

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 2nd November 2021 'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

Welcome back to all our children and families. I hope you all had a restful half term and enjoyed some quality time together.

This morning, KS1 and KS2 gathered together in worship and explored this week's virtue of HOPE.

On Wednesday 17th November, Year 4 will walk up to church to join the parish and lead their Class Mass. All parents/carers are very warmly invited to share in this Mass with them, which begins at 9:30am.



Covid Risk Assessment Update



First of all, thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support of our Covid risk assessment. I am very grateful to you all for respecting the decisions we have made in order to keep everyone as safe as possible and in our efforts to ensure children are able to continue coming to school. Over the half term holidays, we have re-evaluated our risk assessment and, in line with many other schools in our Trust and in our local area, we now feel in a safe position to allow parents/carers back into the school building. We will be delighted to welcome parents/carers back to

school after a very long 19 months! This means that parents/carers will now be able to share in the children's joy of receiving a merit or reward at our Merit Worship on Friday mornings at 9am. We are really looking forward to welcoming you all back! Thank you again for your patience.

Kindness Week (Anti-Bullying Week)

As stated in the Tuesday News before the holidays, Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event, held in the third week in November which aims to raise awareness of bullying of children and young people, in schools and elsewhere, and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. We have decided to rename this week at St Francis as **'Kindness Week'** as this has a much more positive feel to what we hope will be a very informative



and fun week for everyone. The theme of the week this year is **ONE KIND WORD** and whilst using this as a focus, at St Francis we will also be focussing on children's understanding of what bullying is and effective strategies to deal with it.



On 15th November we will launch our week with an 'odd socks' day as odd socks are all about fun and laughter, but more importantly they deliver a message of individuality, acceptance and tolerance, because everyone is different and that's good! We are asking families to donate £1 on this day and all proceeds will go towards the Catholic Care Good Shepherd Appeal who offer a very important support service to children experiencing difficulties.

At the end of the week, Friday 19th November, it is Children In Need and so we are inviting all the children to dress up as 'one kind word' to raise money for this well known and very special charity. For example, your child might choose the word "love" and dress up in lots of love hearts, or they could simply come dressed in their own clothes with their word pinned/painted on them. It is entirely up to you. I am aware that we are holding two fundraisers in the same week, so please do not feel under pressure to donate to them both. Please support whichever



you can. More information on Kindness Week to follow next week from the School Council.

Writing Workshops

We are holding parent and child writing workshops on the dates below. These will be for parents to attend in person with your child in order to gain a better understanding of the standard expected of children in Writing at each key stage and give you the tools to support your child in making progress in Writing. The sessions will be 45 minutes long and will be very informal with tea, coffee, juice and biscuits all being served. We sincerely hope that as many parents as possible can come along. We will be operating an online booking system for these workshops so that we have an idea of how many people will be attending in order to make the necessary preparations.

Years 5/6:

Thursday 11th November 3:30pm or 5:30pm

Years 3/4:

Thursday 18th November 3:30pm or 5:30pm

Years 1/2:

Thursday 2nd November 3:30pm or 5:30pm



EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Only one class achieved over 97% attendance the last week of half term. Well done Year 2. Our attendance at 95.77% is not good. Let's all make an effort to raise this figure.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE	%ATTENDANCE
	w/b: 18.10.21.	this year to date
FS2	93.97	92.51
Year 1	96.67	95.29
Year 2	97.33	96.81
Year 3	96.77	<mark>97.11</mark>
Year 4	96.67	96.22
Year 5	96.33	<mark>97.67</mark>
Year 6	96.43	95.82
Average	96.26%	95.77%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Merit Worship

Our Merit winners on 22nd October: Phoebe, Charlie, Freddie, Maisy, Madeline, Amelia and Pippa. Well done

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Max, Dhillon, Femi-Lee and Esme

Big Cat Merit Reading Award: Emily

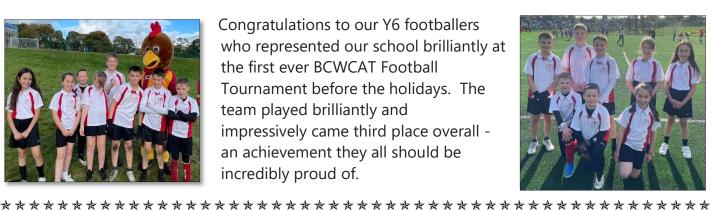
Writer of the Half Term Awards: Grace, Benjamin, Jonah, Esme, McKenzie, Krystal, Lincoln, Hannah, Lewie, Lily-May, Charlie and Maisie.

Performance Poetry

Well done to all the children in Years 1, 3 and 5 on their wonderful performance poetry which took place just before the holidays. The children had prepared so well and performed with great enthusiasm. Years 2, 4 and 6 will perform their chosen poems on Thursday 18th November in the large hall at 9am.



Congratulations to our Y6 footballers who represented our school brilliantly at the first ever BCWCAT Football Tournament before the holidays. The team played brilliantly and impressively came third place overall an achievement they all should be incredibly proud of.



Online Safety: A message from The School Council

The PCSO came to school to talk about online safety. He told us you should never show your identity because it can lead to hackers. The hackers could look at all your personal information. The PCSO also spoke about which games are good for us to play.



As is tradition at St Francis we will be remembering our loved ones throughout the month of November. I invite all our children to bring photographs of anyone special to them who has passed away to put on our Remembrance display and fill out a poppy for our Remembrance Tree.



Poppies will be coming around school over the next week for children to buy. There are also other items available to purchase from the school office. We have snap bands, wrist bands, reflectors and zip tags. These vary in price from 50p to £1.50. Please come to the office if you wish to buy any of these items. All money goes to the Poppy Appeal.
