



Election of a New Pope



On behalf of the whole St John Fisher Community, we offer our congratulations, and welcome to His Holiness Pope Leo XIV. At 6.15pm, yesterday it was announced that Cardinal Robert Prevost had been elected as the Successor of Saint Peter and that he would be taking the name 'Pope Leo XIV'. He is the first pope from North America and the first pope who is a member of the Augustinian religious order. The last pope with this name was Pope Leo XIII, over one hundred years ago, whose work was central to Catholic Social Teaching. We are especially pleased by Pope Leo XIV's understanding of Catholic education. During his time as Cardinal Robert Prevost, his writings reflected a belief in the transformative power of education rooted in dignity, encounter, discipleship, and the development of the whole person. His vision for schools as communities of love, dialogue, and service reflects our school mission. He wants school communities to be "builders of bridges, not walls," forming young people not only in academic excellence but in faith, conscience, and compassion.

In his first speech, Pope Leo said, 'We are disciples of Christ, Christ goes before us, and the world needs his light. Humanity needs Christ as a bridge to be reached by God and his love. Help us, and help each other, build bridges.'

This again reflects our school mission and reminds us of the approach of Pope Francis reflected in the words from the Papal Nuncio when he visited St John Fisher in 2019. Our theme this week in school has been Devotion. In this month of Mary, we offer our devotion to God, as Mary did and aim to live our lives in the light of the Gospel shining a light especially for those who are suffering, as reflected in the words of Pope Leo in his first speech as Pope yesterday.



Kate Pereira, Headteacher

Year 10 Parents Evening

Just a reminder that we have year 10 parents evening on 13 May starting at 4pm in the school hall and atrium. School finishes at the usual time of 3.15pm.

Mrs Wilmore, Senior Deputy Headteacher

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV



Catholics around the world yesterday were delighted to see the white smoke rise from the Chimney of the Sistine Chapel, signifying the election of our new Pope! We give

thanks for His Holiness Pope Leo XIV and our prayers are with him as he begins his mission, leading the Catholic Church and being a shining example of Christianity to the whole of the world.



Mrs Goodfellow, Lay Chaplain

Summer 2025 Examination Contingency Dates

The awarding exam bodies have collectively agreed exam contingency arrangements for several years now. These contingency arrangements are in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams in the United Kingdom.

For the Summer 2025 exam series, the awarding bodies have designated the afternoon session of Wednesday 11 June and the morning and afternoon sessions of Wednesday 25 June as contingency sessions.

Parents and students should therefore particularly consider the contingency day on Wednesday 25 June 2025 when making their plans for the summer. All exam candidates should remain available until Wednesday 25 June 2025 should examinations need to be rescheduled.

Mr Martyn, Exams Officer

Future Events	
13 May	Year 10 Parents Evening 4pm-6pm
13 June	Year 13 Prom
20 June	Year 11 Prom
22 June	Spring Concert
24 June	Celebration of Achievement

Academic Tutoring

Year 8

6 May – 16 May 2025

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 students should be contacting their placements to organise an interview and for their blue employer agreement to be signed if they have a placement from the schools database. This is now an urgent matter for Year 10 as initial contact needs to be made by next Thursday 15 May and all Employer Agreement Forms to be returned to school by Friday 23 May unless an interview has been organised for half term.

Further communication about work experience will be sent to parents in the last week of term.

Miss Reeve, Careers Teacher

Diocese of East Anglia

DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

FOR THE JUBILEE OF FAMILIES, CHILDREN,
GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

SATURDAY 31ST MAY 2025

Led by
Bishop Peter

10.45 am: Walk from the village
12.00: Mass at the Chapel of
Reconciliation

Followed by a picnic





Contact Fr. Pat for more details: patrick.cleary@rcdea.org.uk 01842 752266

Breakfast - Free Bagels



Why not start the day with a filling breakfast. Our Breakfast club runs every day between 8.10am and 8.30am all students are welcome to come and join us in the Dining Hall for a free bagel.

    	
House Competitions	
Westminster	4687
Cambridge	4378
Beverley	4355
Rochester	3884

Ben Kinsella Parent/Carer Training

The Ben Kinsella Trust is running a Parent/Carer webinar/workshop **“Parents and Carers: Helping Our Children Stay Safe”** on **Monday 12 May 6-8pm** online.

This parent webinar will be run in line with the new “Parent Power” approach being launched by Cambridgeshire Constabulary. The webinar will focus on:

- Understanding knife crime from the perspective of young people
- The signs and stages of child exploitation
- Gangs and gang-life
- Exploring the link between trauma and exploitation
- Consider online harms, social media, slang and gang-related music
- Understanding how ‘issues’ with peers can escalate and how young people can manage them
- Having meaningful conversations about safety
- Helping our children stay safe; the SAFE ‘T’s’ approach
- Further support and resources available

Here is the link:-

Date: Monday 12 May 2025, 6:00pm London

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/Rt9Tx_SkRt_KFOeOKtoeTuA

After registering, a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting will be sent.

Parents and Carers:

Keeping Our Children Safe Workshop

“This course really gave me a real life insight and the information that could help keep my own and other children safe.”

Topics Include:

- Understanding knife crime from the perspective of young people
- The signs and stages of child exploitation
- Gangs and gang-life
- Exploring the link between trauma and exploitation
- Consider online harms, social media, slang and gang-related music
- Having meaningful conversations about safety
- Helping our children stay safe; the SAFE ‘T’s’ approach
- Further support and resources available

Workshop Details

Where?
Online via Zoom

When?
Monday 12th May 6-8pm

How Much?
FREE!

Informative and Empowering

Parenting children and young adults is hard, sometimes it can be scary and overwhelming with news stories and social media influencing how safe we feel our children are and the risks they may face in today’s climate.