

St Francis Catholic Primary School

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Together we are exploring our special gifts; Together we are growing towards God

Your Tuesday News 10th September 2019

'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

Yesterday, in worship, we discussed what it means to be loyal. We read the well-known story of a dog named 'Greyfriar's Bobby', who remained loyal to his master, John Gray, even after he had died; staying by his gravestone throughout all weather conditions. We then read last Sunday's Gospel according to Luke, where Jesus explains to us how important our loyalty to God is in being his follower but that it is not always easy and it demands a lot of our time and hard work. We ended by praying together and setting our mission for the week: to be loyal to others even when it is difficult.



God Bless from Mr Copley and Mrs Haines

Beginning of Year Mass

We are very much looking forward to celebrating our Beginning of Year Mass this Friday, 13th September at 10:30am. We hope you can join us on this special occasion.

Mini Vinnies

Our Mini Vinnies, under the direction of Miss Jennings and Mrs Heppleston, will meet on the first Monday of every month from 3:30pm-4:15pm. However, there is one exception to this, as the first meeting will take place today, Tuesday 10th September at 3:30pm-4:15pm.



This week and next week, we are very excited to welcome some brand new children to our school, starting in Nursery. We hope our new children settle in quickly and have a very happy time in our school, learning lots of new things and making new friends. Good luck and welcome to you all!

Fruit Cards

Children in KS2 no longer receive free fruit, but if they wish to have fruit, they can buy a Fruit Card from the office for £1.50. This will give the children 10 pieces of fruit. The children are responsible for taking their own fruit and marking off their card as they do so

MAY BANK HOLIDAY 2020

Please note: Due to the early May Bank holiday to celebrate VE day next year, school will be closed on **Friday 8th May** and NOT Monday 4th May as previously advertised.

After School Club

This week, After School Club is offering glass painting and making birdhouses which the children will then be able to put in the trees in our garden. Please use the booking form available from the school office or the website to book your child in advance.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Years 2 & 3 are our attendance champions this week.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b 2.09.19.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	95.74	97.40
Year 1	99.58	98.06
Year 2	99.19	98.66
Year 3	91.13	92.47
Year 4	95.98	95.54
Year 5	99.19	96.77
Year 6	98.79	98.66
Average		
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Performance Poetry

Last year we ran a Performance Poetry programme from Nursery to Year 6, where every class learned and performed a poem once a term at the beginning of Merit Worship for the whole school and their parents/carers. Due to the success of this programme in building our children's confidence, improving performance skills and fulfilling a key part of the English curriculum, we will run the programme again this year. However, due to time restraints at Merit Worship, 3 or 4 classes will perform their chosen poems in a special assembly at the end of each half term. We hope you will be able to support your child/ren at these assemblies. Please see the dates overleaf for the Autumn term.



Merit Worship

Our first Merit Worship will take place this Thursday, 12th September at 8:55am. Parents/carers and families are very welcome to come along and join us. If your child completed the Summer Reading Challenge, they are invited to bring along their medals and certificates to this worship so that we can celebrate this great achievement.

This year, we are linking all of our merits to the different skills from our Enabling Enterprise programme. Over the next 3 weeks, our merits will link to 'AIMING HIGH'

#	Group	Score
1.	Year 6 2019/20	83,892,418
2.	Year 3 2019/20	41,583,593
3.	Year 5 2019/20	30,602,988
4.	Year 4 2019/20	22,009,539
5.	Year 2 2019/20	10,396,250



#	Pupil	Groups	Score
1.	Rhys Leak	Year 3 2019/20	29,415,888
2.	Finley Carroll	Year 5 2019/20	28,055,464
3.	Zach Blyth	Year 6 2019/20	20,385,440

Forest School



This year, Forest School sessions will be held on our own site, with trained Forest school teachers from Peel Park Primary School coming to us with all their equipment to facilitate the sessions. Year 2 will be the first class to avail of this fantastic opportunity starting this Thursday, 12th September. Please make sure your child brings suitable clothing, such as wellies, waterproofs, etc. with them to change into. Thank you in advance.

School Development Plan Priorities

As a school we work hard to ensure that our school continues to grow and improve year on year. This year, the priorities that we have identified are as follows:

Main Priorities
Our teachers will help us to improve our writing and learn to write at length
Our teachers will help us to further improve our reading
Our teachers will help us to ensure our reading and writing skills improve
We will increase opportunities for our teachers and parents to work together to support our learning



Other Priorities
Our teachers will continue to improve in leading and managing our subjects
RE & Catholic Life
Our teachers will share with each other their very best RE teaching to make our RE lessons even better.

We look forward to working together as a staff and with the children, parents and governors to continue improving our school and achieving the best for our children.

Photo Permissions



We continue to hold on record the forms that parents/carers filled out last year detailing the permissions/non-permissions for use of photographs of the children. We will continue to uphold the requests on these forms. However, if there is a change in the permissions/non-permissions that you submitted last year, please pick up a new form from the office, fill it out and return it as soon as possible please.

Forms

Coming home with next week’s newsletter is a Home School Agreement for you and your child/ren to read and sign and return to school. Please read through carefully before you sign. If your child has any recent medical conditions or an existing condition that has changed, school need to know. Please ask at the office for a medical form.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Once again we are supporting the annual Macmillan world’s biggest coffee morning. This year, the event takes place on Friday 27th September and everyone is welcome to join us in the large hall for a cuppa and a slice of cake from 2.45 – 3.45pm while supporting this worthy cause. Last year, 1.9 million people received help from the charity, Macmillan Cancer Support, who provided invaluable support, advice and counselling to cancer patients and their families. As this our first whole school event of the school year, it is also the perfect opportunity to meet other parents. All donations of cakes, buns and biscuits will be greatly appreciated nearer the time.



Student Council Election

If your child would like to be a member of the Student Council, helping to make important decisions about our school and assisting in making it run smoothly, then now is the time for them to stand for election! Children from Y1-Y6 are invited to write a manifesto (KS1 children will be supported with this in class) outlining why they should be elected and what ideas they have for the school. Candidates must present their manifestos to their class mates tomorrow, so there is no time to lose! Our small hall will be converted to a Polling Station on Friday afternoon (13th September) for everyone to place their votes. The winners will be announced at worship on Monday 16th September. Good luck to all the candidates!



School Calendar (please note these days and times could be subject to change)

*Please note, there is a change in date to the FS2 Reading Meeting. It has been brought forward to **Tuesday 1st October** and **NOT 22nd October**, as previously advertised. Apologies for this change.*

Date	Time	Class	Event
Thursday 12 th September	8:55am	All	First Merit Worship
Friday 13 th September (TBC)	10:30am	All	Beginning of year mass in school
Thursday 19 th September	8:55am	Y2	Class Worship
Wednesday 25 th September	2:30pm	Y1	Local area walk
Thursday 26 th September	8:55am	FS2 and Y6	Buddies Worship
Friday 27 th September	2:45pm	All	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Monday 30 th September	3:30pm	Y6	Curriculum and SATs meeting
Tuesday 1 st October	3:30pm – 4:15pm	Y6	Y6 Writing Club starts
Tuesday 1st October	3:30pm and 6pm	FS2	Reading meeting for parents
Wednesday 2 nd October	9:30am	Y6	Winmarleigh residential
Friday 4 th October	10:30am	All	St Francis Feast Day Mass
Wednesday 9 th October	9:30am	Y6	Class Mass in church
Thursday 10 th October	8:55am	Y3	Class Worship
Monday 14 th October	3:15pm	All	Book Fair arrives in school
Monday 14 th October	1:30pm-7pm	FS1 FS2	Parent consultations
Monday 14 th October	3:30pm – 7pm	Y1-Y6	Parent consultations
Tuesday 15 th October	1:30pm-5pm	FS1 FS2	Parent consultations
Tuesday 15 th October	3:30pm – 5pm	Y1-Y6	Parent consultations (Y6 Writing Club cancelled)
Wednesday 16 th October	am and pm	FS1	Stay, play and learn (inc Performance Poetry)
Wednesday 16 th October	9:30am	Y5	Class mass in church
Thursday 17 th October	am and pm	FS2	Stay, play and learn (inc Performance Poetry)
Thursday 17 th October	8:55am	Y4	Class Worship
Tuesday 22 nd October	All day	Y4	Roman Wow Day!
Tuesday 22 nd October	All day	Y3	Stone Age Wow Day!
Thursday 24 th October	8:55am	Y1, Y2, Y3	Performance Poetry
Friday 25 th October	PM	Y2	Charity Toy Swap
Friday 25 th October	Break up for half term holidays		
Tuesday 5 th November	School re-opens after half term		

If you are worried or concerned about the wellbeing of any of our pupils, please ask to speak to Mr Copley, Mrs Haines, Miss Burgess, Miss Martin or Mrs Laptew