

## Year 4 Update

**Friday 1st May 2026**

**REMINDER: Please make sure that your children are practising their times tables at home.**

### **RE**

- This week continued learning about Peter's relationship with Jesus. The children made links between Peter's Denial of Jesus (Matthew 26: 69 - 75) and Jesus appearing to the disciples by the sea of Tiberias (John 21: 1-19)

### **Pre-Teaching:**

- Next week, the children will be thinking about what the Apostles' Creed tells us about what Christians believe.

### **English**

- This week we continued our book, 'Leon and the Place Between' by Angela McAllister and illustrated by Grahame Baker-Smith. Children continued writing their own story based on travelling to a magical place.

### **Pre-teaching:**

- Next week, Year 4 Padua will begin writing their best copy of their own magical story and Year 4 Lisbon will continue planning and editing.

### **Maths:**

- This week, Padua Children have been learning to interpret graphs. We looked carefully at graphs particularly increases and decreases and what information this reveals. Lisbon Children have studied time vocabulary and telling the time.

### **Pre-Teaching:**

- Next week we will be counting through zero and exploring negative numbers.

### **Science**

- This week we continued our topic, 'Sound and Vibrations'. The children learnt about how we hear.

### **Pre-Teaching:**

- Next week, children will learn about volume and measuring sound in decibels.

Key Vocabulary			
RE	English	Maths	Science
Apostle's Creed Communion of Saints Apostolic	Entertain Adverbs Inverted commas Dialogue Noun phrase Character Setting	Multiply Times Digit	vibrations sound echolocation sound wave eardrum ear canal

### **Homework:**

English	Basic Better Best Sentences
---------	-----------------------------

	Due: Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May
Maths	Due: Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May

## **Forest School Message from Carrie & Emma**

### YEAR 4

On arrival, the children looked at what new changes they could see today and the children were pleased to observe that one of the Sycamore trees that didn't have many leaves was now catching the others up. Some of the other Sycamore trees have started flowering, too, and the children took some time to observe them as they are different in form to the blossom of the Hawthorn. After this, we recapped the discussion we had about needs last week and the children chose a need that they felt they wanted to have met at Forest School today, if possible.

Next, we played a fun new game with the children in three groups called *Sensei*. It is a fast-paced game which creates connection and camaraderie. Lots of children said they were going to play it at break time!

Then the children had the opportunity to practise using a fire steel, which they had had an experience of last year. Emma reminded the children of our fire safety rules and they discussed the three components of the fire triangle. The children practised making a spark first of all and then had a try at lighting a piece of cotton wool. All of the children were able to make sparks and some children in both classes were able to light the cotton wool which is tricky to do.

Back at log circle, Emma explained that our fire focus today was linked to the upcoming festival of Beltane and May Day. Beltane is an ancient Celtic festival that celebrates the beginning of summer and the birth and renewal of nature. The Celts celebrated by lighting fires and dancing around them. Emma read the children a story about Beltane which featured a Fairy Queen and the Green Man, both symbolic characters of the festival.

For the rest of the session, some children chose to cook with Emma. Today we made nettle pakoras. Nettles from the site were collected and hot water was poured over them to get rid of the stinging element of the plant. The children enjoyed chopping the nettles and adding the different ingredients to the mixture. They rolled it up into small balls and watched them fry on the fire. Other children carried on with different Beltane traditions - some made May Day crowns out of willow and decorated them with pieces of hawthorn and others sculpted Green Man figures out of clay and decorated them with green leaves. Some children were keen to continue with the site work and children in both groups helped Nicki get the wildflower patch ready and others continued digging a hole for the loggery. The children in the afternoon finished preparing the patch and were able to sow a box of wildflower seeds. We look forward to seeing how they grow. Other children enjoyed bug hunting and tree climbing. Some children found a spider they were interested in and used the Spider ID sheet to try and work out which type it was.

To finish, we sat around the fire and enjoyed eating the nettle pakoras. The children in the morning made a raita to go with the pakoras for both the groups to try and some children chose to have it with their pakora.

### **TESCO Tokens**

If you shop in any Tesco store in the Watford area, please remember to collect the blue tokens and put them in the St Anthony's collection box in stores. **Every blue token counts!!!**

Spread the word to all your family and friends to also take part - any donation we receive from Tesco will go towards the school library.



Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend,  
Catherine, Emma & Rachel