



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 14th December 2020

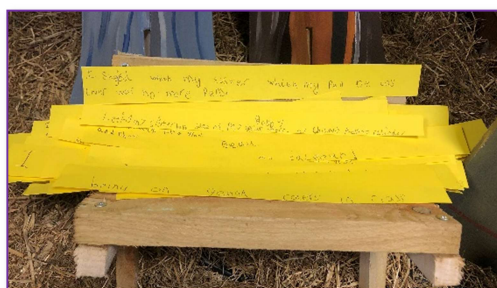
'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

We are now into the third week of Advent, therefore yesterday we lit the third candle on the Advent wreath which is pink to symbolise joy. We explored what we think joy means and we were blown away by the answers the children gave. They didn't just refer to being happy, but thought more deeply about it and how true joy is felt when doing something for others or giving something to others. We reflected on the joy that has been brought to many of our school community during Advent this year - for our Year 3 children at Forest School, the many wow days children have experienced and most important of all, the joy that is felt when placing a piece of 'straw' into The Giving Manger with a good deed on ready for Jesus' birth. We prayed together and reminded ourselves of our mission during Advent - to stay awake and be alert by preparing our hearts for Jesus.

Virtues to Live By

This morning, we continued exploring the virtue of FORESIGHT. Mrs Horne reminded us of the amazing foresight the angels had when they foretold Jesus' birth.



The Giving Manger

As you can see from the photograph, our Giving Manger has become very full over Advent with all the good deeds the children have been doing for others. On Friday morning, we will lay the baby Jesus into His full and comfortable manger and thank God for His incredible gift to us.

Advent Mass

Children in KS2 will walk up to church on Wednesday afternoon to share in their own private Advent Mass with Fr Anthony in church.

Virtual Nativity and Carol Service

Lots of work has been going on in the background to prepare a virtual KS1 Nativity and Carol Service. Whilst we recognise that this cannot replace the real thing, we do hope you enjoy the children's hard work and effort in reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas. We have been having some technical difficulties with our internet connection over the past few days so we are unable to give a firm date of when the final recording will be made available on our website, but we will text out a link to it once it is ready.

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b: 7.12.20.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	98.62	97.75
Year 1	100.00	98.71
Year 2	98.67	98.40
Year 3	97.28	96.87
Year 4	98.70	98.32
Year 5	99.26	96.03
Year 6	96.00	96.03
Average	98.36%	97.44%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

[illegible]

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Jake Boyle for being such a kind and thoughtful member of our school community. Jake always thinks of others.

The Big Cat Reading Award: Frejya Dowling Rhodes who has a real gift for reading but she never stops pushing herself to get even better. She is now transitioning onto Accelerated Reader and is loving her reading more than ever.

Maths Award: Madeleine Newill for working so hard at home to practise her skills on Maths Shed. Very well done Madeleine – keep it up.

Jayden has achieved his Blue Stripe Belt in Taekwondo. He is now half way to a Black Belt which is a great achievement.

[illegible]

1.	Year 6 2020-21	76,409,116
2.	Year 4 2020-21	55,450,333
3.	Year 3 2020-21	45,022,979
4.	Year 5 2020-21	24,583,932
5.	Year 1 2020-21	19,164,697
6.	Year 2 2020-21	2,794,420



1.		Joel Newill	Year 6 2020-21	39,712,664	512,535,810
2.		Rhys Leak	Year 4 2020-21	28,979,066	3,556,725,72
3.		Olivia Wilson	Year 5 2020-21	21,409,740	255,068,202
4.		Scarlett Zaborowski	Year 6 2020-21	20,881,296	537,926,959
5.		Lily-May Cousins	Year 4 2020-21	13,066,528	598,462,428
6.		Maisie Walker	Year 3 2020-21	10,182,484	502,882,236

[illegible]

Christmas Crafts Club

This Thursday will be the final Christmas Crafts Club for Year 4. A huge thank you to Miss Webb for giving up her time each Thursday to provide a lovely experience for the children.

It was definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas around school yesterday for our Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper Day. Thank you for all your generous donations which parents of Afie Barraclough have very kindly given to our school fund. In total we raised £160. This will all go towards new playground equipment in school, which will definitely make play times even better for the children.

[illegible]

This week, the children in Nursery and Reception will be enjoying their Advent celebrations. They will also be taking some time out of all the noise to have a peaceful time together in worship, preparing their hearts for the birth of Jesus. Parents/carers are usually invited into school to share in this, but as this is not possible, the worship will be recorded and made available to you through our website. We will text out a link to the recording once it is ready.

[illegible]

Smartie Tubes

Thank you to everyone who has already sent their filled Smarties tubes back into school as part of the PFA fundraising this Advent. We really appreciate all of your support. There is still time to fill up the tubes! We ask that they are all returned by this Friday 18th December, the last day of term.



Thank you for your song requests and shout outs for this Friday's virtual disco. Don't forget, the disco goes live on our website at 6pm this Friday - get your disco clothes on, glow sticks and sweets at the ready! Oh and don't forget to make a donation to the PFA which can be sent into school in a clearly marked envelope! Thank you all so much for your generous support at an already expensive time.

[illegible]

As many of you may be aware, the Department for Education announced that schools could close this Thursday for Christmas, a little bit earlier than planned and this was left to the discretion of Headteachers. Please note, we will NOT be closing on Thursday. We will close on the planned day of Friday 18th December at the usual pick up times between 3pm-3:30pm.

Parents/carers will also have seen in the news that starting from yesterday (Monday 14th December), the isolation period for close contacts of positive cases has reduced from 14 days to 10 days.

If your child tests positive between the dates of Saturday 19th December and Thursday 24th December, it is vital that you inform school immediately as we may have to notify any close contacts that they need to isolate. Due to the office email not being monitored every day during this time, we ask that you phone the school mobile on 07562 647403. Please leave a message with your child's name and class. If your child tests positive after Thursday 24th December, please email the office as usual as we will pick it up in time for us reopening on Monday 4th January. Thank you for your continued support.

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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

FS2: Friday – this is the first time FS2 have done PE. If you have any questions ask Mrs Whitley.

Y2: Thursday PE and Friday (Forest School)

Y4: Tuesday and Friday

Y5: Tuesday (swimming) and Thursday Y6: Monday and Wednesday

All children need to wear outdoor PE kits on their PE days. Please note, swimming for Year 5 is now back on, so Year 5 children will need to have a swimming kit, including a towel, every Tuesday starting on Tuesday 5th January. Year 2 will have Forest School every Friday so they need to come to school already dressed in old, warm clothes and bring their wellies with them.

[illegible]

Bradford Council are supporting families in need with government funding being allocated to food banks across the district. In addition to this, they have allocated schools funding to support families with food needed for over weekends. We are offering to put together food hampers for any of our families who require this kind of support during the Christmas holidays. To request one, please email the office by 3pm on Wednesday 16th December. Please also see the information below on support of food sources for families...

Asda has announced it will allow children to eat for free in its cafés throughout December, in a move to help families in the pandemic. The supermarket said all 216 of its cafés would provide children under the age of 16 with a free meal, when they were accompanied by an adult. Why not take advantage of this great offer!



St Luke's Church in Eccleshill is currently a Foodbank Distribution Centre for the Bradford North Foodbank on Thursdays (11am to 1.30pm). Unfortunately, people cannot just turn up. You need a voucher from a referral agent as you will not receive any food without one. Please contact the vicarage on 01274 636403, or send Rev John Hartley a message to vicar@stluke-eccleshill.org.uk.

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The children made some lovely seasonal headbands this week at After School Club



After School Club will be closed this Friday 18th December. Thank you.