Spotlight on AI Week

In a series of lunchtime talks this week, delivered by parents, pupils were invited to learn more about a broad range of applications that AI already has in the workplace. There were fascinating insights into how Google is working to make AI as reliable as possible; how AI is being used to write and mark assessments, the application of AI in drug development and further ways in which AI might be able to help us with in the future, for example, health, education, water provision and climate. We are very grateful to the parents for sharing their expertise and time with the children.



This Week at St Faith’s





Cyberbullying Assembly: Being Safe, Kind and Responsible Online

In Tuesday's assembly, Mr Critchley explored the important theme of **cyberbullying** and what it means to be *safe, kind and responsible online*. As a school community, we recognise that respectful and supportive behaviour should extend beyond the classroom and into the digital world. What we do online is just as significant as how we treat one another face to face.

The assembly began by discussing what cyberbullying can look like. Pupils considered that bullying is not limited to in-person interactions. It can also include repeatedly sending messages intended to upset someone, impersonating another person online, sharing inappropriate material, or posting images without consent. One of the key concerns highlighted was the speed and scale at which online content can spread, often increasing the distress felt by those affected.

Through a series of relatable scenarios, pupils were encouraged to reflect on how situations can develop online. For example, a group chat may begin in a friendly and positive way but can

gradually turn unkind if disparaging comments about someone are introduced. It was discussed how even passive engagement—such as "liking" a message—can signal approval and make someone complicit in the behaviour. Similarly, sharing a photo followed by unkind comments was clearly identified as bullying.

To help guide decision-making, pupils were encouraged to ask themselves two simple but powerful questions:

- *Would I say this face to face?*
- *Would I want this shared about me?*

These questions reinforced the importance of empathy and accountability in online interactions.

Importantly, the assembly also focused on practical steps pupils can take if they encounter or experience cyberbullying. These included:

- Speaking to a trusted adult
- Saving evidence of the behaviour
- Avoiding responding or retaliating

Pupils were also reminded that remaining silent as a bystander, can allow bullying to continue. Choosing to speak up, seek help, or support others can make a meaningful difference.

Beyond school, pupils were signposted to trusted sources of help and information, including CEOP/Thinkuknow, the NSPCC, and Childline, all of which offer valuable guidance and support.

The key messages from the assembly were clear and simple:

1. Be kind online
1. Be smart online
1. Speak up

We hope these messages will continue to resonate with pupils and support them in making positive, responsible choices in their online lives.



The Pre Prep School Council has been Fundraising

Mrs Clarke writes,

"Last Friday, our Pre Prep School Council took the lead in organising a fantastic ice lolly sale, demonstrating both initiative and teamwork. The event was part of a fundraising effort chosen by the council to help improve our playground facilities.

The children worked incredibly hard, confidently managing the sale and collecting contributions with great enthusiasm. Their efforts truly paid off, as the event raised an impressive total of **£173**.

We are very grateful to everyone who supported this initiative. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference, helping to enhance our playground for all to enjoy. Well done to our School Council for such a successful and enjoyable event!"


SCHOOL COUNCIL

A Lively Celebration of Young Musical Talent

Mr Gorick writes,

"Ashburton Hall was full of life on Monday afternoon as pupils from Years 3 and 4, together with a number of Year 5 musicians, took part in a joyful and vibrant Junior Concert. From the opening moments, there was a real sense of excitement in the room, and pupils performed with confidence, enthusiasm and clear enjoyment.

The concert began with the instrumental ensembles. Junior Strings set the tone with a bold and stylish hip-hop number, followed by Tiny Brass, whose performance reflected the impressive progress they have made as a group. The recorder ensemble then shared two well-prepared pieces, reminding everyone just how versatile and rewarding this important foundation instrument can be, especially when played together with care and attention.

Junior Voices provided a strong and engaging vocal centre to the programme with two contrasting songs. *Any Dream Will Do*, from *Joseph*, was performed with warmth and clarity, while *What About Us* (P!nk) grew into a powerful and uplifting moment, capturing themes of resilience and the importance of raising our voices together in a positive way.

A change of pace came with 4L's lively and tightly performed samba batucada, full of rhythmic energy and impressive precision. Year 3 followed with a delightful performance of *The Dinosaur Gang*, full of character and joy. Drawing on their recent work on Holst's *Planets Suite*, they explored contrasts in tempo and dynamics, giving the audience a real sense of how these elements shape and energise music.

The concert concluded with Year 4's thoughtful and moving performance of *One Little Voice* (Andy Beck). With its message of unity, community and collective strength, it brought the afternoon to a fitting close, enhanced by several assured and expressive solo performances.

This was a joyful celebration of musical learning and collaboration across the year groups. My grateful thanks go to Miss Butler, Mrs Cobb, Mr Sedgwick and Ms Elcome for their expert direction, accompaniment and unwavering support of our thriving and vibrant music department."

This Week at St Faith's



This Week at St Faith’s





View from the Science Labs

Mrs Pritchard writes,

"Last week Year 5 pupils were exploring reversible and irreversible changes, deepening their understanding of how materials can change state. They were particularly engaged by a demonstration of glass melting, helping them visualise these processes in action.

Year 6 have been learning about human development, focusing on how a foetus changes over time and the key structures that support it during pregnancy. This has prompted thoughtful discussion and excellent engagement.

Our Year 7 pupils have been working exceptionally hard this term, completing in-depth research projects on a range of relevant topics, including "Would you trust AI?", "How can society adapt to an ageing population?", "Sustainable buildings", and "Acid rain and plant growth".

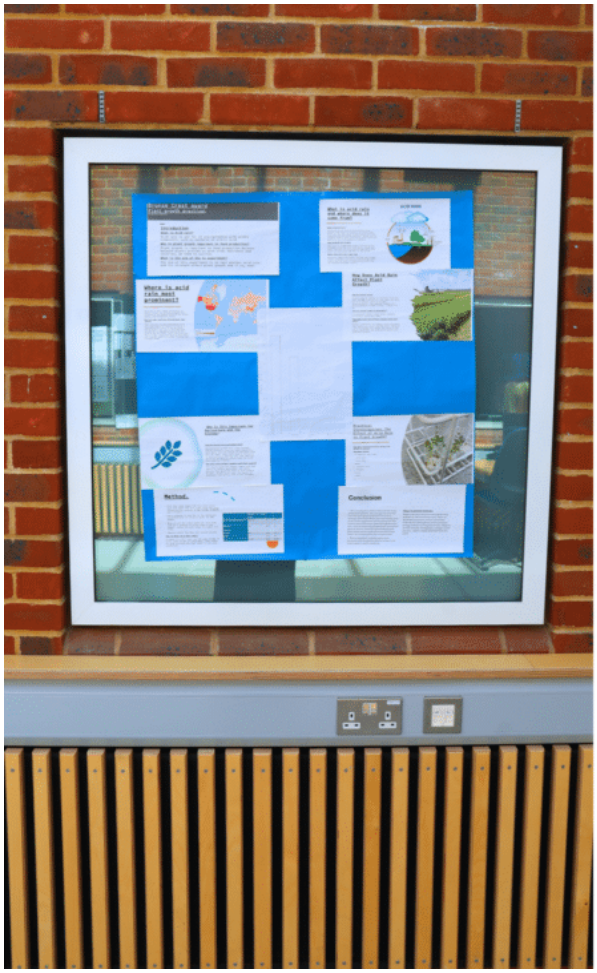
The quality of work produced has been outstanding, showcasing not only excellent research skills but also a level of maturity and critical thinking that is truly commendable. We warmly encourage you to take the opportunity to view their projects on display in The Hub next time you are in school.

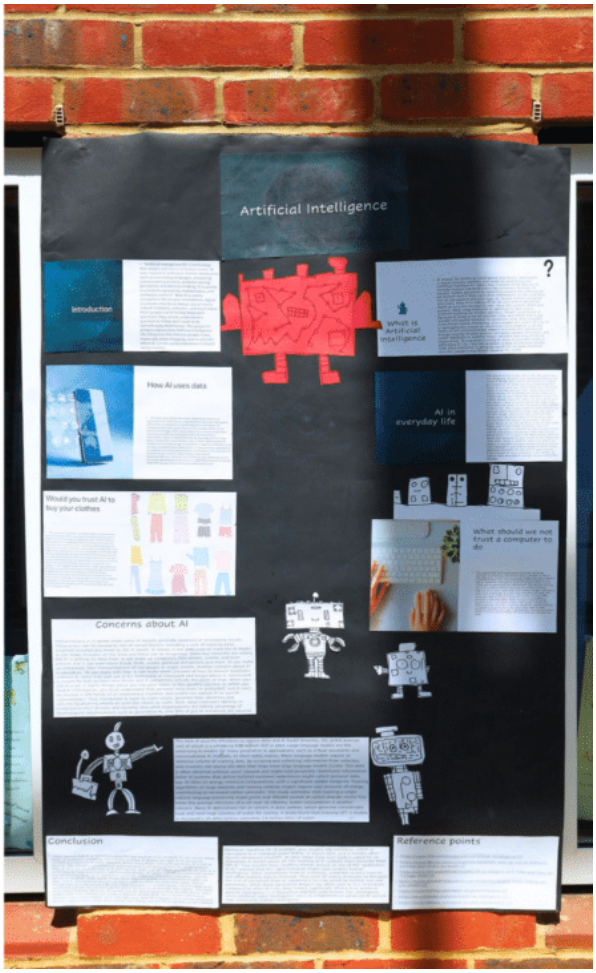
In addition, pupils from Years 7 and 8, across all sets, took part in the British Physics Olympiad for the very first time this year. We are absolutely delighted with their fantastic achievements. Every pupil who participated was awarded a medal, resulting in an impressive total of 32 Gold, 75 Silver, and 7 Bronze awards, a truly remarkable accomplishment.

Pupils will receive their certificates at the Faculty Awards Ceremony in the final week of term, and we look forward to celebrating their success.

Year 8 were investigating the effect of gravitational field strength on weight and also carried out a GCSE-level practical exploring Newton's Second Law (F = ma), applying their knowledge in a more advanced scientific context."

This Week at St Faith's





'C Cubed' Escape Room Event

Mrs Davies wrote,

"We are very grateful to Mr Fung and Mr Welby at The Leys for hosting a 'C Cubed' Escape Room event on Tuesday. It was wonderful to see pupils collaborating on the bespoke space themed activities you had so skilfully put together. Feedback from our pupils was that it was a stretching and highly enjoyable afternoon."



This Week at St Faith’s





Newton House Charity Event

Mrs Hames writes,

"On Tuesday, pupils across the school demonstrated their support of Red Balloon Learner Centre by adding an accessory to their uniform and making a donation to support the work of this local charity. Red Balloon supports children and young people back into education after adverse and challenging experiences such as bullying, mental health difficulties, or long-term health conditions. By engaging with Red Balloon's tailored support, young people rebuild confidence, develop resilience, and gain the skills needed to successfully return to education, employment, or further training. Carrie Herbert, founder of Red Balloon, visited St Faith's to see the pupils in their red finery."

This Week at St Faith's



This Week at St Faith’s





Camp Green Lake

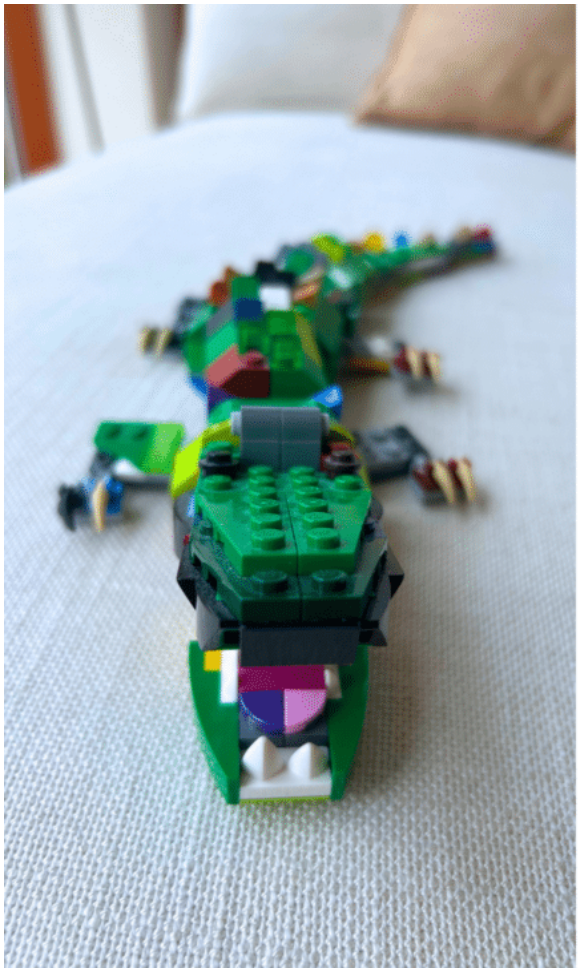
Mrs Scott writes,

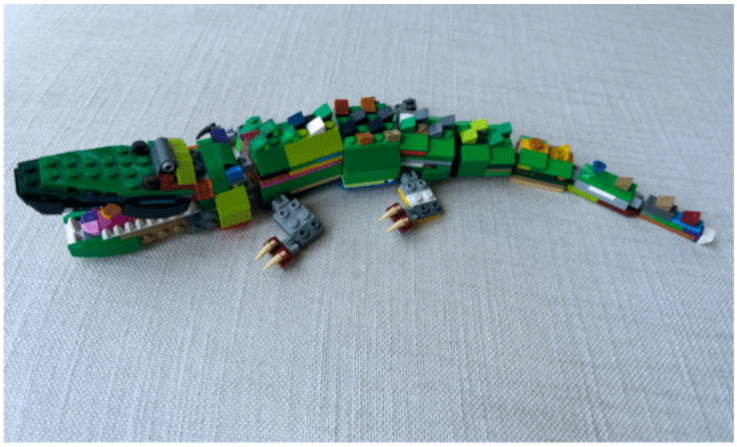
"Mrs Switsur's Year 7 class has been studying the book 'Holes' by US author Louis Sachar. The pupils were asked to create a scary creature which could cause a potential danger with Camp Green Lake. Here are some examples of the warning posters of these horrendous creatures."

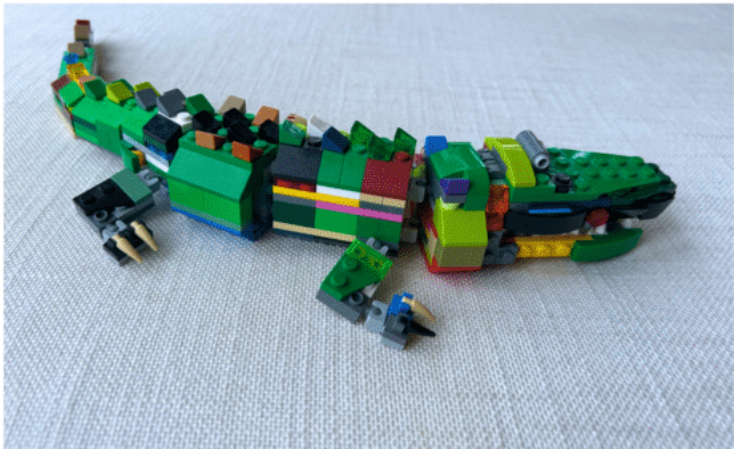
School Council Lego Building Competition

Mrs McGregor writes,

"Congratulations to all of the pupils who took part in the recent School Council Lego building competition, based on the theme of 'Summer' or 'Nature'. Pupils were not allowed to use pre-existing kits and they could also use recycled materials to create their masterpieces." Please see the sidebar for the competition winners.







New Pupils & Move-up Morning

On Thursday, pupils across the school were involved in 'Move-up' morning, which is when the children meet their Tutor for the forthcoming academic year, as well as having the opportunity to visit their new classroom. We began our Move-up morning with an assembly which reflected on the sense of journey and opportunity. It was a pleasure to welcome many of the new pupils, and later that morning their parents, and we look forward to them joining in September.

Talk From Lower Sixth Pupils at The Leys

On Thursday afternoon, Lower Sixth pupils from The Leys came to St Faith's to speak to our Year 8 pupils who are moving on to The Leys, about the transition in September. The senior school pupils talked through a range of topics, gave excellent advice about how our pupils should approach Year 9 and then answered many questions. We thoroughly enjoyed hosting The Leys students, all of whom were Old Fidelians and in turn they clearly relished the opportunity of returning to St Faith's, meeting with our Year 8 pupils and chatting with former teachers.

This Week at St Faith’s



This Week at St Faith’s





And Finally…

As reported in the previous week's newsletter, last Friday we held our Sports Day for pupils in Years 3-8 at the University of Cambridge athletics track on Wilberforce Road. The event was a great success, bringing together our school community. Meanwhile the Pre Prep children, who have already enjoyed their own Sports Day slightly earlier in the term, enjoyed a "Fun Day" making full use of the school campus. I do hope that you will enjoy browsing through this sample of some of the photos taken on the day.

This Week at St Faith’s



This Week at St Faith’s





This Week at St Faith’s



This Week at St Faith’s

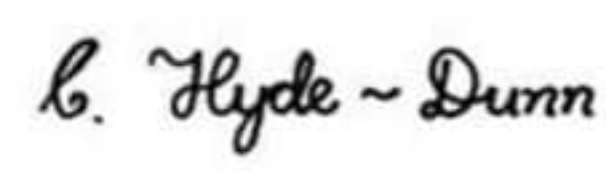


St Faith's School, Trumpington Road, Cambridge CB2 8AG
T: 01223 352073 E: info@stfaiths.co.uk

Charity No 1144035

Looking ahead, very early tomorrow morning, a party of Year 8 pupils and staff will set off for Italy to visit Rome and Pompeii. It promises to be a truly enriching and memorable experience. Then in the evening, parents will come together at the Gonville Hotel for the SFPA's eagerly anticipated annual Summer Party. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there, before our school Enrichment Week starts in earnest on Monday. With residential trips to Spain and Staffordshire to come and an exciting school programme to deliver, there is much for the pupils to anticipate and enjoy.

With all best wishes,



Crispin Hyde-Dunn