

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

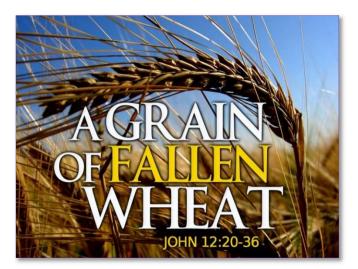


Together we are exploring our special gifts; Together we are growing towards God

Your Tuesday News 23rd March 2021 'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

Yesterday we explored Sunday's Gospel reading when Jesus told the disciples 'A grain of wheat must fall to the ground and die. Then it makes many seeds. But if it never dies, it remains only a single seed.' We explored Jesus' words by likening this to a bulb - we place it deep down in the ground and it then grows and blooms into a beautiful flower which then dies off. The goodness and nutrients go back into the bulb and the following year the flower grows and blooms again. This is just like Jesus through the hardships and challenges of his ministry and journey to the cross resulting in his ultimate sacrifice of his own life, he then rises again and



enables us to have eternal life with God. We discussed together what we thought Jesus' message to us through this scripture is and we set our mission for the week from this discussion; to keep going and persevere even when times are tough or challenging.



This week in our virtues worship, we will continue exploring the virtue of MERCY by learning all about Pope John Paul II.

Thank you to Fr Anthony for leading us in some very reflective saying sorry/penitential services last week. It was lovely to have the children 'together' for this special time and for them to have the time to say sorry to God during this solemn period of Lent.

Each Thursday we are continuing our journey with Jesus through reflecting on the Stations of the Cross.

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

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Well done to Year 3 who are our attendance champions for last week.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b: 08.03.21.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	91.30	96.41
Year 1	96.52	98.22
Year 2	92.80	96.56
Year 3	<mark>99.17</mark>	94.91
Year 4	<mark>98.39</mark>	<mark>97.60</mark>
Year 5	<mark>99.07</mark>	95.71
Year 6	93.22	95.77
Average	95.78%	96.45%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Last Week's Merit Winners: Arthur Adakpa, Calum Metcalfe, Aoife Blyth, Ebony Butler, Esther Uko, Amelia Clayton, Jayden Whittingham and Connor McCullen.

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Joseph Walker for an outstanding retelling of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Joseph's confidence, vocabulary and pure enthusiasm was an absolute pleasure to see. What a superstar!

The Big Cat Reading Award: Jonah Beck for superb reading in school this week. He is really trying with his reading and can now use his phonics well to support it.

Maths Award: Ashton Haigh-Greaves for his superb independent work on decimals over the last few weeks. Ashton has applied himself diligently to some tricky problems and has been able to make excellent progress independently.

Well done to everyone and keep up the good work





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

#	Group	Score
1.	Year 4 2020-21	92,294,699
2.	Year 6 2020-21	44,630,223
З.	Year 2 2020-21	25,433,308
4.	Year 1 2020-21	15,944,345
5.	Year 3 2020-21	13,524,270
6.	Year 5 2020-21	7,641,424

Top Spelling Groups

PFA Update

Thank you to the PFA in conjunction with our School Council members who are continuing to work hard to raise money for Catholic Care and our school through our Friday Fundraisers. So far, a whopping £400+ has been made, which we are thrilled with. Please continue to send in or donate via parent pay. The sweet jar and name the teddy bear competitions are still running and are open until the last day of term.

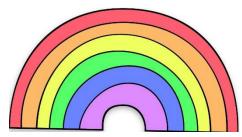


Before last year's lockdown, the School Council had been promoting their School Disco which should have taken place at the end of the Spring term. Many people had paid money for tickets for this, which the PFA still have. If you would like your money to be refunded, please email the office by Wednesday 31st March (the last day of term) and the PFA will arrange your refund. If we have not heard from you by this date, the money will be put into

our school fund which will go directly towards benefitting your child's education. Many thanks.

Rainbow Day!

This is a heads up notice that on Friday 30th April, the PFA will be inviting children in each class to wear clothes of a particular colour. Instead of paying a fine of £1 to do this, children will be asked to bring in an item of the same colour as their clothing which will then be used to make up a hamper of goodies that will be raffled off in each class. More details will follow after Easter...



School Council Update

This week's Lenten Friday Fundraiser is an Egg Decorating Competition. If your child would like to enter please create your decorated egg and take a photo. You can then either take it to the school office in an envelope and drop it in the post box or you can email the photo to the school home learning email account: <u>homelearning@stfrancisbrad.co.uk</u>

Please make sure your child's name and year group is added to any entry. Each class will have a winner and the competition will be judged by our Art teacher Mr Bullock. Good Luck!

From the School Council

BOOK AMNESTY!!

We are running very very low on reading books and accelerated reader books in school at the moment which is causing lots of problems. In order to address this issue, we are planning a book amnesty! On Monday 29th March, we will ask for **ALL** school books that children have at home, in their trays and in their bags to be returned to the library or the KS1 reading area. This will include books that they are in the middle of reading. The idea is to get all school books back onto the library system where we can reset the whole logging system and then we can start afresh. All children will then be able to either take a new book out or get the book back that they were in the middle of reading on



Wednesday 31st March (the last day of term), where they will be properly scanned out and logged on our library system. Please support us in ensuring we have enough books in school for every child to read at their level. Many thanks in advance.

Good News!



We have been successful in our bid for funding for new books for school! The Siobhan Dowd Trust has awarded St Francis £300 to go towards books which must be purchased from an independent bookshop. We are very happy to be working with Lindley Children's Bookshop in Huddersfield who will showcase their books with our children via video call over the next few weeks. The children will then

select a range for all year groups and then our Year 5 librarians will work hard to get them on our library system, ready for children to borrow. Many many thanks to the Siobhan Dowd Trust, who work tirelessly to bring books and reading to disadvantaged young people in the UK.

After School Club Update

We are very pleased to inform you that we are now in a position to be able to offer places for **Nursery children** in our After School Club from the week beginning 12th April when we return to school after Easter. This will be at the usual cost of £7 per child which includes a light tea. Bookings must be made in advance. All the information you need can be found on our website here: https://www.stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk/our-school/breakfast-club

Please note, there will be no After School Club on Wednesday 31st March.

Maths Support for Parents

White Rose Maths have teamed up with TV presenter, teacher and parent Michael Underwood to create a mini-series called Maths with Michael. The idea is to support parents help their children with their Maths as many parents feel like maths has changed and can sometimes find it difficult to keep up to date with modern teaching methods in this subject. With over 80% of Primary schools and a growing number of Secondary schools using White Rose's free schemes of learning, supporting resources and assessments, they can help parents bridge the gap between school and home.

Episodes will be released each **Sunday at 4pm** and **Wednesday at 7pm** for 3 weeks. Episodes will give you an introduction to place value, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and algebra. If popular and useful for parents and carers, they may delve deeper into one of these topics in another mini-series. So sit back and enjoy!

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations are coming up in the next fortnight. Due to Covid, these consultations will take place over Google Meet. There will be three evenings in which parents/carers can make a 10 minute appointment with their child's class teacher. The booking system will operate as usual and a text will be sent out for you to be able to make your appointments. We have decided to spread the appointments over 3 shorter evenings in order to limit the time teachers are sitting in front of screens. The dates and times are as follows:



FS1: Thursday 25th March 3.50 – 4.50: Monday 29th March 3.30 – 5.00: Tuesday 30th March 3.30 – 5.00 FS2: Tuesday 23rd March 3.30 – 6.00: Monday 29th March 3.30 – 5.00: Tuesday 30th March 3.30 – 5.00 Y1 – Y6: Thursday 25th March 3:30 to 6.00: Monday 29th March 3:30 – 5.00:

Tuesday 30th March 3:30 – 5.00

Please ensure you make an appointment as soon as possible so that you get the days and times that suit you. Every parent/carer is expected to have an appointment with their child's teacher as this is essential in supporting the progress of the children. It is even more vital during covid times. Please respect the teachers by making your appointment within the given time frames above, as it is not fair to expect them to hold extra appointments on top of these. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2021

If your child is in receipt of benefit-related free school meals or you need help to feed them, they can get free healthy food and enriching activities during the Easter school break.

This is thanks to government funding from the Holiday Activities and Food Programme and the Covid Winter Grant Scheme.

Bradford Council is working with organisations across the district to deliver this support.

If you would like to receive this support, please apply online here: <u>https://onlineforms.bradford.gov.uk/ufs/schoolhunger.eb?ebd=0&ebz=1_1616422153110</u> or call 01274 431000 and select option 2 for HAF.

Free School Meals

Could you be eligible for benefits-related free school meals? This is not to be mistaken for the Universal Infant Free School meals for children in Years FS2 – 2. Benefit related free school meals can also entitle you to other benefits such a free school milk, school uniform and any educational activities which require parental contribution.

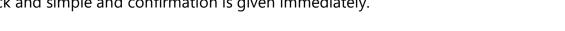
You can apply for free school meals if you receive:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £16,190, provided they are not receiving Working Tax Credit
- > the 'Guaranteed' element of the State Pension Credit
- > Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- > Universal Credit with an annual net earned income threshold of less than £7,400

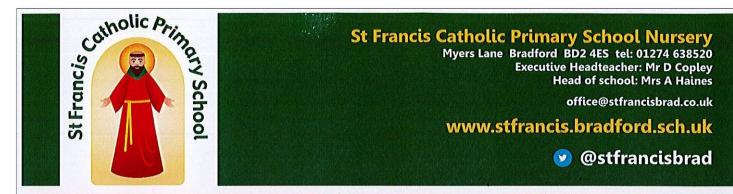
You can apply online here:

https://online.bradford.gov.uk/ufs/FREE_SCHOOL_MEALS.eb?ebd=0&ebp=10&ebz=1_1616422211867

The application is very quick and simple and confirmation is given immediately.







NORSERY Places available for 3-4 year olds



15 and 30 hour funding available for eligible 3-4 year olds

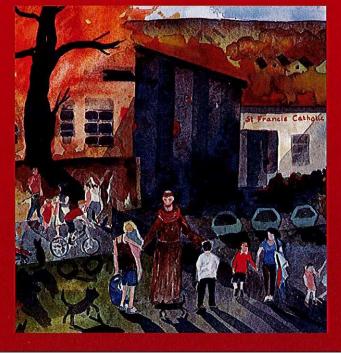
Covid compliant visits are very warmly welcomed and encouraged Please simply email/phone the office

Our nursery children are taught by fully qualified teachers in bright and stimulating surroundings.

Wraparound care from 7:45am-6pm will be available from 12th April 2021.

We are able to offer flexibility of hours.

Reserve your child's place now



We will have spare nursery places in September, please spread the word about our fantastic nursery provision here at St Francis.