

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 15th June 2021

'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

What a pleasure it was yesterday to welcome our Reception Class children to their first Monday morning worship this year. Together with the rest of the school we explored the Parable of the Mustard Seed. We reflected on how a tiny mustard seed can grow into an enormous tree, just like the Kingdom of God grows from the smallest of kind deeds and actions. Children in reception Class were excellent at sharing their ideas of what they could do today to brighten and better the world around us; sharing toys with siblings, looking after their friends, making something for someone in their family, etc. We prayed together and set our mission for the week; to say something kind to someone.





Our virtues worship this week continues to focus on the virtue of GENTLENESS. The children learned all about Mary Seacole and the gentleness and care she showed to the soldiers she looked after during the Crimean War.

Year 3 Class Mass: This Wednesday, children in Year 3 will walk up to school to share in their Class Mass with the rest of the parish.

Year 6 End of Year Celebrations

It is getting very close to that bittersweet time of year when we have to say goodbye and good luck to our wonderful year 6 children. We are not in a position yet to confirm full Covid safe arrangements, however, the different celebrations will take place in school for the children, regardless of how/if parents/carers can attend. We will do everything we possibly can to involve parents/carers and families within whatever government



restrictions are in place at the time. In the meantime, please make a note of the following dates:

Tuesday 13th July (2pm and 6pm): Year 6 performance of Joseph and His Technicolour Dreamcoat Monday 19th July (10:30am): Year 6 Leavers' Mass

Tuesday 20th July (2:15pm): Year 6 Leavers' Liturgy and last day of school

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Year 4 are our attendance champions this week.

Not a good year for attendance but it has been an unusual and unprecedented time. Let's hope we

can do better next year.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE	%ATTENDANCE
	w/b: 07.06.21.	this year to date
FS2	90.83	94.75
Year 1	<mark>97.13</mark>	<mark>98.03</mark>
Year 2	96.94	96.51
Year 3	95.56	<mark>95.49</mark>
Year 4	<mark>98.91</mark>	97.74
Year 5	<mark>97.22</mark>	96.21
Year 6	93.10	95.40
Average	<mark>95.56</mark> %	96.30%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Last week's merit winners: Joseph Walker, Charlotte Symons, Isla Hardaker, Ava Rebelo, Isaac Kiwomya, Ruby Barry, Spencer Devine, Joshua Hinchcliffe and Beth Randles

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Layla Waugh for approaching school life in a quietly confident manner. Layla's work ethic is exemplary and she is a true example of our virtue this week – gentleness.

The Big Cat Reading Merit: Nylah Doherty for a superb effort in Guided Reading this week. Nylah has shown brilliant listening skills and enthusiasm for our book this week and has had her hand up all the time to answer questions. On top of this, Nylah always reads regularly at home and has made fantastic progress with her reading this year.

Maths Award: Isla Hardaker for brilliant effort in Maths and being a Maths superstar. Her leadership skills are fantastic and she is able to guide and support her team or group in many tasks.

BCWCAT Art Competition

I AM AN ARTIST, MY ART WILL BE SEEN

Please remember that the deadline for the BCWCAT Art competition is Friday 25th June. Could pupils please email their art work into office@fra.bcwcat.co.uk before this date.

PFA Update

Thank you to everyone who has bought raffle tickets so far. The raffle will be drawn on Friday, so there is still time to buy tickets at £1 per strip. You can pay through Parent Pay or send the money in with your child in a named envelope.



Aspirations Week



We have an exciting week coming very soon! In line with our vision and mission at St Francis we want our children to aspire to be the best that they can be and develop resilience to prepare them for the world in the 21st

century. Consequently, we have planned an 'Aspirations Week' during the week beginning 21st June. The aim of the week is to give children the opportunity to explore different fields of work, speak to people who work in these fields and ask them questions and also to develop important life skills. Please see below what each class will be doing:

	Focus	Life skill
EYFS	People who help us: - fire fighters – nurse – vet - paramedic - doctor - priest/nun – police - teacher	Washing up
Year 1	Hospitality: - Restaurant - Cafe – Hotel - Flight attendant - Chef	Folding clothes
Year 2	Trades: - Window cleaner – Plumber - Builder - Electrician – Gardener - Mechanic	Making a bed
Year 3	High Street: - Supermarket - Estate Agent – Bank - Postman - Chemist – Butcher - Baker	Tying shoe laces
Year 4	STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Maths) - scientists – accountant – engineer - researcher - architect	Making a hot drink
Year 5	Journalism: - TV – radio – newspaper - blog - vlog	Touch typing
Year 6	Politics/Legal: - Parish councillor - Local MP – Mayor - Solicitor - Barrister - Judge - Family liaison officer	Using public transport/tying a tie

In addition to this, the children will be engaging in a challenge to 'make £5 grow'. Each class will be given £5 and tasked with investing this in an idea to make a profit, Dragon's Den style! We are really looking forward to what we hope will be an interesting, informative and rich experience for the children.

Year 6 Leavers' Photograph

The photographer has now rescheduled to come to school on Tuesday 22nd June.

Sports Day

As last year's virtual sports week was so popular during the full lockdown, we have decided to run a full sports week again this year during the week beginning 12th July, culminating in a traditional sports day on Friday 16th July. As there is still uncertainty around Covid safety measures, we are not yet in a position to confirm whether parents/carers will be able to join us for this event. We will of course confirm one way or another closer to the time.





Baby News!!

I am thrilled to inform you that Miss Breen and her partner are expecting their second baby, another daughter, in November. Congratulations to them and their daughter, Heidi!

Staffing Arrangements for Next Year

I am pleased to be able to inform you of the new staffing arrangements for September 2021. They are as follows:

FS1 (Nursery): Mrs Needs (mornings) and Mrs Shields (afternoons)

FS2 (Reception): Mrs Whitley

Year 1: Ms Jennings and Miss Burgess
Year 2: Miss Martin
Year 3: Miss McDermott
Year 4: Miss Britz
Year 5: Mrs Standley
Year 6: Mrs Jalil

Miss Breen will continue to teach in various different classes until she goes on maternity leave part way through the autumn term.

Transition

At St Francis, we know how important it is for children to meet their new teacher and visit their new classroom ahead of returning to school in September. Therefore, on Wednesday 30th June, we will hold a transition morning in school when the children will do just that. We would also like to offer an opportunity for parents to meet their child's new teacher(s). This will be done virtually over Google Meet on the same day. Times are yet to be finalised, so they will be communicated to you as soon as possible.



Parents/carers may have seen that a cat from the neighbourhood has become a regular visitor to our school grounds. As much as we love animals and nature at St Francis, I politely request that parents do not allow the children to pet the cat and to actively keep the children away from it as much as possible. This cat can be unpredictable and has lashed out at a small number of children recently. Please be assured that we are doing our best to find out where the cat lives so that we can

speak to its owners and hopefully get a firm resolution to the cat entering the school grounds. In the meantime, we are all speaking to the children regularly to remind them to stay away from the cat. Many thanks for your support with this matter.