

St Francis Catholic Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Mr D. Copley

Head of School: Mrs A. Haines



YOUR TUESDAY NEWS

Tuesday 5th December 2017

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

'TOGETHER WE ARE GROWING TOWARDS GOD'



ADVENT 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Parishioners,

Last Sunday in church, we celebrated the first Sunday of Advent and lit the first candle of the Advent wreath. Our theme in school this year is **'We Praise You, We Love You, We Thank You.'** We joined together for our first Advent Prayers in the small hall at 8:25am yesterday morning to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Our Lord. We reflected upon Sunday's Gospel, whose short but simple message was to 'STAY AWAKE' and be vigilant as we wait for Jesus to come. We decided this would be a fitting mission for us all to try and keep this week. Please note that parents, children, families and parishioners are warmly invited to join us for Advent Prayers every morning at 8:25am. They are just a short 5 or 10 minutes of reflection and are a very calm start to the day. It was lovely to have some of our parents and children join us this morning as we reflected on how patient we have to be in waiting for Jesus to come.

Today, in preparation for Christmas, KS1 will be joined by Fr Anthony to take part in a **Saying Sorry Service** and Ks2 will take part in a **Penitential Service** with Years 4, 5 and 6 having the opportunity to go to confession.

This coming Thursday, 7th December at 9:30am in the large hall is our **Advent Mass**. We welcome all parents, families and parishioners to come along and join us on this special occasion. Groups of children from each year group will be leading different parts of the worship, building on the spiritual experiences we had with the Sion Community during our Mission Week earlier this term. We would love you to join us.

God Bless

Mr Copley and Mrs Haines



**'We Praise You.
We Thank You.
We Love You.'**



Advent 2017



Please join us for 10 minutes this Advent

Advent Prayers

**Every morning at 8:25am
in the Small hall**



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



Learning about the different World Faiths:

Yesterday, we welcomed a visitor called Seema who joined us from the Interfaith Centre to share her knowledge and experience as a practising Hindu. We learned all about the Hindu holy books, holy beads and the God Hindus worship. We noticed many similarities between Hindu and our own Catholic faith. We ended with a lot of fun as Seema showed us how to dance in the traditional Hindu way.

Every week we look to celebrate being outstanding every day. Each class collects Gold Coins for their treasure chests and the winners each week 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	👑👑👑👑👑👑

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS:

Our Attendance Target for this year is 97%



Well done to Year 3 who for the second week running are our attendance champions!

CLASS	% ATTENDANCE w/b 27.11.17.	%ATTENDANCE this year to date
FS2	95.68	90.33
Year 1	95.79	99.03
Year 2	96.93	94.67
Year 3	98.30	97.33
Year 4	97.41	97.33
Year 5	97.24	98.57
Year 6	97.91	100.00
Average	96.75%	97.03%
TARGET	97.00%	97.00%

TOGETHER WE ARE EXPLORING OUR SPECIAL GIFTS

Congratulations to our Merit winners last week: Lily May Cousins, Millie McTasney, Scarlet Zaborowski, Courtney Butterfield, Isaac Gregory, Carol Majaga, Herbie Hudson and Millie Stoddart

Mr Copley and Mrs Haines' **Headteacher Award** was presented to Grace Butler for her amazing contribution in many aspects of school life at St Francis.

School Choir

The School Choir have been very busy recently. Just over a week ago they were honoured to sing at Mrs Laptew's daughter's wedding. Mrs Laptew and her daughter were thrilled with how beautifully the choir sang and were very grateful.



This Thursday, 7th December between 4pm and 5pm, they will be singing at Leeds train station to help raise money for Heart Research UK and then of course they will be leading the singing at the Parent Council Carol Service next week. It was particularly exciting last week to see our wonderful Choir being celebrated in the Telegraph and Argus. If you missed it, follow the link below:

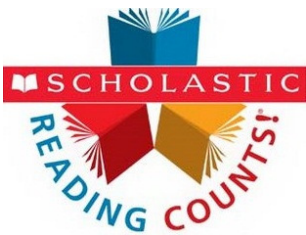
[http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/15686612.school choir more than triples in size/](http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/15686612.school%20choir%20more%20than%20triples%20in%20size/)
or follow us on twitter and find the link there....@stfrancisbrad

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:

SCHOOL NOTICES:

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running!

Today you will receive a Scholastic Book Club catalogue which has books for sale with up to 70% discount. Ordering is done online at: <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-francis-bd2>



For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 25p in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your order **online by December 14th** and you will get your books in time for Christmas. All the money raised will go to providing more books for our library.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Due to parental feedback and a better value way of working, we are changing the way in which we run breakfast club. In order that parents can pay for breakfast through Parent Pay, from Monday school will now provide the breakfast for children, which will consist of: cereal with milk; toast with jam; crumpets; fruit and a juice drink. The charges will be the same, just the way you pay will change slightly. All payments will be through Parent Pay or cash on the door.

The charges are as follows:

- Attendance at Breakfast Club only £1.50**
Attendance at Breakfast Club with a breakfast £2.00



PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR - Thank you to all those who supported the Parish Christmas Fair last Sunday. The winning ticket from the door raffle is **Green no. 5 serial no. 753860**

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS



Thank you to everyone who came to the **School Disco** last Friday. The children had a fantastic evening. Thank you to all those who helped organise and run the event. The DISCO raised a fantastic £400.

Christmas Decoration Workshops are taking place on Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th December at 3.15 pm. Children will buy a wooden decoration for 50p and decorate it. There is no limit on the amount of decorations they can decorate. We ask that parents stay with their children while they do this.

On Wednesday 13th December at 6.00 pm Parent Council are having a **Christmas Carol Service** here in school. Mince pies and refreshments will be available and our stars from the Choir will be leading the singing. It will last about an hour and is always a very popular occasion.

Finally the **Gin Raffle** was drawn at the end of last week. Thank you to all those who bought tickets. The Gin Raffle raised an amazing £264. Congratulations to the winner Nicola White who received the prize in time for the first Gin last Friday night.





CALENDAR DATES AUTUMN TERM

Tuesday 5 th December	3.15 – 4.15 pm	All	Parent Council Christmas Decoration workshop
Wednesday 6 Dec	AM/PM	FS	Advent workshop and worship
Thursday 7 Dec	AM/PM 3.15 – 4.15 pm	FS All	Advent workshop and worship Parent Council Christmas Decoration workshop
Friday 8 Dec	AM/PM	FS	Advent workshop and worship
Wednesday 13 Dec	12.00	All	Christmas dinner
	PM	FS	Advent celebration
	6.00 pm	All	Parent Council Christmas Carol Service
Thursday 14 Dec	9.00 am	KS1	Christmas Liturgy
Friday 15 Dec	9.00 am	KS1	Christmas Liturgy
Tuesday 19 Dec	9.00 am	All	Carols by the Crib
	Break up for Christmas holiday		

Lego Club on Mondays is now open to any child in school. Please fill in the permission slip if your child would like to attend.



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: