OCTOBER: THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY
CELEBRATE & PRAY WITH US



HOW TO PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

1. Sign of the Cross & Apostles' Creed (Crucifix)
2. Our Father (Single Bead)
3. Three Hail Marys (Three Beads)
4. Glory Be
5. O My Jesus (First Large Bead)
6. First Decade (10 Hail Marys, Large Bead, First Mystery)

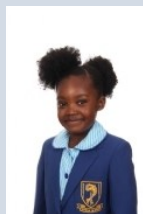
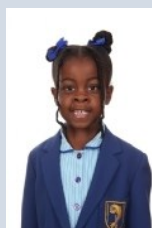
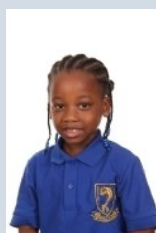
CELEBRATING THE HOLY ROSARY

October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. Join us in this beautiful devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Let us pray the rosary daily for peace, faith, and our community.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
FAITH • COMMUNITY • PRAYER

Gospel Values

Well done to this week's Gospel Values award winners for showing our values of **Compassion, Gentleness, Justice, Love, Forgiveness** and **Hope**.

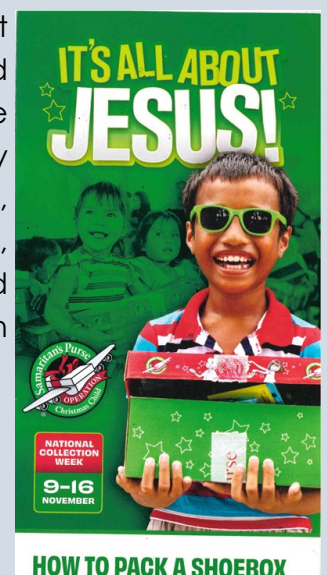


Mini Vinnies to launch the 2026 Shoebox Appeal!

The Mini Vinnies will be launching the Samaritans' Purse Shoebox Appeal at our Celebration of the Word Assembly on Monday to all our students.

The school has purchased a supply of shoeboxes and these will be available for parents to collect after school every day next week.

We would be most grateful if your filled shoebox could be returned to school by Thursday 5th November, at the latest. As always, your generosity and support is very much appreciated.



Nursery

We've had an exciting, shape-filled week in Nursery focusing on 2D Shapes!

Our young learners have been spotting properties of shapes through the story 'Shapes Are Everywhere', creating shape collages, making repeated patterns with scissors and glue, and using pegboards to build fine motor strength. We also practiced turn-taking while playing 'Dotty Dinosaur', and took our learning outdoors for an energetic 2D shape hunt in the EYFS garden!

Next week, we will challenge ourselves further as we move on to 3D Shapes!

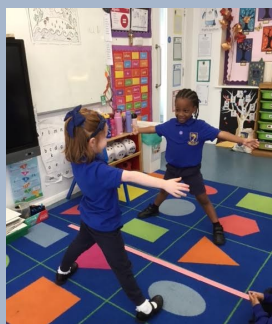


Reception

This week we have been thinking about Harvest and how we can help others. Inspired by The Enormous Turnip, the children enjoyed sequencing the story before drawing their favourite part, presenting their work, and answering questions with fantastic confidence!

In maths, we continued exploring symmetry through interactive games and created vibrant butterfly paintings with mirrored wings. We have also been learning about October as the Month of the Holy Rosary, practising how to say the Hail Mary together using our Rosary bead.

Thank you once again to all our Reception parents who have kindly donated to the Purley Food Hub Appeal - there is still time if you would like to donate but haven't yet had the chance.



Year 1

October is the Month of the Rosary, this week the children in Year 1 have learnt why praying the Rosary is so important to Catholics.



Year 2



This week in Year 2 have been learning all about different types of habitat in their Science lessons and had fun sorting different animals into their correct habitats.

Year 3

In Science this week, as part of our Rocks and Soils topic, Year 3 stepped into the shoes of professional pedologists (scientists who study soil)!

Using magnifying glasses and hands-on practical investigations, the children examined the composition, texture, and permeability of sandy, clay, and chalky soils.

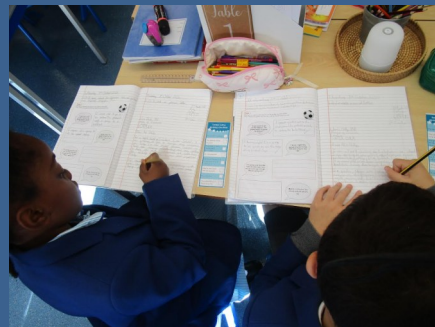
The pupils loved getting their hands dirty, making detailed scientific observations, and using key pedological vocabulary to record their findings. Fantastic scientific thinking, Year 3!



Year 4

It's been another action-packed week in Year 4! In Science, we investigated environmental change, diving into topics like climate change, toxic gases, pollution, and endangered species.

We transformed our classroom into a debate council to weigh up new building developments against wildlife preservation. In English, pupils applied formal writing skills to craft persuasive letters urging local leaders to protect habitats, boost recycling, and tackle pollution. Excellent work, Year 4!



Year 5



This week Year 5 pupils have been writing free verse poetry linked to our current class text, 'The Queen's Token'. The pupils applied a range of poetic devices such as personification, rhyme, repetition, and sensory details.

Year 6

This week, Year 6 has been exploring Fairtrade in Geography, learning how supporting cocoa, banana, and sugar farmers in places like Belize and the Dominican Republic ensures fair wages and better working conditions.

Inspired to make a difference, they wrote persuasive letters to local supermarkets urging them to stock more Fairtrade products on their shelves. Putting their learning into action closer to home, they also donated Fairtrade chocolate, coffee, and sugar to our Harvest collection in aid of the Purley Food Hub.



Free Community Reading Event

22 OCTOBER 2026

1.30pm - 4pm
All Saints Church Hall,
Church Road, Kenley, CR8 5DU
All ages welcome

Simon de Cintra will be hosting the event

Come and share your favourite poems, novels, short stories, comics and graphic novels

**Dress up encouraged:
come as your favourite character**

Confirmed authors:
Helen Gordon, Olusiji-Belo &
Elizabeth Goodridge

Refreshments with cakes
Music
Book signing

Books:
a world
possibilities



Confidence Building FUN

Drama, dance & singing classes designed to help 4-12 year olds shine

"My daughter's confidence grows with every session, she comes out taller and so proud every time."
- Laurie Stewart

TRY A FULL CLASS FOR FREE

Perform Purley
St David's Preparatory School, Woodside Valley Road, CR8 3AL
Saturdays at 9.30am (4-7s), 11.15am (7-12s)

To book a free class visit perform.org.uk/try

PERFORM
BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE

Black History Month Workshop



Reception Star Musician

Our Reception children have been listening to Tchaikovsky's March of the Toy Soldiers in their Music class.

Well done to this student who was brilliant at tapping out the rhythm on the claves and was awarded the Star Musician Cape!



Stars of the week

