



St Francis Catholic Primary School

Myers Lane, Bradford BD2 4ES

Tel. 01274 638520

Email: office@fra.bcwcatholic.co.uk

Website: www.stfrancisbradford.sch.uk Twitter: @stfrancisbrad

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 30th November 2021

'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

As last Sunday was the first Sunday in Advent, we lit the first purple candle on our Advent wreath to begin our worship. This week's Gospel reading centred on getting ready for the coming of the Son of God. We were advised to 'stay awake' and not let ourselves be distracted by the business and noise in the lead up to Jesus' birth. We took our inspiration from this in setting our mission of the week: To 'stay awake' by ignoring all the negative things and focussing on preparing our hearts for Jesus' birth.



First Reconciliation

Please keep our Year 4 children in your prayers who are making their Sacrament of First Reconciliation tonight and tomorrow night in church. We ask God to help us encourage our children to grow in love and to learn how to say sorry, knowing that they will always be forgiven.

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone our daily **Advent prayers** for the time being as we do not want to have children mixing in year groups indoors whilst we have several positive cases of Covid within our school community. We will inform children and parents/carers once we are in a position to begin this. Thank you for your patience.

Minnie Vinnies



This week saw the reinstatement of the Mini Vinnies at St Francis. The Mini Vinnies is an important group in our school that will organise events to raise money for those in need and help support our children in their Catholic Faith. We are proud to announce Lucas, Casey, Cullen, Isla, Sebastian, Lucas, Connie, Isaac, Eve, Fabian and Esther as our new Mini Vinnies. We will have our first official meeting in January but yesterday we met to discuss our advent box appeal. We are collecting items for Horton Housing. We will be making up Advent boxes for children that are in need. Suitable contents that can be brought in are: hats/gloves, comb/brushes, hair bobbles, toiletries, toothbrush and toothpaste, socks, chocolate (long

sell by date), puzzles/colouring books, pens/pencils, small game/toy, small cuddly toys, lipbalms, etc. Thank you in advance of your donations that can be sent in with children or dropped off at the office. We will be meeting again after school on Tuesday 7th December 2021 3.15 – 4.15 pm.

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%

[illegible]

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b: 22.11.21.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	92.67	93.63
Year 1	87.25	94.80
Year 2	86.46	96.09
Year 3	96.77	97.79
Year 4	94.14	96.47
Year 5	92.62	97.04
Year 6	95.00	96.38
Average	92.13%	96.03%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Our Merit winners last week: Harry FS2, Mila Y2, James Y3, Maisie Y4, Frankie Y5, Lucas Y6

Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award: Dhillon for outstanding skills on the glockenspiel. Dhillon has blown me away with his timing, rhythm and natural musical talent.

Big Cat Merit Reading Award: Ella for her growing confidence in reading and super effort in phonics.

Well done everyone.

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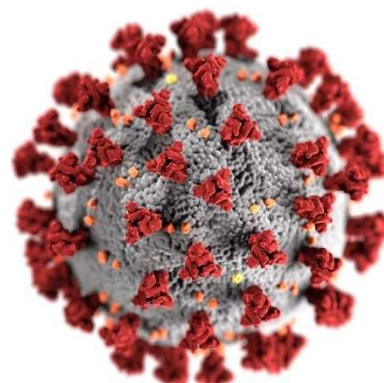
KS1 Writing Workshops

Due to the several positive cases in school at the moment, we are postponing the KS1 Writing Workshops which were due to take place this Thursday, until after the Christmas holidays when hopefully it will be safer to do so. If you have already booked on, these will be cancelled and a new link will be sent out in the new year once a date and time are set and communicated to you. Again, thank you for your patience and understanding.

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Covid Update

As explained in my letter yesterday, we are having to put some protective measures back in place due to rising positive cases among our children and staff. Whilst we are continuing to prepare for our nativities and Carol Service within these measures, we feel it necessary to inform parents/carers that if it is not safe for us to go ahead with these events as planned, then arrangements for them may change. As always, we will keep you up to date as much as possible. In the meantime, please support our efforts to reduce the number of positive cases by wearing face masks whilst on school site, remaining extra vigilant regarding symptoms and taking your child for a PCR test if they do display symptoms. Many thanks for your continued support.

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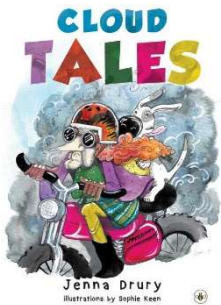
If you are worried or concerned about the wellbeing of any of our pupils, please ask to speak to Mrs Haines, Miss Burgess, or Mrs Laptew

Years 5 and 6 Peace Museum workshops



Thank you to Liz and Shannen from the Bradford Peace Museum for a fantastic workshop with Year 5 looking at poppies, remembrance and war horses. The children were particularly captivated by the book of Hils Robinson.

Year 6 had a very informative afternoon learning about human rights with the Bradford Peace Museum.

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Y1 Author Visit

Children in Year 1 had a wonderful time at Eccleshill Library last week when they met a real life author. Jenna Drury, the author of the children's book '*Cloud Tales*' hosted an interactive literacy workshop for our children. We were also given 25 copies of the book for our school library too, which is fantastic!

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Wild World Heroes Winter Mini Challenge 2021

The Heroes are back to help with the Winter Mini Challenge! Join the Wild World Heroes as they embark on an Arctic adventure to find out about the creatures that live there. You will find out about the environmental issues facing this remote place and might even spot a narwhal or two!

Taking part in the Winter Mini Challenge is simple. Read at least three books between 1 December and 16 January and add them to your online profile at www.wintermini.org.uk to get super fun digital rewards! You'll find loads of other great stuff on the website too, including games, book reviews, reading activities such as downloadable activity sheets and content from the best children's authors and illustrators around. For parents there is a Home Zone and Library Zone on the website with more information on reading. There is also a Facebook page so that parents can keep up to date with news and opportunities.

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Please note there is no multi skills after school club this Wednesday.