6th November 2026

Laleham Lea

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

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Dear Parents,

What a busy week we have enjoyed as we start the second half of our autumn term.

Thank you all for your generosity as always with our charitable giving, We sent over 60 shoe boxes off on their journey around the world for the Samaritans' Purse appeal. If you have not seen it already, please do check out our video on Facebook/Instagram.

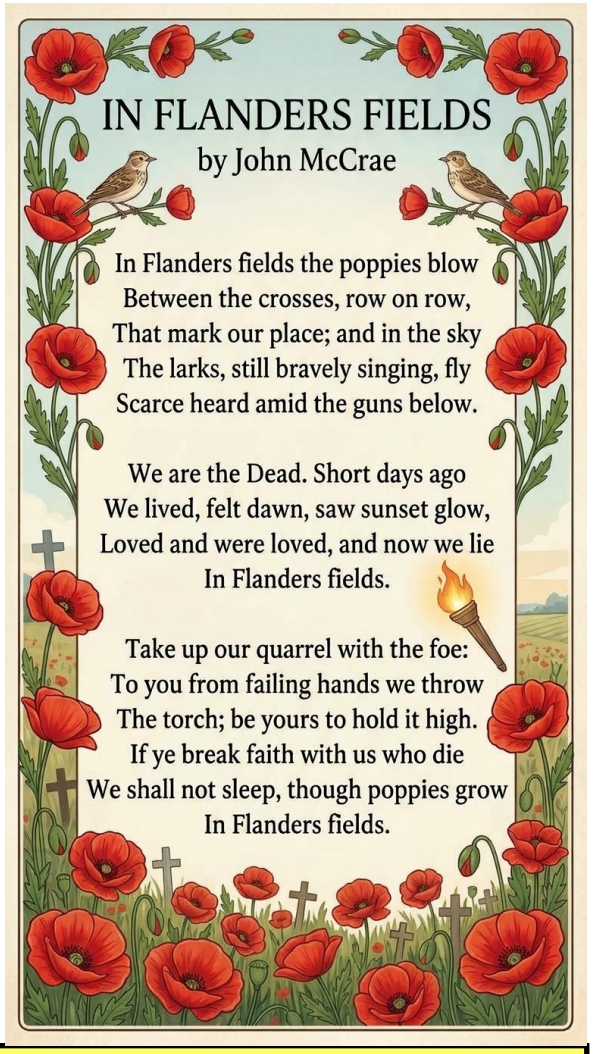
Our Year 5s have also been selling poppies for the Royal British Legion this week. On Sunday I will be joined by two Y6 pupils to lay a wreath on behalf of the whole school at the Woodcote Green Remembrance Service and on Remembrance Day next Wednesday, we will hold a whole school silence at 11am.

Next Friday many of our Junior students will be taking part in the Catholic Schools' Cross Country Competition at John Fisher's Plough Lane field, please do check Compass and give your permission for them to attend this if they have been selected.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and safe bonfire celebrations if you are attending any events this weekend.

Mrs Reece

Headteacher



Dates for your Diary

- 9th November—Anti Bullying week
- 11th November—Year 1 Pizza Express Trip
- 11th November—Footbal vs Royal Russell
- 13th November—Catholic Schools' Cross Country
- 30th November—PTA Film Night (details TBC)
- 4th December—EYFS/KS1 Nativity Plays 9.15/11am
- 8th December—Christmas Carols
- 11th December—End of term 2pm—No Clubs or Late Leavers

The Catholic life of the school

Celebration of The Word

In our Celebration of the Word Assembly this week, we learnt that November is the Month of the Holy Souls, and it begins with the Solemnity of All Saints. To mark this special celebration, we gathered together to listen to Jesus in the Gospel as he shares his great teaching, the Beatitudes. "*Jesus' great teaching that points the way to true happiness, holiness, and how to stand out through radical love and compassion.*" **(Matthew 5:1–12)**

We thought about how the first Christians stood out from the crowd by showing love and care to others, even when it was difficult. Their example helped people in the Roman Empire discover Jesus. We are invited to live with that same love and discover that God has made each of us to become a saint. His words show us how to live a holy life and become saints.

In our time of guided prayer, we asked Jesus to help us love others and we pray for those who have died. We finished our Celebration of the Word by saying the Eternal Rest prayer together.



Gospel Values

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







THE MINI VINNIES CO-ORDINATE ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL APPEAL!

Wow! Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity supporting the Mini Vinnies Samaritans' Purse Shoebox Appeal, this year.
We have collected 62 shoeboxes, that you have lovingly assembled. Mrs Hall and Mrs De Rosa delivered all the shoeboxes to Christ Church in Purley on Thursday afternoon, which is the first part of their very long journey to a lucky recipient.
We are so very fortunate at Laleham Lea to have so many thoughtful and charitable students, parents and staff, we are so proud of our wonderful community.





In Reception class this week we thoroughly enjoyed celebrating the Hindu Festival of Diwali with our friends. We learned how Diwali is all about new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil, and light over darkness.





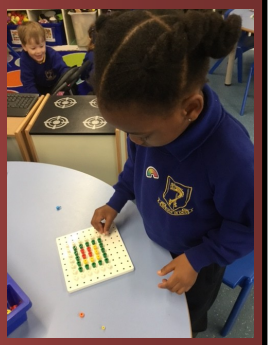








Everyone joined in with making beautiful Rangoli patterns whether from blocks, beads, sequins or paints and stencils. We listened to the legendary story of Rama and Sita and were inspired to make puppets on craft sticks for re-enacting the story with friends. We also sculpted our own Diya Lamps out of clay, painted them in bright gold, and added sequins and a candle to light the way home for Rama and Sita from the story!



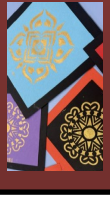






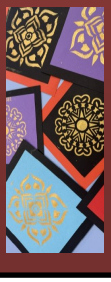














Nursery



We have had an incredibly exciting & busy first week back in Nursery, exploring numbers 1–10 and enjoying vibrant celebrations. The children participated in a range of activities including:

- Counting the objects and colouring the correct amount.
- Listening to the story 'Clive the bear' and discussing the story
- Completing the cut and paste numbers to match number and quantity.
- Playing 'fish for numbers' game & number tennis
- Writing their numbers 1-5 and 1-10



Alongside our maths work, the children have been exploring Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights. They learned that this beautiful festival is traditionally celebrated over five days. Nursery took part in some wonderfully fun and colourful activities to show what they learned.

Reception

What a fantastic and busy first week back in Reception! We have kicked off our exciting new topic, Celebrations, by exploring Diwali and Bonfire Night. The children loved learning all about the story of Rama and Sita, as well as discovering how to stay safe around bonfires and fireworks.

We also learned about how to keep our pets safe and calm on Bonfire night. Creativity has been flowing across the classroom, with everyone crafting some truly wonderful artworks, including some sparkly firework pictures! Finally, a huge thank you to all our families who so generously donated to our Shoebox Appeal - your support is hugely appreciated and will make a real difference!







Year 1



This week in RE the children in Year 1 have been learning about why the bible is such a special book.

One of our students said that *'it leads us to the gates of Heaven'*. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the pages in the bible.

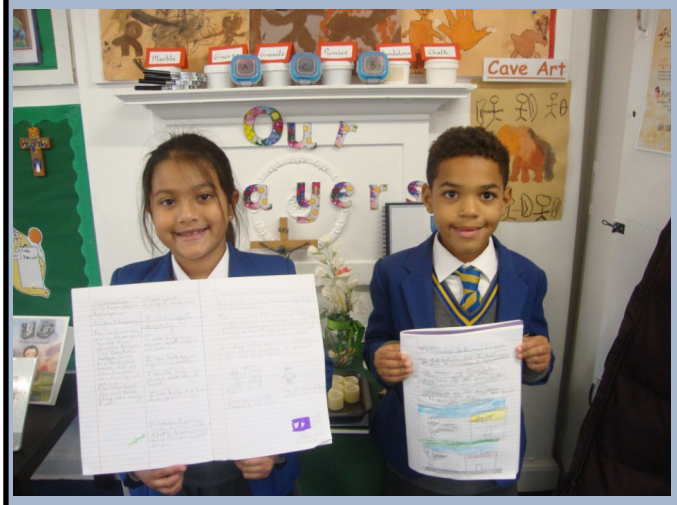
Year 2



Year 2 have made these amazing, colourful posters for their topic on The Great Fire of London.

Well done Year 2!

Year 3



This week Year 3 have made a good start on our new text in English and the children have been demonstrating good comprehension skills. In RE we looked at how Psalm 8 glorifies God for Creation, and the children demonstrated their own lovely sense of wonder about the gift of life.

We have made a start on formal methods for addition and subtraction and we have been pleased by how carefully the children have been exchanging and laying out their work. Keep up the good effort, Year 3!

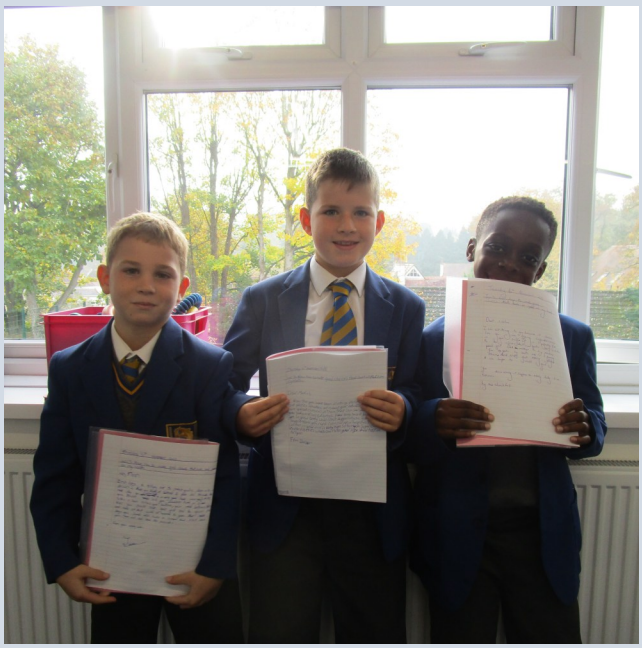
Year 4



What a brilliant first week back for Year 4! During RE, we've been learning about John the Baptist and the meaning of baptism as a fresh start and the washing away of sins. The children reflected on things they were sorry for and re-enacted the concept by physically washing their notes away. Great reflection work, Year 4!



Year 5



This week Year 5 have celebrated their individual gifts and talents while learning how to look after their minds and bodies. We tackled important topics like the impact of sleep deprivation and how to handle skin changes as we grow up. The children did a fantastic job writing caring, practical advice guides for their peers on how to get a good night's rest and feel confident in their own skin.

Year 6



Year 6 have recently completed their research homework on Ancient Greece, with a few children taking a hands-on approach to their learning. Highlights included a model temple and even a working Archimedes screw.

Thank you to the pupils who put effort into their projects to help support our history topic this term.

Stars of the week







