



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

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Interim Executive Headteacher: E. McDonagh-Smith

NEWSLETTER: 15th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our first week back to school has been incredibly positive, with the majority of children delighted to be back at school, playing and learning with their friends. For a few children, a bespoke transition plan has been put in place to support their return to school, to ensure it is as positive an experience as possible.



RECONNECT – RECOVER - RENEW

Our curriculum has been specifically designed to support children's return to school focusing on the key areas of their social, emotional, physical and spiritual development. It is important that the children, as well as our parents/carers and staff, are given time to readjust to the changes from being at home to being in school. Together we will move forward on the next stage of our journey.

BUDDY CLASSES



To help settle our younger children back into school, we have paired them up with an older Buddy Class. The classes are paired as follows: Nur – Year 3, Rec – Year 6, Year 1 – Year 4, Year 2 – Year 5.

Over the next few weeks and months the older children will support via Zoom and in other remote ways, the younger children, helping to allay any worries they might have. Hopefully, as the school opens up more fully, the children might actually be able to meet in person!

FLEXIBLE START AND FINISH TIMES

Just a reminder that the school start and finish times are flexible to enable parents/carers to adhere to social distancing. Children can be dropped off anytime between 8:45am and 9:00am and pick up is between 3:15pm and 3:30pm Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.



COVID19 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Many thanks to all our parents/carers and visitors who have adhered and supported the additional safety measures we have put in place to keep everyone safe. The wearing of face coverings and the one-way system, along with social distancing, will help to reduce the risks of infection for everyone.

For more information on our safety measures, please see the school website, <https://bsf-leeds.co.uk/>

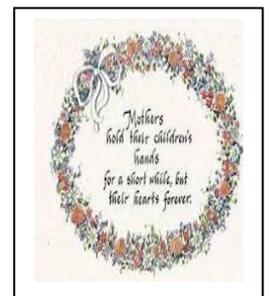
YEAR 5 and 6 CLASS MASS

Years 5 and 6 had the pleasure of celebrating Holy Mass with Fr Timothy Whitwell, at St Francis of Assisi church today. The children were an absolute credit to themselves and the school, celebrating the Mass with reverence, respect and wonderful responses. The readers read with confidence and clarity.

Years 3 and 4 will celebrate Holy Mass next Monday 22nd March at 1.45pm.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: 14th MARCH

We hope that all our mothers/carer mothers and grandmothers enjoyed yesterday and were made to feel very special. May our Mother, sets the perfect example for us all with her patience, kindness and love for her son, Jesus.



BREAKFAST CLUB

The school Breakfast Club is open daily, 8.15-8.45am. A healthy breakfast is provided and the children play games and socialise in bubbles. Please contact the school office to book and pay for a place for your child at Breakfast Club.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS: 3.15-4.15pm

MONDAY Sports – Y1/2

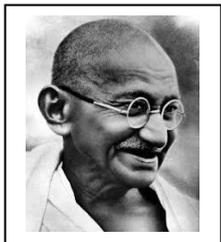
WEDNESDAY Football – Y5/6

THURSDAY Sports – Y3/4

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

We are now half-way through our Lenten Journey, with 20 days to go. This special celebration point is called **Laetare Sunday**. We are looking forward to Easter and even the priest's dark violet clothes become bright pink for this day! It gives us the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the joy to be found in caring for others.

In our whole school Zoom Collective Worship today, led by Mrs Snejberkova-Taylor, we reflected on the importance of taking time out to reflect, regroup and try again. We watched a short clip about the story of Mahatma Gandhi:



"When one of his sandals fell off where he couldn't get it back, he left the other sandal there too so someone could make use of the pair."

Gandhi thought about the person he might be able to help rather than about his own comfort. He knew his own discomfort would not last long, so he seized the opportunity to give lasting help to another person.

The reason we give something up (Pray, Stop, Go) in our Lenten journey is so that we can be more freely available to others. This very often makes us happy too! The more we care about the person we are helping, the more joyful we will feel about doing things for them – just like how we felt when we celebrated our mothers on Mothering Sunday!



We also listened to St John's gospel 3:14-21, *'The man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'*

God gave to us the most precious thing of all - His son.

ATTENDANCE: 8th – 15th March

Reception: 99%

Year 1: 96%

Year 2: 100%

Year 3: 96%

Year 4: 96%

Year 5: 94%

Year 6: 100%

Overall: 97.3%

Government Target: 95%

School Target 97.5%

Congratulations to
Years 2 and 6 who
are our
**ATTENDANCE
CHAMPIONS** this
week!

BIRTHDAYS: 8th – 15th March



Congratulations to:

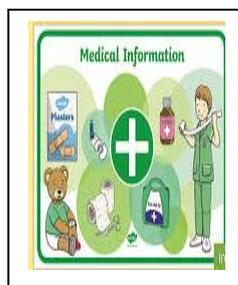
**Joanna, Zoya, Sada
and Aiste!**

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS



It is vital that we have correct contact details for your child, in case there is an emergency, and we have to contact you. We should have at least 2 contacts on our system. Please ring the office admin team to ensure your details are up to date. If your details change at any point during the year, please ensure you let us know.

MEDICAL/DIETARY INFORMATION



If your child has a medical condition, special dietary needs, requires an epi-pen, inhaler or any type of medication, please contact us, as soon as possible to ensure your child's records are up to date on our system.

SCHOOL MEALS

Copies of the menus for the next 3 weeks are available on our school website. Please feel free to look and help your child decide what they would like to eat each day or week!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Thank you, as always, for your fantastic support!
God bless.

E. McDonagh-Smith