

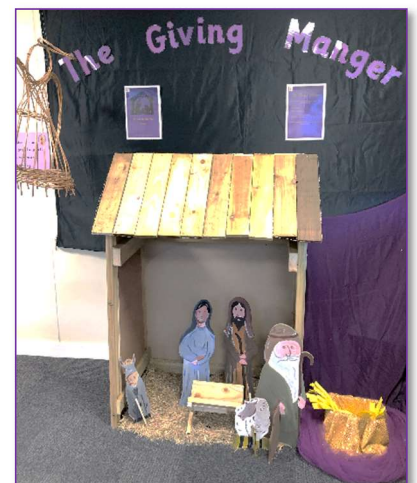
Together we are exploring our special gifts; Together we are growing towards God

Your Tuesday News 1st December 2020

'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

Sunday marked the First Day of Advent and the start of the church's new year. Yesterday, we lit the first purple calendar on our Advent Wreath and gathered together to explore the Gospel reading. In this reading we are told to stay awake and be alert so that we are ready for when Jesus comes. We then virtually explored our new 'Giving Manger', where the children are invited to prepare the crib for Jesus' birth by writing on the pieces of straw any good deed or kind action they have done for others.



Virtues Worship

Miss Dearden led our Virtues Worship this morning which centred around the virtue of FORESIGHT. We discussed together what foresight means and looked at examples of it. A reading from the Prophet of Isaiah was shared with the children when Isaiah first told the house of David of the coming of Our Lord.



Advent

As this is the first week of Advent, all the liturgical cloths on our worship tables around school have turned to purple. Our Advent wreath is on display in the entrance way and our theme for the season 'We Wait Upon You Lord' is displayed in our front window. We wish our whole school community and parish a very holy Advent.

[illegible]

Christmas Cards

We would like to offer the opportunity for children to post Christmas cards this Advent, but we must make sure this is done in a Covid secure way. Therefore, we ask that children bring in their cards to put in the post box during the week beginning Monday 7th December-Friday 11th December. This will ensure that they can be quarantined inside the post box for at least 72 hours before our school council elves put on their gloves or sanitiser and deliver the cards to the different classrooms safely during the week beginning Monday 14th December.



Staff Update - Message from Mrs Reynard – Chair of the Local Academy Council

Since joining the Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust in May this year, Mr Copley has been playing a significant role in the future development of the Trust. From 1st December 2020, Mr Copley's central role as Director of Standards will be further increased and expanded initially up to 30th April 2021. The Academy Councillors have therefore taken the decision to make the seamless appointment of Mrs Haines as Acting Head Teacher and Miss Burgess as Acting Deputy Head Teacher, to continue the excellent leadership and smooth running of our school. I would like to thank you for your continued support.

★★

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Well done to Year 2 on 100% attendance last week. Year 1 were a close second with over 99%.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b:23.11.20.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	Not in	
Year 1	99.30	99.12
Year 2	100.00	99.63
Year 3	95.86	98.04
Year 4	98.59	96.55
Year 5	93.28	96.54
Year 6	Not in	93.30
Average	97.40%	97.19%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

★★

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Our Merit Winners last week: Isla Hardaker, Dhillon Whittingham, Blake Stanley, Connah Clayton, Tulisa Durkin, Millie McTasney and Lucas Heppleston. Well done everyone !!

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Tobias Donohue for being an excellent role model, not only as Head Boy, but also as a Y6 pupil. Tobias has really grown in confidence, has impeccable manners and is showing a mature attitude to school life.

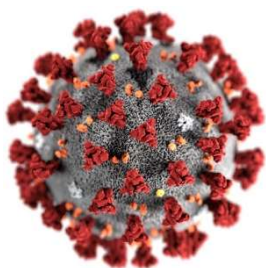
Big Cat Reading Award: Jack Baldwin for his superb reading at home combined with excellent effort in Phonics and a fantastic phonics test score, which shows the huge amounts of progress he is making.

Maths Award: Evie Pickard for her commitment to practising her times tables on MathsShed and for leading her team to a very decisive victory in our times tables battle in class. Excellent job Evie.

#	Group	Score
1.	Year 3 2020-21	43,233,140
2.	Year 4 2020-21	40,260,264
3.	Year 1 2020-21	36,658,508
4.	Year 6 2020-21	30,806,297
5.	Year 5 2020-21	19,228,980
6.	Year 2 2020-21	2,254,728
7.	FS2 2020-21	381,220



#	Avatar	Pupil	Groups
1.		Lily-May Cousins	Year 4 2020-21
2.		Scarlett Zaborowski	Year 6 2020-21
3.		Rhys Leak	Year 4 2020-21



As you are aware, over the last few weeks, we have had to close a number of bubbles and have had many children and staff either testing positive for coronavirus or having to isolate. With only two and a half weeks left of the term, we want to continue working hard to ensure that staff, pupils and families are all kept safe. We want to work especially hard for the rest of this term so that all our safety measures are adhered to, making school as Covid free as possible so that

- sanitise your hands regularly
- wear a face covering when on the school site
- maintain at least a 2m distance from other people
- stick to your allocated drop off and pick up times to avoid congestion



PFA Smarties!

St Francis School

Your child should have come home yesterday with a gift of a tube of Smarties from our brilliant PFA team. The instructions are stuck on the packet. Children in Year 6 can collect their tubes on their return to school on Friday. We are really looking forward to seeing how many 20ps the children can collect in their tubes! Good luck everyone!



The Christmas Virtual Disco will take place at 6pm on Friday 18th December. Children are invited to put in song requests and shout outs for their friends and families. Please submit them to homelearning@stfrancisbrad.co.uk by this coming **Friday 4th December** at the very latest.



Arrangements are currently underway for Christmas Dinner Day, which will take place on Monday 14th December. This will also be our Christmas Jumper Day. **This will be held in memory of Alfie Joe Barraclough, a former pupil of our school, who very sadly passed away at Christmas time 5 years ago.** Donations of £1 will be greatly appreciated. If you are unable to send in the money you can pay your £1 on Parent Pay.



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

A young girl with dark hair is sitting on a bed of brown mulch. She is wearing a black zip-up jacket with a silver reflective stripe on the sleeve and grey pants with a blue stripe and the text "WASH STATE" visible. She is holding a colorful beanie with green, yellow, and red sections, and she is focused on weaving a yellow and green cord through it. A black and white polka-dot bag is next to her.

[illegible]

Our school has been asked to participate in a very important Health Behaviour Survey amongst young people. We have been asked to support the work of the Local Authority and Public Health. Each questionnaire is anonymous and confidential and no pupil will be identified in the data. The survey will be done in school during the week beginning 7th December. There is a copy of the questionnaire in the school office if you wish to see it beforehand.

[illegible]

Thank you to Miss Webb who has been leading some of our children from the Y4 bubble in a Christmas Craft Club over the last few weeks. So far, the children have made Christmas tree decorations, Christmas cards and a firework picture. They have used all sorts of materials including paint, chalk, tissue paper, glitter and sequins.

