Remembrance Day

At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, the guns on the Western Front fell silent, marking the armistice and bringing an end to the First World War. At St Faith's, at 11 o'clock on 11 November, the whole school stood together in stillness outside, joining the nation in observing the two-minute silence.

This moment of reflection was marked in the traditional way by three pupils playing *The Last Post* on the trumpet, followed by *Reveille* to conclude the observance. Both pieces were performed again at our afternoon assembly, which we were pleased to share with The Leys and St Faith's Foundation Chaplain, Reverend Simon Coleman.

Reverend Coleman spoke movingly about the difference between memory and remembrance, illustrating his words with four carefully chosen poems, including *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae. On Tuesday, our school community also paused to remember, by name, the Old Fidelians who lost their lives in conflict. As the roll of honour was read by our Year 8 pupils, each child held a large poppy—one for every name remembered.

The Chamber Choir performed a beautifully expressive rendition of the anthem *The Road Home*. The assembly closed with the timeless words of the Kohima Epitaph:
When you go home
Tell them of us and say
For your tomorrow
We gave our today.

The entire occasion was observed with the utmost respect by our pupils.

This Week at St Faith’s




LEST WE FORGET
Thank you
Sponsored by
St Faiths
LEGION



World Diabetes Day – Wear Blue to Show Support

Today in Pre Prep, pupils and staff alike could be seen wearing an abundance of blue. That is because blue is the official colour of World Diabetes Day and we wanted to show our support and raise awareness among the school community. Millions of people worldwide are living with diabetes. Awareness and understanding remain key to improve prevention and management.



Gratitude

Mrs Clarke writes,

"This Week 2JC presented a thoughtful and uplifting class assembly on the theme of gratitude. We have been reflecting on what we are thankful for and exploring what gratitude means to others in our school. The children confidently performed a song and a poem and even explained the science behind feeling grateful.

I am very proud of their wonderful presentation and thankful for the enthusiasm and confidence showed."



This Week at St Faith’s





Pre Prep Hindi Club Assembly

Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights held in the period October to November. It is particularly associated with Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity. On Monday, parents were invited to the delightful and vibrant Pre Prep Hindi Club assembly, overseen by Mrs Amin. Wearing beautiful traditional dress, the children read a short poem in Hindi and performed the 'Garba' dance. The Garba is a folk dance from the Indian state of Gujarat, performed in a circle during the nine-day festival of Navaratri. It is a dance of love, joy and good energy, celebrating and thanking the goddess, Durga. The occasion was greatly enjoyed by all in attendance.

This Week at St Faith’s



Light Refraction

Mrs Pritchard writes,

"This week, Year 8 have truly demonstrated their learning habits of resilience, curiosity, and ambition. Tasked with interpreting a set of rules and applying them to draw a ray of light refracting through a glass block, the students faced a particularly challenging activity. Rather than simply finding the correct answer, they were encouraged to uncover the process and understand the concept behind the theory.
This approach not only deepened their scientific understanding but also strengthened critical thinking skills, which is an invaluable asset as they prepare for the next stage of their education."

Young Minds

Our senior pupils in Years 7 & 8 hosted a charity tuck shop during breaktime on Thursday. All profits will be donated to support the charity Young Minds which provides mental health support for young people. It was heartening to see such enthusiasm for such an important cause.



This Week at St Faith’s





Swimming Gala v. Kimbolton School

Mrs Critchley writes,

"On Tuesday we hosted U12 and U13 pupils from Kimbolton School in our second swimming gala of the academic year. It was a keenly contested event, which resulted in a Kimbolton victory by 110 points to 95. One highlight of the evening was seeing the boys' U13 50m butterfly school record broken in a time of 30.30 seconds, the first one this year. It was wonderful to see all our pupils approach the fixture in fine spirit and a friendly, competitive manner. Congratulations to all involved; it was a fun and enjoyable occasion."

Year 6 IAPS Boys' Rugby Festival

Mr Gillick writes,

"Last Friday the Year 6 boys attended the IAPS Rugby Festival at Stamford. The boys were wonderful ambassadors for the school and although it was a day spent on either side of the win/loss metric, there were massive positives for the boys' learning and enjoyment. The whole squad shared equal game time and a fair share of scorers. Steps were certainly made in the right direction, and I am incredibly proud of their commitment and progress."



ISGA 2-Piece National Championships

Mrs North writes,

"On Sunday 9th November, 30 gymnasts representing St Faith's took part in ISGA 2-Piece National Championship at Haberdasher's Boys School in Elstree. The facility was huge but nevertheless, absolutely packed, with over 103 teams and nearly 600 children. The spectators exceeded 800 over the course of the day. Every section was fully subscribed and 12 teams fought to achieve success in each of the girls' sections while U11 boys boasted 6 teams for the first time ever. The gymnasts from St Faith's were very well prepared, courageous and hardworking. They supported and encouraged each other and proved themselves to be worthy ambassadors for St Faith's. Special thanks go to Miss Butler and Mr Mageean for their dedicated coaching and to Mr Mageean and Mrs Nickerson for their fantastic volunteering on the door and selling t-shirts."

The Purcell Ensemble meets Emilia Benjamin: A Masterclass in Renaissance Music

Mr Gorick writes,

"On Monday, St Faith's baroque chamber group, *The Purcell Ensemble*, had the extraordinary opportunity to work with Emilia Benjamin, one of the world's leading viol players. Emilia brought a wealth of expertise and passion to the rehearsal, offering students a rare insight into the stylistic intricacies of Renaissance performance. A highlight of the session was the chance to play a treble viol—an exquisite instrument crafted in England, believed to date back to the early 17th century. This hands-on experience brought history to life and deepened the ensemble's understanding of the music they are preparing. For more details about this memorable occasion, please see the side bar.

We look forward to hearing the fruits of this inspiring workshop at the upcoming *St Cecilia Concert* on 20th November in Ashburton Hall, where The Purcell Ensemble will share their interpretation of Dowland's *Lachrimae Antiquae* with the school community."

This Week at St Faith's



Year 3 & 4 Taster Morning

For prospective pupils considering joining St Faith's into Year 3 or 4 for September 2026, we will be hosting a Taster Morning on Monday 24th November from 09:00 to 12:45.

This event offers an excellent opportunity for children to experience life at St Faith's first-hand, including sessions in Art, Engineering/Maths, Library and Sports, as well as time with our Year 8 'buddies'.

If you know of families who might be interested in exploring what a St Faith's education can offer, please encourage them to register via our website under Visits & Open Mornings – St Faith's Cambridge.

New Initiative from the SFPA (St Faith's Parents' Association)

The SFPA has launched a clever, sustainable, and community-minded solution: Costume Donations.

This is how it works:

- Drop your costumes for donation into the labelled box by the chequered mat. This week it was Roman costumes in preparation for next week's Year 4 Roman Day.
- Label with size and boy/girl.
- And please note, we accept donations only (no loans).

Please ensure that everything is clearly marked as above, and please contact the SFPA with any queries. Thank you for supporting our school community!



SFPA Fireworks

The SFPA fireworks evening, which took place last Friday, was a wonderful extravaganza of colour, light and sound. Once again it was sell-out evening and I do hope that you enjoy these photos from the event. My sincere thanks go to the SFPA and all the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the event possible, and to the many parent volunteers who gave their time both during the event and the following morning to help ready the school for Monday. The SFPA collected a total of £359.72 in the leaving collection for the nominated charity: Cultivating Change. Thank you for your generosity.

This Week at St Faith’s



This Week at St Faith’s





And Finally…

This evening the Sports Hall will host a lively five-a-side football match between Old Fidelians, parents and staff—an occasion that promises good humour, healthy competition, and plenty of cheering from the sidelines.

On Sunday at noon, a number of our pupils will be performing festive music in the Grand Arcade to mark the start of the Christmas shopping season. If you happen to be nearby, please do stop to lend your support – I am sure they will be delighted to see familiar faces in the crowd.

With all best wishes,



Crispin Hyde-Dunn