



St. Francis Catholic Primary School



Newsletter 4

E-Mail - postbox@st-francis-p.walsall.sch.uk

www.st-francis-p.walsall.sch.uk

'I am a sign of God's Love.'

Catholic Life

Prayer for Advent

Dear God,

Because you love us so much you sent Your only Son into the world to be with us.

Help us to wait in hope with joyful hearts for his coming and to share your hope with others.

Amen

Advent, from the Latin word *adventus* meaning *arrival*, is the time for us all to make space in our hearts and our lives for Jesus: both the celebration of His birth at Christmas, and the joy with which we can look forward to His return.

The first Sunday of Advent, 28th November, sees the purple candle of 'Hope' lit on the advent wreath. The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. The wreath itself represents eternity and is made of various evergreens signifying everlasting life, a circle that never ends. The candles, Hope, Peace, Joy and Love will be lit as we progress through Advent with the fifth candle, the Christ candle, being lit at the Christmas Mass.



Last day of this term is Friday 17th December 1:25pm KS1 and 1:30pm KS2. Please do not be late. Staff will leave at 2:00pm.



There are several ways to stay on top of what your child is learning at school.

On our website half termly plans are available and you will also find our Twitter feed on the homepage.

You can also use Tapestry (EYFS classes) and Google classroom.

Communications are regularly sent out via email and text so please check regularly and call the school office if you think your details need to be updated.

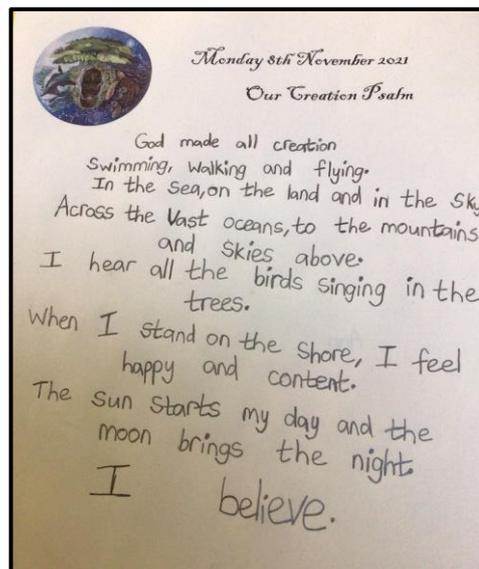
Our Newsletter provides photographs and articles along with any dates for your diaries and there is information provided on your child's reports and at parents evening.



We were delighted to welcome Rise Theatre to school!

Children learnt important messages about God's planet

The learning continued back in the classrooms making 'Planet Hero' badges from natural objects and even writing a class Psalm.



On the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month, we will remember them.

*“When you go Home, tell them of us and say,
For your Tomorrow, we gave our Today”*

John Maxwell Edmunds
1916

Prayer services were held and silences were observed to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms.

Children also commemorated All Soul’s Day, a day of prayer and remembrance for the faithful departed.



Wispa and Florence have been very excited to be in school lately! They have worked with lots of children across the school learning commands in a sequence, working through agility courses and even learning to read using flash cards.

All the children involved have done marvellously well!

As you are aware each year we ask for a donation of £5 per family to our School Fund. School Fund contributions are used to help support a wide range of extra- curricular activities that all students have the opportunity to access including sporting, arts related and other activities.

We are fully aware that not everyone is in a position to make this contribution, however if you would like to and haven’t already done so please send your donation in to school with your child, in a clearly labelled envelope. Thank you.



REMINDER: Should school need to be closed to pupils due to bad weather parents will be informed via text message on the Teacher2parents texting service.

School Food United will be serving Christmas Lunch on Friday 10th December. Please place your order in the usual way through the app. This will also be a Mufti/Jolly Jumper day. £1 donation if possible please.



Due to rising Covid 19 cases in the Walsall area and the LA’s advice of 18th October 2021, we are very sad to say parents will not be allowed to view this year’s Nativity in person. However, a link will be sent to all parents to view virtually.

The application process for admission to Reception Class in September 2022 for children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 is now open. All applications must be completed, online, by 15th January 2022. Children do not need to be Catholic to attend St Francis however will need to complete the Supplementary Form and provide a copy of their baptismal certificate if baptised Catholic.



If you require any advice please contact the school office on 01922 682583

To apply go to -

https://go.walsall.gov.uk/schools_and_learning/schools_in_walsall/school_admissions



10th December 2021

Christmas Lunch Mufti/Christmas Jumper Day

17th December 2021

School closes to pupils at 1:30pm

4th January 2022

INSET Day – School closed to pupils

5th January 2022

School Reopens to pupils 8:50am

18th February 2022

Half Term Holiday

28th February 2022

INSET Day – School closed to pupils

29th February 2022

School Reopens to pupils 8:50am

Mass times for Christmas – updates regarding possible booking system TBC

Christmas Eve 5:00pm and 7:00pm

Christmas Day 10:00am



As you are aware the number of Covid 19 cases in the area is rising. This has had an impact on school with children, staff, parents and other members of our community testing positive and many becoming very ill.

This a problem nationwide and at the moment schools are finding it very difficult to replace teachers who are self-isolating due to Covid, this includes St Francis.

We are trying our very best, as are the supply agencies we use, to find and send us teachers to cover our classes, and we will continue to work with them to ensure the very best for your children. This is however proving difficult at this time.

As ever though, I, my staff and the Governors thank you for all your support in making St. Francis a great school and hope you and your families can enjoy this Advent time.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Richards

Headteacher

