



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

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Interim Executive Headteacher: E. McDonagh-Smith

NEWSLETTER: 23rd July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end, of what has been an incredibly difficult year, it is a good time to reflect on the many positives.

Collective Worship and Assemblies continued via Zoom, a variety of Remote Learning strategies enabled children to continue to learn, parents/carers provided excellent support despite trying to balance home and work commitments, children demonstrated their incredible resilience, some external trips/visits continued, Breakfast and After School Clubs returned.

Please God, in the new academic year, we will return to a more settled and safe learning environment and society.

END OF YEAR RESULTS

Well done to all the children and staff for the very pleasing end of year results. I know parents will be very proud of the children's efforts.

A special well done to Year 6 for their excellent SATS results. All the hard work and dedication over the past year has paid off. These are firm foundations on which to move up to High School.



GOOD BYE AND GOOD LUCK!

Following a wonderful and poignant Leaver's Assembly from Yr6, we wish them every happiness and success in the future, as they move onto their High Schools.



They have proven to be a class of resilient, clever, thoughtful and talented children. They leave St Francis of Assisi with high aspirations and a special place in our hearts. God bless!

A FOND FAREWELL

We wish the following staff who have left during this year, or will be leaving at the end of the year, the very best of luck in the next steps of their journey. We thank them for all their contributions and service to the school, over the years.

Mrs Lafanechere, Mrs Saddik-Ibrahim, Mrs Osborne, Miss Berry, Miss Cartwright, Mrs Smith, Miss O'Hara, Miss Bulloch, and Miss Robinson.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the following governors who will step down from the Governing Body at the end of this year, for their loyal service and valuable commitment to the school as volunteers.

Mr Murphy, who has served as a governor for 14 years and a number of those as Chair. Fr Timothy Whitwell, our Vice Chair and Parish Priest, who we will continue to work with in the new academic year. Mrs Broughton as staff governor. Miss Cawthorne and Miss Barry as parent governors. Thank you!

A NEW CURRICULUM AND APPROACH

The teachers have been working on a new curriculum, which has been specifically designed to close the gaps in learning whilst also focusing on the key areas of the children's social, emotional, physical and spiritual development.

We are also continuing to work on our Blended Learning Model to ensure we maximise every learning opportunity for the children and close the gaps in learning as rapidly as possible.



COVID19 UPDATE



We will send out information before the start of the new term to update you on our safety measures and the next steps in our COVID19 journey. In the meantime, please make sure you and your families stay safe.

We appreciate all that our parents/carers and visitors have done in adhering to the additional safety measures we have put in place to keep everyone safe. Thank you!

CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Following a two-week consultation about the closure on Friday afternoons (12.30pm), from September 2021, governors have considered the response received and have decided to trial the closures in the Autumn Term.

From September until December 2021, school will close at 12.30pm, every Friday. **The school will continue to meet its statutory requirements regarding the number of hours it provides education for its pupils.** This is different to how some other schools organise their school week, however, this is the way that St Francis of Assisi would like to move forward.

Before the end of the Autumn Terms, governors will seek feedback from parents/carers and will then decide whether to implement the changes on a permanent basis from January 2022. Any parents/cares wishing to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

ATTENDANCE: up to 16th July

Reception:	96.6%
Year 1:	96.7%
Year 2:	97.9%
Year 3:	96.2%
Year 4:	97.5%
Year 5:	97.4%
Year 6:	97.5%
School Target:	97.0%

Congratulations to Year 2 who are our ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS for the YEAR.

END of YEAR AWARDS

Well done to all the children who received any of the Bronze, Silver or Gold Certificate, for their excellent achievements this academic year!

Congratulations to our prize draw winners:

- 1st prize (£20 SMYTHS voucher) – Sada
- 2nd prize (£10 SMYTHS voucher) – Kiara
- 3rd prize (£5 SMYTHS voucher) – Dominic

A special well done to all the 46 children who achieved 100% attendance this difficult academic year!

TEACHING STAFF 2021

EYFS: Mrs Hough, Mr Prior, Miss Daniels, Miss Sultan
Year 1: supply teacher, Miss Lloyd, Mrs Ali
Year 2: Mrs Shaw, Mrs Broughton, Mrs C Phillips
Year 3: Miss Holder, Mrs Ingham, Mrs P Phillips
Year 4: Mrs Cole, Miss Craven, Mrs Bray
Year 5: Miss Holtby, Miss Hammill
Year 6: Miss Appleyard, Mrs Shafiq

BUILDING WORK

During the Summer, extensive building work will be carried out, to create an Inclusion/SEND base, and to significantly improve our EYFS space for our youngest Rec/Nur children.

SAFEGUARDING

There are lots of ways in which we can keep our children safe. One simple way is to **talk to them**. Ask them if they are worried about anything.

Please also see the link below to useful resources for parents/carers in supporting their children's mental health.

<https://www.mindmate.org.uk/im-a-parent-or-carer/resources-for-parents/>



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Thank you, as always, for your fantastic support. I hope you all have a restful and happy Summer holiday together, filled with making wonder memories.

We look forward to seeing you all in the new academic year.

Take care and God bless.
E. McDonagh-Smith
Interim Executive Headteacher