

# St Francis Catholic Primary School

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**Executive Headteacher: Mr D. Copley**

**Head of School: Mrs A. Haines**



## YOUR TUESDAY NEWS

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

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

### **'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'**

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,



#### **Mission Week**

What a fantastic start we had yesterday to our Mission Week! We warmly welcomed the Sion Community for Evangelism to St Francis to lead us in taking a fresh look at our faith. So far, all of our children have

experienced thought-provoking assemblies, parents have been invited for tea and coffee with the mission team before school and staff and governors have enjoyed

powerful prayer experiences. Throughout the rest of the week, the Sion community will visit each class in their classroom, lead voluntary prayer for each KS2 class at lunchtime and lead further assemblies for each Key Stage. We would like to warmly invite you to some presentations led by the children with the Sion Community on the following dates:



Wednesday 18th October, 2pm - Foundation Stage and KS1 presentation to parents

Thursday 19th October, 2pm - KS2 presentation to parents

Friday 20th October, 2:30pm - Final whole school assembly

On Friday 20th October at 9:30am. the whole school will be celebrating Mass together with the Sion Community and we warmly invite you to come along and join us. This will be followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for all KS2 classes.

We feel extremely lucky to have the Sion Community come and share their knowledge, prayer and spirituality with us this week. It is truly a unique and reflective week for us all. Please follow our experience on our Twitter feed @stfrancisbrad #stfrancisonamission

God bless





Mr Copley and Mrs Haines

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#### **School Choir**

Our wonderful School Choir have been working extremely hard all half term to learn two new pieces of music to perform for you. On Tuesday 7th November at 9am, they will perform 'Sing' by Gary Barlow and 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams for the whole school and parents are warmly invited to come along and see and hear for themselves the amazing sound that the choir create.

Every week we look to celebrate being outstanding every day. Each class is collecting Gold Coins for their treasure chests and the winners each week will receive a prize!

Merit Worship Leaderboard		
Year Group	Class Pirate Name	Winners
FS2:	Pirate Starship	
Year 1:	Breen's Buccaneer	
Year 2:	Martin's Mi Hearties	
Year 3:	Duxbury's Deckhands	
Year 4:	Trotter's Treasure Trove	
Year 5:	Speake's Scurvy Scallywags	
Year 6:	Langham's Landlubbers	  

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EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Well done to Year 6 who are our attendance champions last week. Well done on the effort last week which was impressive.

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b 09.10.17.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	99.00	97.36
Year 1	98.75	95.69
Year 2	98.00	96.72
Year 3	99.33	98.85
Year 4	97.33	96.84
Year 5	95.19	96.81
Year 6	99.29	98.21
Average	98.12	97.21
TARGET	97.00%	97.00

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TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Congratulations to our Merit winners last week: Isabelle Saunders, Pippa Hudson, Orla Hudson, Qais Hussain, Theo Armitage, Christian Li Castri-Flesher, Year 6, Ruby Loughlin, Hashain Muhammed, Millie Ellis and Lily Bairstow.

Mr Copley's Headteacher's Award was presented to Harvey Clegg for being a smiley, positive member of the school community who always tries his best.

Congratulations to Theo Loughlin who has gained his 10 metre swimming award.

If your child has been exploring their special gifts outside of school then please send the office an email so that we can celebrate this in our newsletter:

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SCHOOL NOTICES

Lego Club on Mondays will change after half term to Years 2, 4 and 6. Please fill in the permission slip if your child would like to attend.



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Name of Child: ..... Class: .....

I give permission for my child to attend Lego Club on Mondays after school between 3.15 and 4.15 pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

All **Year 6** parents are warmly invited to the first ever **Learning Gallery** on Thursday after school! Come up to the Year 6 classroom any time from 3.30 - 5.30pm to see a showcase of our learning this half term. Homework will be on display alongside classwork, and you are encouraged to come along with your child to see what we have been doing since September. We look forward to seeing you there.

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**Parent Feedback**

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to fill out our parent survey at the parent consultation evenings last week. We received very positive feedback which was extremely pleasing. The results are shown below:

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
1. My child is happy at this school	102 91%	10 9%		
2. My child feels safe at this school	109 97.5%	3 2.5%		
3. My child makes good progress at this school	99 88.5%	13 11.5%		
4. My child is well looked after at this school	103 92%	9 8%		
5. My child is taught well at this school	104 93%	8 7%		
6. My child receives homework appropriate for their age	85 76%	24 21.5%	2 1.75 %	
7. This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	90 80%	20 18%		
8. This school deals effectively with bullying	82 73%	25 22%	1 1.5%	
9. This school is well led and managed	99 88.5%	12 11%	1 0.5%	
10. This school responds well to any concerns I raise	91 81%	19 17%	2 2%	
11. I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	89 79.5%	22 19.5%	1 1%	
12. Would you recommend this school to another parent?	105 94%	7 6%		

**Some highlights:**

‘As a parent, I am proud to be a part of St Francis school community. My children are both doing extremely well in their year’.

‘Every day, my daughter has skipped happily down Myers Lane into school. she counts the days down to going back to school each holiday. She wants to soak every bit of education up like a sponge. St Francis is the best decision I made for the first 6 years of my daughter's education. I fully support the ethos of the school’.

As always, there are areas for us to improve and we welcome the feedback you gave us on this. One particular area that came up was about improving communication about current work and also providing more homework for the children. We have taken your valuable feedback on board and hope to make improvements in these areas.

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

## Forest Schools

As some of you may be aware, Year 5 have been thoroughly enjoying their trips to Peel Park Primary School every Thursday to take part in Forest School activities. Next half term, Year 3 will benefit from this outdoor learning experience which will take place every Thursday afternoon up until Christmas. Please note, that every class in KS1 and KS2 will take part in Forest school at some point in the year. It is hoped that the teachers and children attending Forest School will bring back new skills and knowledge to then continue their outdoor learning back here at St Francis. With this in mind, Miss Trotter has been liaising with Ian Butterfield from the Bradford Environmental Action Trust (BEAT), to put plans in place for our very own forest to be planted at the back of the large field. Over the half term holidays, a fence will be built around the area that is intended for the forest and then, over the next half term, each class from FS2-Y6 will have the opportunity to plant some trees. This is another exciting project for our school!



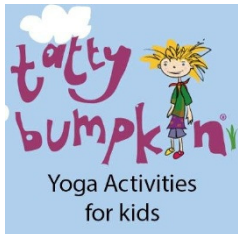
## Reading Rocks!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents, carers and families for all your support and patience over the past months as we have gone through a big period of change in our reading systems and schemes. This has not come without its problems, but we do assure you that this is all in a great effort to work towards higher standards in the teaching and learning of reading for your children. Reading is one of our main priorities on our School Development Plan, so we hope you will see the benefits of everything new we have introduced.



## Yoga

After the half term holidays, we will be welcoming back 'Tatty Bumpkin' who will be leading our FS2 children and some of our KS1 in yoga on a Wednesday afternoon.



Tatty Bumpkin is the inspiration behind the bendy, giggly world for clever minds and strong bodies. She takes children on active, creative story-telling adventures that inspire and motivate children and adults alike. The concept has been developed by yoga teachers, physiotherapists and educationalists and is fully aligned to the curriculum. We are looking forward to having her work with our children again.

## Safeguarding

As you know, it is our first priority to keep our children safe at all times. We politely ask you before school starts to stay with your children on the playground until the bell has gone and the children are invited onto the muga pitch where they will meet their teacher. We cannot provide supervision for the children not attending Breakfast Club and therefore cannot guarantee their safety until there has been a safe handover. We also ask you to respect our 'no dogs policy' and not bring them onto the school playground. Thank you for your co-operation on these matters.

## CALENDAR DATES

Thursday 19 Oct	AM / PM	FS	Stay, Play and Learn
Friday 20 October	Break up for October half term		
Tuesday 31 Oct	School reopens after half term		

We wish everyone a restful and relaxing half term. We return on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October