

St Francis Catholic Primary School

Myers Lane, Bradford BD2 4ES Tel. 01274 638520 Email: <u>office@stfrancisbrad.co.uk</u> Website: <u>www.stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk</u> Twitter: @stfrancisbrad



Acting Headteacher: Mrs A. Haines

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Miss S. Burgess

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

Your Tuesday News 2nd February 2021 'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

Our worship this Monday started with a famous face quiz. The children were really impressive with their recall of famous people from our virtue worships. From this we then explored what we mean by being famous. The children in school and at home gave lots of ideas about being inspirational, helping, being recognised and doing good. This then led us into exploring how Jesus became famous through his miracles and teaching. Our Gospel story this week was from Jesus and the man who had an evil spirit in which Jesus commanded the evil spirit to leave. Just like the man, our lives can completely change when we hear Jesus' teachings.



As this week is Children's mental health week, our mission is to devote time to our mental health through taking part in Mrs Haines' daily challenges.

Virtues Worship

This week we will be looking at the virtue of having a sense of humour. We look forward to looking at the lighter side of life which I am sure you will agree is much needed right now!

St Francis - a wonderful school community

I cannot tell you how wonderful it is to see so many of our children joining us each Monday, Wednesday and Friday for our different worships. It was even better this week when children in Nursery and Reception class joined us for the very first time this academic year at Merit Worship. These occasions remind us all of what a strong, spiritual and wonderful school community we have. It also must be celebrated how fantastic some of our parents are at dancing the Monster Mash - it's great how many take time out from working from home to put on their dancing shoes on a Friday morning! Keeeeeep dancing!

Monday morning Gospel Worship: 10am (KS1 and KS2) Wednesday morning Virtues Worship: 10am (KS1 and KS2) Friday morning Merit Worship: 10am (whole school)



TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Last week's merit winners: Jude Gale, Findlay Dowling-Rhodes, Bobby Jones, Alfie Marshall, Mason Nolan, Amelia Whitehead, Kayl Walker and Sorcha Eloi. Well done everybody!!

Mrs Haines Headteacher's Award: Maisy Dunn for being an absolute joy! Maisy continues to love her learning, embrace all that school offers and most importantly, enjoys helping others. What a star * *

Big Cat Merit Award: Matteo Honey for superb reading at home and in school this week. Practicing each day leads to great improvements in reading. He is a reading superstar * * *

Maths Award: Elizabeth Bingley for some superb work on fractions, decimals and percentages. She has persevered with some extremely tricky problems and is making excellent progress. Well done * * *



Children's Mental Health Week

This week, it is National Children's Mental Health Week. This couldn't be more important at the moment. Whether children are at home or at school, life is very restricted and different for them all so we want to support them in keeping their minds, as well as bodies, healthy. To that end, I am preparing a 'job' each day for all the children to do that aims to support a healthy mind. Yesterday I gave the job of finding 5 minutes in the day to



meditate. Today's job is to get out of the house or the classroom into the fresh air - this could be part of the daily exercise allowance in the local area or simply in the garden.



Miss Burgess has been working very hard to develop a new addition to our home learning that aims to take the children away from their screens and get them using their gifts and talents in many other interesting and innovative ways. 'Flourish Friday' will be launched at the end of this week. Every Friday afternoon, children both at home and at school will be challenged with collecting 'badges' by participating in different activities in 30 different

categories, including 'the world', 'photography', 'agility' and 'memory' among many others. We can't wait to see all of the children having time away from their screens and exploring their gifts and talents in so many different ways. Only 3 days to go...!!!

Home Learning Updates

Learning Support Clinics

It has been very pleasing to see a mixture of adults and children accessing appointments with class teachers and/or other teachers in school to address any issues or problems they may be experiencing with their learning. If you or your child is having any problems with home learning, please simply email the office to make an appointment within the time frames outlined below:

LEARNING SUPPORT CLINIC Schedule	
Mondays: 2:15pm-3pm	Y1 – Miss Robson Y5 - Mrs Horne Y6 – Miss Dearden
Tuesdays: 2:15pm – 3pm	Y2 – Miss Martin Y3 – Mr Mallon Y4 - Miss McDermott
Wednesdays: 9am-9:50am Wednesdays: 10:45am – 12:30pm	All year groups Miss Burgess/Miss Breen/Mrs Haines
Wednesdays: 2:15pm – 3pm	Y1 – Miss Robson Y5 - Mrs Horne Y6 – Miss Dearden
Fridays: 2:15pm – 3pm	Y2 – Miss Martin Y3 – Mr Mallon Y4 - Miss McDermott
Fridays: 10:45am – 12:30pm	All year groups Miss Burgess/Miss Breen/Mrs Haines

In order to support our families further, and to make all our home earning information clearer, we have created a 'Frequently Asked Questions' section on our main home learning page found here: <u>https://www.stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk/learning/home-learning</u> We hope you find it useful.

KS1 Book Swap

Please simply email the home learning account if your child needs to change their book. Keep reading a little and often with your children. It makes a massive difference to their progress.

KS2 Book Swap

On Thursday afternoons, Mrs Gallucci will run the KS2 book swap in

the small hall. This is all done covid safe. We ask parents/carers to wait outside whilst the children come in one at a time to hand in the completed book and then choose a new one within the colour they are currently assessed on. Please keep encouraging your child to read and do accelerated reader quizzes and to pop in to the weekly book swap.

Reminder of Government Guidance on lockdown

Thank you to the vast majority of our families for taking the current lockdown and all its rules and restrictions seriously - particularly those rules which apply to our school specifically. Your support and resilience during this very challenging time for everyone is wonderful. Please hang in there and keep going - you are doing an amazing job, whatever your circumstances.

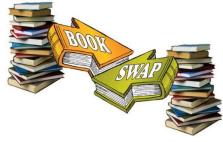
Sadly, there are a minority of families who are choosing to flatly ignore the government guidelines and our own school rules and restrictions during this current lockdown. The situation nationally and locally is extremely serious. Last week, the number of positive cases in the Bolton and Undercliffe ward was in the highest 5 wards in Bradford and just the week before, Eccleshill and Idle were in the top 5. This potentially deadly virus is literally on our doorstep. Over the past few weeks some children in school have shared stories of the sleepovers they have had at other people's houses or the various different houses they have been to for tea or at the weekend. If you are uncertain what the current rules are on child care and/or socialising, please see below:

Meeting Other People

It is against the law to meet socially with family or friends unless they are part of your household or support bubble. You cannot leave home for leisure or recreational purposes (such as a picnic or a social meeting).

What a Childcare Bubble Is

- A childcare bubble is where one household links with one other household to provide informal childcare to anyone under 14. All adults in both households must agree to this arrangement. 'Informal' childcare means it is unpaid and unregistered.
- Members of either household can provide childcare in a home or public place. This includes overnight care.
- You can only have one childcare bubble with one other household. This means no household should be part of more than one childcare bubble.
- > You can only use a childcare bubble for childcare. You cannot use a childcare bubble to mix with another household for other reasons.
- If you form a childcare bubble, it's best if this is with a household who live locally. This will help prevent the virus spreading from an area where more people are infected

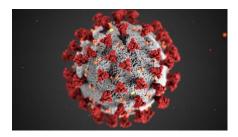


The full government rules and restrictions can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1a611-e3109cce8eae

It is quite simply a kick in the teeth for many of our families, who are managing the increasingly challenging task of keeping their children at home doing home learning, when they hear about other families flaunting the rules. It is also extremely worrying and upsetting for many members of the St Francis staff who are choosing to compromise their own health and that of their families to come into work every day to ensure your children get the best deal in their education. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is to stick to the national rules and restrictions - the main message could not be clearer

- stay at home.



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