

St Francis Catholic Primary School

Myers Lane, Bradford BD2 4ES

Tel/fax: 01274 638520

[Executive Headteacher: Mr D. Copley](#)

[Head of School: Mrs A. Haines](#)

Email: office@stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk

Website: www.stfrancis.bradford.sch.uk

 [@stfrancisbrad](https://twitter.com/stfrancisbrad)



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

Your Tuesday News 15th January 2019

'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'

Worship

As it was the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord on Sunday, our worship yesterday centred around what Baptism is and the different symbols used in this sacrament. The children correctly identified the special clothing worn, the white garment as a symbol of purity, the water as a symbol of new life, the oil as a symbol of strength given by the Holy Spirit and the Baptismal candle as a symbol of starting a new life in Christ, the light of the world. We then read the Gospel reading of John the Baptist baptising Jesus in the River Jordan. We discussed how Jesus wanted to be baptised in preparation for starting his ministry of sharing the Good News about God and that Christians follow Jesus' example of baptism in order to cleanse and ready themselves to follow in his footsteps and spread God's Word. In keeping with the idea of following in Jesus' footsteps, we set our mission for the week which is a small way we can show that we are living in the right way: to compliment another person.



KS2 enjoyed attending Mass at church last week with the rest of the parish. This week, on Wednesday 16th January, Year 5 will celebrate their class mass in church.

This Thursday, 17th January, Year 6 will lead the rest of the school in their class worship in the large hall. All Year 6 parents/carers and families are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.

Mini Vinnies

Please note that Mini Vinnies will meet with Mrs Heppleston on the first Monday of the month after school. God Bless from Mr Copley and Mrs Haines

School letters

As a school, we recognise that communication is key and we try to communicate with parents/carers as best we can through our Tuesday News, website, Twitter feed, text messaging service and letters. Recently, we have noticed just how much we are being asked to print off duplicate copies of letters which have already been sent out. In some cases, we are having to print them off three times. In order to communicate as effectively as we can and reduce our printing costs, from now on, any letter which is sent out will be placed on our website under Our School - newsletters – additional letters, so that parents/carers can view the letters in their own time or print further copies should they need to. Parents can also sign up to the email delivery service for the newsletter through our website under the newsletter section.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Well done to Year 6 pupils who are our attendance champions for last week. Well done to FS2 who had an impressive 99% attendance.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b 7.1.19.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	99.00	95.85
Year 1	97.42	96.15
Year 2	95.67	97.41
Year 3	96.43	97.37
Year 4	97.10	97.28
Year 5	98.39	97.59
Year 6	99.26	97.74
Average	97.61%	97.05%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00



TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Well done to our Merit Winners last week: Amelia McCullen, Tony Adakpa, Lucia Zanella, Lucy Lightfoot, Finley Carroll, Beth Randles, Ewan Sutcliffe and Olivia Stephenson-Clay.

Mr Copley and Mrs Haines' Headteacher's Award was presented to Louisa Hobson for: being an absolute delight around school and being positive and working hard in all areas.

The Big Cat Merit went to Cullen Shaw for his brilliant enthusiasm towards the stories we read in class.



Breakfast Club for Nursery Children

Recently, we have had many requests for Nursery children to attend Breakfast Club. Due to strict legislation which demands different staff to children ratios for Nursery children, we have been unable to allow Nursery children to attend Breakfast Club. However, since we have received such a high level of interest in Nursery children attending Breakfast Club, we have recruited another member of staff to make this possible. As of Monday 21st January, initially up to 8 Nursery children will be able to attend Breakfast Club, as long as they are booked in in advance, as we are only allowed up to 8 Nursery children at one time. Bookings can be made via the school office. The cost will remain the same (1.50 attendance or £2.00 attendance with breakfast) and payment is via Parent Pay.

After School Club

This week, After School Club is offering slime making, table football, games on the Nintendo Wii and outdoor games - tennis and frisbee. Next week, beginning Monday 21st January, activities will include painting, marbling, chalk work and clay modelling and outdoor games, weather permitting. Please use the booking form available from the school office or the website to book your child in advance.



BD2 Club

The BD2 Club (after school club at Grove House) is closed on 7th February due to polling. If you would like to book your child into our After School Club on that day please fill in a booking form available from the school office, after school club or the website.

Young Voices

Last Friday, 45 members of our School Choir experienced an amazing day when they attended the Young Voices Concert at Sheffield Arena. The children sang 17 songs as part of the largest young people's choir in the world, with around 4,500 other children from school choirs in the region. They sang a range of songs from 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' to 'Viva La Diva' to favourites from 'The Greatest Showman' along with sign language, actions and street dance moves led by dance troop 'Urban Strides'. If this wasn't enough, they also got to sing with Basement Jaxx lead singer Sharlene Hector, golden buzzer winner on Britain's Got Talent 2016 Beau Dermott and legendary Spandau Ballet lead singer Tony Hadley. What a night! The children represented our school brilliantly and worked so hard in the lead up to the event to learn all the melodies and song words. Well done to all of you!



Year 6 visit to Tropical World



Last Tuesday, Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Tropical World in Leeds. We found out all about the different types of animals living in tropical climates, as well as creepy crawlies, nocturnal animals and Tropical World's very own mob of meerkats. In the afternoon, we enjoyed a workshop outside in Roundhay Park, learning all about the differences between tropical rainforests and our own temperate native woodland. We interviewed a tree to learn more about it and we played a very noisy game to help us identify the creatures of the Amazon rainforest. Finally, we had fun dressing Isaac up as a meerkat to learn how these creatures are adapted to the harsh climate of the Kalahari desert. A fun day out was had by all!

Welcome Over the next fortnight, we are very pleased to be welcoming new Nursery children and their families into our St Francis family. We hope our new children settle well into their new setting, enjoy their time here and reach their full potential in our care.

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



Piers Torday

On Monday last week, Years 5 and 6 received a Skype call from a famous author, Piers Torday. We asked lots of questions and he told us what inspired him to write 'The Last Wild', which was one of his books. What appealed to us the most was how imaginative 'The Last Wild' is.

We all now want to become authors!!

REMINDERS:

Over the past few weeks we have noticed standards slipping around school. We ask parents/carers to support us in our high expectations of children's behaviour and appearance in school as outlined below:

Ties

Many of our children are coming to school either without a tie at all or leaving their tie in their desks trays and having to be reminded several times a day by staff to put them on. It is part of our school uniform for Y2-Y6 children to wear a tie throughout the school day. Ties are available from the office.

Appropriate Hair Styles

Unicorn headbands are not part of St Francis school uniform and not appropriate for school. We ask you to please make sure your child does not come into school wearing one.

Water bottles

We promote a healthy diet for our children at St Francis and allow them access to water bottles throughout the school day to keep them hydrated. Unfortunately, many children are bringing juice in their water bottles which is not allowed.

PE kits

Many of our children are coming to school without their PE kit on the days they have PE. We ask you to support your child's PE curriculum by ensuring they have their PE kits in school on the correct days. Furthermore, many of our children are bringing football strips and other non-uniform items in to school for their PE kits. Please note, we have a PE uniform outlined below, which our children must adhere to:

Indoor PE kit: white t-shirt; plain navy blue or black shorts; pair of pumps/trainers; PE bag

Outdoor PE Kit: white t-shirt; plain navy blue tracksuit; pair of pumps/trainers; PE bag

When girls in Foundation Stage grow out of their school shoes please could they be donated to our Foundation Stage. We are very short of spare girls shoes. Many thanks.

School Office

The school office is closed on Friday mornings from 8.15 to 8.40 am during staff briefing.



School Calendar

(Please note these dates and times could be subject to change)

Date	Time	Class	Event
Wednesday 16 th January	9.30 am	Y5	Mass in Church
Thursday 17 th January	9.00 am	Y6	Class Worship
Tuesday 22 nd January	9.00 & 3.15	EYFS	Parent workshop for Maths
Wednesday 23 rd January	9.30 am	Y6	Mass in Church
Thursday 24 th January	9.00 am	Y5	Class Worship
Wednesday 30 th January	AM/PM	FS1	Stay and Play sessions
	9.30 am	Y3	Mass in Church
Thursday 31 st January	AM/PM	FS2	Stay and Play sessions
	9.00 am	Y4	Class Worship