

St Francis Catholic Primary School

Myers Lane, Bradford BD2 4ES Tel. 01274 638520

Email: office@stfrancisbrad.co.uk

Website: www.stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk 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



'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

Sunday's Gospel this week was from Mark and told the story of when Jesus healed Simon Peter's mother in law from a fever. After performing this miracle, Jesus went off to pray alone. We focussed our worship this week on the importance of prayer and how it can often feel like God fails to answer our prayers. We discussed how in fact God never ignores, but may not respond in the way we want or expect Him to. We have to understand that God has a plan for us, and what we are praying for at that time may not be what is right for us. We have to be patient and hold on to our faith.



We prayed together and set our mission for the week: To find a quiet space to pray. Wait and notice how God answers.



Virtues Worship

Following on from our virtues worship last week on having a sense of humour, on Wednesday we will focus our worship around someone who lives out this virtue: David Walliams.

Lent

Next week, during the half term holidays, Lent officially starts on 17th February - Ash Wednesday. Sadly, our parish church is still closed due to the pandemic, however, St Anne's Cathedral in Leeds continues to stream Sunday masses each week and will be streaming Ash Wednesday Mass. Simply go to: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-xVdN6rMCG0sSgxk8Rulow We are currently organising our Lenten plans to ensure they are all Covid compliant. We will communicate these to you after the holidays.

St Francis - a wonderful school community

Please continue to encourage your children to join our virtual live worships. It keeps the community we have here at St Francis alive whether you are home learning or in school, this is the time we can all be together.

Monday morning Gospel Worship: 10am (KS1 and KS2) Wednesday morning Virtues Worship: 10am (KS1 and KS2)

Friday morning Merit Worship: 10am (whole school)



Other Faiths Week - Buddhism

This week our RE lessons, both at home and in school, are part of our Other Faith's programme and this half term we will be learning about Buddhism. It is very different from the other religions we examine as it is not about the relationship between God and humanity. Instead it builds on our Mental Health week learning from last week as its key concept is Nirvana, the most enlightened, and blissful state that one can achieve. As usual each class will take a different focus and examples will be shared after half term.



TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Last week's merit winners: Niamh Baulk, Jimmy Rayner-Scott, George Kane, Sadie Kane, Nate Kite, Grace Artist, Lucas Harris and Hanna Ostrowiecka. Well done everyone !! Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Pippa Hudson for being a super duper home learner. Every piece of work is done to the very best of Pippa's ability. What a trooper!!

The Big Cat Reading Award: Kaleb Parker for reading so avidly at home. Kaleb is often reading fluently with expression and has made a great start to quizzing on Accelerated Reader.

The Maths Award: Benjamin Matan for some superb number work with his skittles. So impressed with the whole family. Well done.





Top Spelling Groups		
#	Group	Score
1.	Year 4 2020-21	64,473,192
2.	Year 5 2020-21	61,516,310
3.	Year 6 2020-21	31,064,016
4.	Year 3 2020-21	24,805,129
5.	Year 1 2020-21	22,087,516
6.	Year 2 2020-21	10,441,351
7.	FS2 2020-21	358,750

Tan Casilia a Casana

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.

Flourish Friday



What an absolute triumph the launch of Flourish Friday was last week! Thank you so so much to all the home learners and school learners who really embraced some much-needed time away from their screens to explore their many gifts and talents. It was an absolute joy to receive so many photos and videos of a wide variety of badges being completed and seeing them being shared on Twitter as well. We hope you and your

children got as much pleasure from it as we did! Remember, Flourish Friday is now a weekly event across the whole school community, so there is plenty of time for the children to collect their badges. Every child should have a 'badges card' now so that they can tick off the badges once they have completed them. We are thoroughly looking forward to next week's Flourish Friday!







Google Classroom Parent Session

Last week, a letter went out to all parents/carers of KS2 children inviting you to attend a virtual parent Google Classroom session with Miss McDermott.

We really want to help you to support your children in their home learning. Even if your child has a place in the critical worker/vulnerable bubbles, I still encourage you to attend in case your child needs to engage in home learning for any reason in the future (for example, snow days/ bubble closure.) Miss McDermott will go through with you the basics of Google Classroom, including:

- how the children access their work
- how the children send the work back to their teacher
- how they can see their feedback from the teachers

The session will take place this Wednesday 10th February at 4pm. A link to the meeting will be sent out by text message direct to your phone for you to join on Google Meet. If you would like to have your child(ren) with you on the session, please feel free to do so. A booking form will go out tomorrow morning, 10th February, simply to give us an indication of how many people are attending.

Please do not be shy about attending - you do not need to have your video or microphone on and we promise there will not be a test! It is simply to show you how it works. We hope to see you there!

Learning Support Clinics

The schedule below is still in place:

These sessions for home learners can be booked last minute if you or your child needs to speak to a teacher about an issue with their learning. We have now got a more efficient process in place to book a session. Simply go to the main home learning page on our website here: https://www.stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk/learning/home-learning

Click on the relevant link which takes you to a very short and simple booking form. Please do take us up on this offer for further support. We want to help as much as we can.

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	

Healthy Eating

Please can I remind parents of the school learners that all the normal school rules apply during this time, which includes ensuring your child has a healthy snack in school. We are a nut-free school, so please ensure snacks do not contain nuts. We strongly request that only nutritious snacks such as fruit, cereal bars. etc are provided for the children. Remember, if children would like to buy fruit from school they can purchase a fruit card from the office. These cost £2.50 for 10 pieces of fruit.

What a half term!

At the beginning of the new year, when we returned to school on Monday 4th January, nobody was expecting us to be open and then suddenly closed! What a crazy and stressful time it has been for our whole school community - parents, children and staff. Thank you to everyone for all your continued support through some very trying times. I ask you to remain positive and patient after the holidays as we all navigate our way through some further uncertain weeks ahead. Have a wonderful break next week and we look forward to welcoming everyone back - virtually or physically - on Monday 22nd February.
