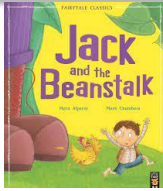




St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School



Nursery Newsletter – Spring 2

Welcome Back to St Francis Nursery

We are delighted to welcome you back to school for the start of the second Spring Half-term. We hope you all had a great half term break and spent lots of time with your families, friends and loved ones. We have had more children joining our Nursery; they are settling in and quickly making new friends.

Topic

Our topic this half term is 'How does your garden grow?' The children will plant beans, care for them and watch them grow. We will Read Jack and the Beanstalk, Jasper's Beanstalk and The Very Hungry Caterpillar. The children will role play different parts of the stories. It would be good if you could encourage your child to talk about what they've learnt at school. We are going to have a butterfly garden in Nursery, which will involve observing caterpillars changing in to butterflies.

Lent and Easter

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent and the build up to Easter. We will be doing lots of work teaching the children about the special events in Jesus' life leading up to His death and resurrection. More details can be found on the RE newsletter (please turn over).

Home and school links

We will be launching a new programme called Development Map which will inform you of your child's progress towards the seven areas of learning. It will include photographs of them at school and any important information or updates. We will be holding a short meeting on **6th March** to give you further information about this. The two meetings will have the same content, so please choose your preferred time of **10:45am OR 2:45pm**. During the meeting your child will also perform songs they've been learning at school.

Nursery is active on twitter and there are many photos and updates posted weekly. If you have any questions or you'd like to speak with your child's class teacher, please make an appointment. You can also message the teachers directly via email if you have any comments or concerns to: nursery@bsf-leeds.co.uk

How you can help at home

<p><u>Phonics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Talk to your child to help them increase their vocabulary. ● Read a bedtime story every night, ask questions about the pictures, ask your child to predict the ending of the story. ● Sing traditional British nursery rhymes (these were sent home during parent consultation meetings). 	<p><u>Maths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sing songs which include counting and naming the numbers. Eg, 10 Green Bottles; 5 Fat sausages; 5 Little Ducks. ● Focus on learning the value of numbers 1-5, count out everyday objects from your home and say the numbers.
<p><u>General</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Help your child to learn to put on their coat by themselves and to start the zip or buttons ● Help your child practice speaking in sentences of more than 2 or 3 words. For example, 'Help me please'. ● If your child stays for lunch please cut food into small chunks, especially grapes which should be cut down the length. 	

School Golden Rules

1. Ready
2. Respectful
3. Safe



RE Newsletter Spring 2

The Season of Lent

Dear Parents,

Feb/March 2024

The word Lent comes from an old English word that means 'lengthen' and refers to the turning of Winter into Spring when the days lengthen and the cycle of life is renewed once more. There is more sunlight, birdsong is more noticeable, spring bulbs are in bloom and trees are beginning to show signs of coming to life. These signs of new life are echoed in the season of Lent through which the Church bids us to reawaken and refocus on tending to the Lord who calls us 'come back to me, with all your heart'. The journey of Lent is a journey towards the new way of living that Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, promised to us through the power of our most celebrated season – Easter.

We tend to celebrate Christmas as if it's the most important time in the Church's year, but the Resurrection of Jesus is the most important event for Christians. When Christians say that their hope is in the risen Jesus, they mean it is their greatest hope. When Jesus rose on the first Easter morning, it was a brand-new kind of life. He promises this same life to all who hope in him. No wonder that Easter is the greatest feast!

Special intentions for our prayers from the Church's prayer cycle for Lent:

Candidates for the sacraments; the needy and the hungry of the world; Women; Penitents and Wanderers

Dates from the Church's calendar:

13 th February	Shrove Tuesday	19 th March	St Joseph , Husband of Mary
14 th February	Ash Wednesday	25 th March	The Annunciation
18 th February	First Sunday of Lent	31 st March	Fifth Sunday of Lent
1 st March	St David , Patron of Wales		Holy Week
25 th February	Second Sunday of Lent	24 th April	Palm Sunday
3 rd March	Third Sunday of Lent	28 th April	Holy Thursday
17 th March	St Patrick , Patron of Ireland	29 th April	Good Friday
10 th March	Fourth Sunday of Lent	31 st April	Easter Sunday

Nursery - Good Friends

This half term, children in Nursery will learn that Jesus chose friends to help him bring the Good News to people. They will learn that Jesus was very loving and forgiving and that he will help us to forgive and say sorry. Children in Nursery will learn that Good Friday was a sad day but that Easter Sunday was a very happy day.

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