



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

Newsletter—No.1

Friday 3rd September 2021



At St Francis of Assisi we believe God is at the heart of our school. As a school community, we work together to provide a caring, stimulating nurturing environment, where every child can discover their true potential and grow closer to Christ. As pupils and staff we encourage in each other a love of learning. This is a place where we can all belong and where diversity and difference is celebrated. We rejoice in each other's uniqueness and respect the dignity and beauty of each individual. Using our gifts and talents

Welcome Back!

All good things must come to an end, but happily the holidays are succeeded by the equally magnificent adventure that is the start of this new term! It was lovely to see the children again when the new term began yesterday. Seeing their refreshed and smiling faces gave us all energy for the new term. I hope you had a lovely summer break and enjoyed the time together as families.

I extend a very warm welcome to the children and families who are new to St. Francis: Reyansh Patel and Thenuka Pushparajah in St. Vincent de Paul Class. We welcome Miss Batchelor (teaching in Year 3), Mrs Richards and Mrs Hillebron (teaching in Year 1) and Ms Frances (teaching in Year 5) to our school community. Together with the new children, I know that you will join me and make them feel very much part of our family.

Throughout the summer, all staff have been busily preparing the school for the start of the new term. We are, as I always say, very fortunate in the staff we have at St. Francis. On Wednesday, as part of our INSET, we spent time reflecting upon our wider Mission as a Catholic School, led by 'Rise Theatre', exploring how a relationship with God helps us to be people of faith in everyday life, even at those times when struggling or feeling inadequate.

Rise Theatre work in schools and provide workshops to inspire people to realise their full potential in life. Informed by Christian values, they seek to explore the diversity of creative expression through drama, music, art, visual installations and other multimedia platforms.



School Stage and New Art Room

I am delighted to confirm that all planned projects during the summer have been completed successfully, providing a valuable enhancement to our provision at St. Francis. Pictures overleaf show our new school stage and dedicated new art classroom. We look forward to showcasing the children's skills and talents!

Whole School Mass – Monday 6th September 9.15am

I should like to invite all parents/carers/grandparents to our whole school Mass on Monday morning at 9.15am in the school hall to celebrate the start of our new school year. Tea and coffee will be served afterwards for visitors.



School Uniform

It has been wonderful to observe the children returning to school in our school uniform! Please may I remind children that no jewellery is allowed in school and that earrings should be plain studs. Friendship bracelets, bangles and similar accessories are not allowed. Hair should be tied back neatly with discreet blue bands.

Nut-free School

We are a "nut free" school because we have children in the School who are allergic to nuts, which can be a life threatening condition. Please can you help protect these children by being vigilant when bringing any foods into school.

Easy Lunch Company

Please can I remind you of our new school hot dinners provider Easy Lunch.

To order a hot lunch please visit:

www.theeasylunchcompany.co.uk

If you require any assistance please Tel: 01403 741177 or email: emma@theeasylunchcompany.co.uk

Curriculum Meetings

Please see below dates for Curriculum Meetings. They will take place in the school hall.

- Year 2: 13th Sept at 2.40pm
- Year 4: 14th Sept 3pm
- Year 3: 16th Sept 3pm
- Year 5: 17th Sept 3pm
- Year 1: 20th sept 2:40pm
- Year 6 TBC (awaiting confirmation from Mr Ferry, Headteacher at St. Wilfrid's)

Are you Eligible for Pupil Premium Funding?

The Coronavirus pandemic has caused significant disruption to peoples working careers and if you have been affected by job-loss, the Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called '**Pupil Premium**'. For every child registered, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School gets £1,320.

With this money your child will receive free school meals, and have access to a range of support which may include discounted extra-curricular activities, support with school uniform, music lessons, school trips, special intervention support, laptops etc. If you think you are eligible please contact the school office for an application form or Mr Hallett for a discreet and confidential discussion.

Please see attached to this newsletter a document which summarises the criteria for eligibility.

Thank you!

Finally, and on behalf of all the staff, may we take this opportunity to thank you for your kind words and gifts at the end of last term. We have all been so touched by your generosity and appreciation. Thank you!