



St Francis Catholic Primary School

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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 23rd February

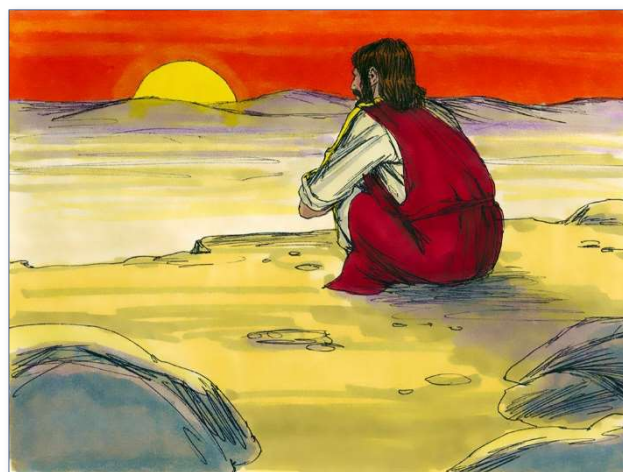
'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

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Worship

As we return to school, we begin on our Lenten journey together and this was the theme of this week's worship. The children told us how Lent starts on Ash Wednesday and is a time to grow closer to God as we prepare for Easter. Worship started by looking at what dream journey we would take, which seemed all the more relevant during the last 12 months. Many of the children spoke about Spain, America, Australia, visiting relatives, caravans and even space!

Sunday's Gospel, from Mark, was about a journey Jesus took alone to the wilderness for 40 days. This wasn't a journey many of us would have liked. However, this Lent we are going to journey with Jesus, finding 'A New Way Forward' which comes from Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, where he tells us God's love "constantly impels us to find new ways forward." Our mission this week was to do a daily act as part of our journey. Each school day during Lent we will share a short video where children will be set a short act and an opportunity where we can pray together. The current lockdown is making it harder to come together during this Lenten season, so please join us as a community to take this journey together through our daily videos.



Lent

Please look out for our daily videos where we will share with our whole school community a daily act to help us on our Lenten journey of 'A New Way Forward.' These will be shared through our website and Google Classroom for home learners, in school with the school learners and on Twitter. Every Thursday during Lent, at 10am, we will come together as a whole school community to share in the Stations of the Cross. This will be a short, quiet and reflective time for us as we ponder Jesus' journey to the cross where he sacrificed his own life for the good of us. We hope all the children, whether at home or at school, will share in this important time.

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

The PFA in consultation with the Student Council are working very hard to come up with Covid-compliant fundraising activities to take place each Friday during Lent. This Friday will be a **WACKY HAIR DAY** at a cost of a donation that suits you. Donations can be made on Parent Pay of whatever amount suits you for children who are home learning and children in school. Alternatively donations can be made in a sealed envelope that can be dropped into the office at some point over this half term. All the donations from these Friday fundraisers will be split between the PFA (which is then put directly back into school to benefit your children) and Catholic Care who provide pastoral support for our families throughout school.

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)

Thursday morning Stations of the Cross: 10.00 am (KS1 and KS2)

Friday morning Merit Worship: 10am (whole school)

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TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Last week's merit winners: Emily Dunn, Harry Daly, Freddie Dunn, Willow Lillington, Imogen Bakes, Louisa Hobson, Kai Menic and Elizabeth Reynard. Well done everybody!!

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Lucia Zanella for working extremely hard, not only in school but working extra hard at home.

Big Cat Reading Award: Kyle Riley for superb reading at home and in school. A great effort and commitment to try and improve his reading.

Maths Award: Connie Shackler for brilliant division. She has worked hard and done a great job on working out.

Top Spellers			
#	Avatar	Pupil	Groups
1.		Rhys Leak	Year 4 2020-21
2.		Abigail Dawson	Year 4 2020-21
3.		Florence Underwood	Year 5 2020-21



Top Spelling Groups		
#	Group	Score
1.	Year 4 2020-21	27,639,866
2.	Year 5 2020-21	14,918,356
3.	Year 3 2020-21	12,957,346
4.	Year 6 2020-21	7,522,942
5.	Year 2 2020-21	6,162,818
6.	Year 1 2020-21	2,952,604
7.	FS2 2020-21	325,428

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out of Lego, becoming pirates and wizards and much, much more. On the website now for each class is a gallery of photos. Remember if your child has anything to share this can be done via the home learning email. We look forward to more flourishing this Friday!

Thank you to the parents who were brave enough to get online and attend our virtual Google Classroom workshop for parents. We hope you found it useful and that you feel better equipped to support your children with their home learning. A big thank you to Miss McDermott for running the workshop. As always, continued support with home learning is available through homelearning@stfrnacisbrad.co.uk

In addition to this, we are setting the children a competition. Following the popularity of ITV's celebrity talent show 'The Masked Singer', children are invited to take part in 'The Masked Reader'. In order to take part, children must record a short video of themselves dressed up in a costume/mask which must cover their face so that they are disguised, reading a short extract from their favourite book. These videos will all then be put together as one big video and shared with the rest of the school on World Book Day, Thursday 4th March. All ages of children are welcome to join in and it doesn't matter whether children are at home or at school. This is a fully inclusive competition! Once the video has been shared, entry forms for children to submit their answers to who they think each 'masked reader' is will be made available. Points will be awarded for guessing the reader and also for the name of the book and author. Winners will receive a prize! Closing date for all videos is Monday 2nd March. Please send videos in to: homelearning@stfrancisbrad.co.uk

Following our Prime Minister's announcement yesterday, we are currently putting plans in place to welcome all children back to school on Monday 8th March. We are really pleased that we now have a date that we can work towards. Moreover, we are extremely excited to welcome all our home learners, who we have missed greatly, back into their classrooms with their classmates and teachers. Please be assured that we will continue to handle this complex situation as safely and carefully as we have done previously, whilst ensuring that our plans are as sustainable as possible. Parents/carers should note that attendance at school will become mandatory again from Monday 8th March, meaning that the usual attendance rules and regulations will apply once again. Once our plans and risk assessments are all in place and ready to share, I will of course write to you with all the information you need. Please bear with us as we work hard to put these in place.

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Saturday 28th February 2021 at 7:30pm.

Produced by BCP President, Nicholas Carroll, the **'BCP Livestream Event'** is a full evening of entertainment featuring content from 30 members and friends of the Bradford Catholic Players in order to raise money to buy laptops, ipads and other devices for families in need in our school and others in our Trust during the Covid 19 pandemic. It is truly a very worthwhile cause and we are indebted to the Bradford Catholic Players for all of their efforts in this fundraising venture.

The event is to be streamed live on the Bradford Catholic Player's Facebook group – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bradfordcatholicplayers> (the recommended platform for watching) but will also stream on Zoom (meeting ID 848 8860 6791, passcode 611331). Anyone wanting to watch on Facebook needs to have joined the group beforehand.

Bradford Catholic Player's are asking people who watch the event to consider making a donation equivalent to what they might have expected to pay for a cabaret/concert ticket.

Donations can be made before or on the night of the event by PayPal using this link: paypal.me/BCP2021.