

A community growing in Love for Learning and Life



St Francis Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Issue:

Term 2



Dear Parents,

The end of term has arrived! It has been a busy and productive term, and it has been fantastic to see everything that has been achieved so far this year. We are very proud of the children who have worked extremely hard, learned lots of new things and have grown in confidence and curiosity over the last few months.

It has been wonderful to see so many parents in school this term, whether at Parent's Evening, curriculum workshops, getting crafty in the EYFS creative morning, volunteering as parent readers, as Santa's elves, at the school discos or joining us for our festive celebrations this week. We are very grateful for the time you have given to support the children and the school.

The highlights of the last few weeks have undoubtedly been our Infant Nativity, the Junior Carol Concert and our choir singing in the St Simon Stock Carol Concert at St Francis Church on Wednesday evening. Seeing the children perform with such enthusiasm over the past week has been a heart-warming way to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff who put in a huge amount of work to make these events a success.

While we are all ready for a well-deserved break, we are already excited for the new year ahead. At the start of next term, you will receive a Topic Letter from your child's class teacher. This will provide an overview of the curriculum and all the exciting things your child will be learning throughout Term 3, so please keep an eye out for that on Class Dojo next term.

On behalf of the entire school team, I would like to say a huge thank you for the incredibly kind gifts and messages that we have received.

I wish you all a peaceful, holy, and very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Ebdon

Loving God,
As we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus,
fill our hearts with joy, hope and peace.
Help us to remember the true meaning of Christmas
— the gift of your love made flesh for all the world.
May we reflect that love in our thoughts and actions,
sharing kindness and light with those around us.
Bless our school community this Christmas time
and keep us united in faith and joy.
Amen.



Rooted in God's Love

Mission Tie Awards

31st October 2025

14th November 2025

St Joseph	<i>Mati</i>	St Matthew	<i>Alexander</i>
St Anthony	<i>Elijah</i>	St John	<i>Ivaniya</i>
St Luke	<i>Kamsi</i>	St Mark	<i>Olivia</i>
St Peter	<i>Sebastian</i>	St Paul	<i>Annabelle</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Penelope</i>	St Theresa	<i>Aiden</i>
St Margaret	<i>Kenneth</i>	St Clare	<i>Beatrice</i>



St Joseph	<i>Nkeoma</i>	St Matthew	<i>Kiki</i>
St Anthony	<i>Lottie</i>	St John	<i>Matheus</i>
St Luke	<i>Arabella</i>	St Mark	<i>Isla</i>
St Peter	<i>Daniel H</i>	St Paul	<i>Lucy</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Romana</i>	St Theresa	<i>Dylan</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Tamar</i>	St Clare	<i>Lola</i>

St Joseph	<i>Isobel</i>	St Matthew	<i>Rares</i>
St Anthony	<i>Ruby</i>	St John	<i>Callie</i>
St Luke	<i>Oliver</i>	St Mark	<i>Roma</i>
St Peter	<i>Christina</i>	St Paul	<i>Samuel</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Evelyn</i>	St Theresa	<i>Dom</i>
St Margaret	<i>Jayden</i>	St Clare	<i>Alfie</i>



St Joseph	<i>Nicholas</i>	St Matthew	<i>Rowan</i>
St Anthony	<i>Ezio</i>	St John	<i>Maya</i>
St Luke	<i>Joshua</i>	St Mark	<i>Nashla</i>
St Peter	<i>Aaron</i>	St Paul	<i>Anderson</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Hope</i>	St Theresa	<i>Lexi</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Olivia B</i>	St Clare	<i>Rhys</i>

St Joseph	<i>Arthur</i>	St Matthew	<i>Evanna</i>
St Anthony	<i>Teddy</i>	St John	<i>Logan</i>
St Luke	<i>Deborah</i>	St Mark	<i>Grace B</i>
St Peter	<i>Beth</i>	St Paul	<i>Diya</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Gabriel</i>	St Theresa	<i>Emily</i>
St Maragert	<i>Dominic</i>	St Clare	<i>Alex</i>



St Joseph	<i>Sophia</i>	St Matthew	<i>Joachim</i>
St Anthony	<i>Esmail</i>	St John	<i>Micah</i>
St Luke	<i>Maxim</i>	St Mark	<i>Lucas</i>
St Peter	<i>Evie</i>	St Paul	<i>Imogen</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Achsa</i>	St Theresa	<i>Freya</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Edward</i>	St Clare	<i>Kayden</i>

St Joseph	<i>Gabriel</i>	St Matthew	<i>Liam</i>
St Anthony	<i>Daphne</i>	St John	<i>Kaiden</i>
St Luke	<i>Lyanna</i>	St Mark	<i>Garce O</i>
St Peter	<i>Florence</i>	St Paul	<i>Sophy</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Ethan</i>	St Theresa	<i>Maggie</i>
St Margaret	<i>Kaitlyn</i>	St Clare	<i>Eric</i>



St Joseph	<i>Zara</i>	St Matthew	<i>Nia</i>
St Anthony	<i>Anthony</i>	St John	<i>Layla</i>
St Luke	<i>Lewin</i>	St Mark	<i>Milo</i>
St Peter	<i>Daniel B</i>	St Paul	<i>Ivy</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Mmesoma</i>	St Theresa	<i>Dom</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Joann</i>	St Clare	<i>Lucas</i>

St Joseph	<i>Flynn</i>	St Matthew	<i>Nia</i>
St Anthony	<i>Ben</i>	St John	<i>Mikki</i>
St Luke	<i>Sophie</i>	St Mark	<i>Millie</i>
St Peter	<i>Rosie</i>	St Paul	
St Bernadette	<i>Tristan</i>	St Theresa	<i>Emilia</i>
St Margaret	<i>Matilda</i>	St Clare	<i>Rhys</i>



St Joseph	<i>Ugom</i>	St Matthew	<i>Tommy</i>
St Anthony	<i>Elian</i>	St John	<i>Isabelle</i>
St Luke	<i>Che Che</i>	St Mark	<i>Grace N</i>
St Peter	<i>Oscar</i>	St Paul	<i>Oscar</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Charlie</i>	St Theresa	<i>Joshua</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Nathan</i>	St Clare	<i>Alfie</i>

28th November 2025

12th December 2025

St Joseph	<i>Tommen</i>	St Matthew	<i>Tommy</i>
St Anthony	<i>Yasin</i>	St John	<i>Adam</i>
St Luke	<i>Ivasubin</i>	St Mark	<i>Aubani</i>
St Peter	<i>Jessica</i>	St Paul	<i>Kiefer</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Jessica</i>	St Theresa	<i>Joshua</i>
St Margaret	<i>Jayden</i>	St Clare	<i>Maya</i>



St Joseph	<i>Mila</i>	St Matthew	<i>Amelia</i>
St Anthony	<i>Micheal</i>	St John	<i>Tillie</i>
St Luke	<i>George</i>	St Mark	<i>Jaden</i>
St Peter	<i>Oscar</i>	St Paul	<i>Ianis</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Charlie</i>	St Theresa	<i>Cian</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Leo</i>	St Clare	<i>Emmanuel</i>

St Joseph	<i>Flynn</i>	St Matthew	<i>Ionsubin</i>
St Anthony	<i>Kit</i>	St John	<i>Matai</i>
St Luke	<i>Emma</i>	St Mark	<i>Rosie</i>
St Peter	<i>Phil</i>	St Paul	<i>Freya</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Emilia</i>	St Theresa	<i>Lexi</i>
St Margaret	<i>Ivu-Rae</i>	St Clare	<i>Sebastian</i>



St Joseph	<i>Jack</i>	St Matthew	<i>Kylian</i>
St Anthony	<i>Cian</i>	St John	<i>Vihaasan</i>
St Luke	<i>Sohpie</i>	St Mark	<i>Ryan</i>
St Peter	<i>Thaddy</i>	St Paul	<i>Yaiza</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Johan</i>	St Theresa	<i>Julia</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Olivia</i>	St Clare	<i>Xavier</i>

St Joseph	<i>Nihal</i>	St Matthew	<i>Victor</i>
St Anthony	<i>Arley</i>	St John	<i>Vanessa</i>
St Luke	<i>Neil</i>	St Mark	<i>Antonio</i>
St Peter	<i>Kezia</i>	St Paul	<i>Thomas</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Ashioma</i>	St Theresa	<i>Jaiden</i>
St Margaret	<i>Sebastian</i>	St Clare	<i>Cash</i>



St Joseph	<i>Gian</i>	St Matthew	<i>Ella</i>
St Anthony	<i>Noah</i>	St John	<i>Zach</i>
St Luke	<i>Caolan</i>	St Mark	<i>Lidia</i>
St Peter	<i>Ariana</i>	St Paul	<i>Oscar</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Evie</i>	St Theresa	<i>Maggie</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Praise</i>	St Clare	<i>Roseanna</i>

St Joseph	<i>Ugom</i>	St Matthew	<i>Timur</i>
St Anthony	<i>Maisie</i>	St John	<i>Anna</i>
St Luke	<i>Athary</i>	St Mark	<i>Charlotte</i>
St Peter	<i>Alex</i>	St Paul	
St Bernadette	<i>Ember</i>	St Theresa	<i>Olutyese</i>
St Margaret	<i>Matilda</i>	St Clare	<i>Benita</i>



St Joseph	<i>Eva</i>	St Matthew	<i>Elizabeth</i>
St Anthony	<i>Muhammed</i>	St John	<i>Alex</i>
St Luke	<i>Max</i>	St Mark	<i>Ciaran</i>
St Peter	<i>Mark</i>	St Paul	<i>Ciara</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Kosi</i>	St Theresa	<i>Penny</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Ramiyah</i>	St Clare	<i>Isa</i>

St Joseph	<i>Ife</i>	St Matthew	<i>Amelia</i>
St Anthony	<i>Charlotte</i>	St John	<i>Alex</i>
St Luke	<i>Caolan</i>	St Mark	<i>Lana</i>
St Peter	<i>Neve</i>	St Paul	<i>Edward</i>
St Bernadette	<i>Aiden</i>	St Theresa	<i>George</i>
St Margaret	<i>Nevaeh</i>	St Clare	<i>Rhys</i>



St Joseph	<i>Luca</i>	St Matthew	<i>Victoria</i>
St Anthony	<i>Eze</i>	St John	<i>Mikki</i>
St Luke		St Mark	
St Peter	<i>Max</i>	St Paul	<i>Pippa</i>
St Bernadette		St Theresa	<i>Sara</i>
St Maragaret	<i>Joann</i>	St Clare	<i>Poppy</i>

Diversity Week

Thursday
22nd January
2026



Every year our school looks forward to our international Fair, where we celebrate the wonderfully diverse cultures of our school. We still have some of our largest communities not represented this year and would be grateful if any more families could support this event.

Please contact Mrs Edwards via the school office if you're available to help.

INTERNATIONAL FAIR

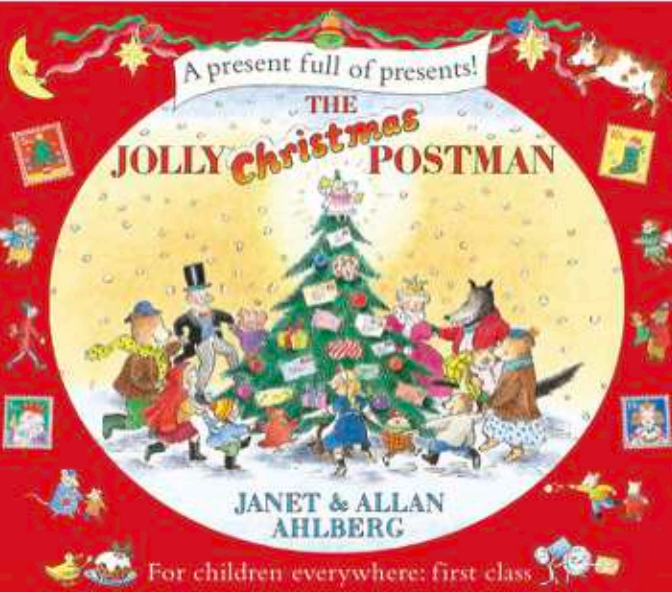
WELCOME
PARENTS

Friday 23rd
January
2.45pm - 3pm

To conclude our diversity week celebrations, we will be holding an international gallery to showcase the learning that has taken place, parents are invited to come and visit the gallery.

Topic days - EYES

Day 1: We learnt all about the Hindu festival of Diwali before designing and creating our own Diya (Diva) lamps out of salt dough. We mixed and kneaded the dough ourselves, before baking them in the oven. After they were finished baking, we painted them in bright colours and decorated them with sparkles. The children then took them home to put in their windows, ready to show Rama and Sita the way home.



Day 2: We shared the story of The Jolly Christmas Postman and enjoyed discussing all the features of a letter. We then wrote our own letters to Father Christmas, before putting them in a special envelope. We then walked down to the local post-box to post our letters. We were really lucky, because Father Christmas wrote us all an individual letter back!

Topic days - Year 1

This term in Year 1 we learnt all about Guy Fawkes and The Gunpowder Plot. The children wrote some beautiful poems describing how fireworks look and move in the night sky. We also made some super firework pictures!



Topic days - Year 2



Year 2 children enjoyed a Powerful Plants Drama Day—a lively and interactive workshop held during the school day. This immersive experience brought the fascinating world of plants to life through storytelling and drama. The day was designed to spark curiosity, inspire creativity, and deepen the children's understanding of our science topic in a fun and engaging way.



Topic days - Year 3

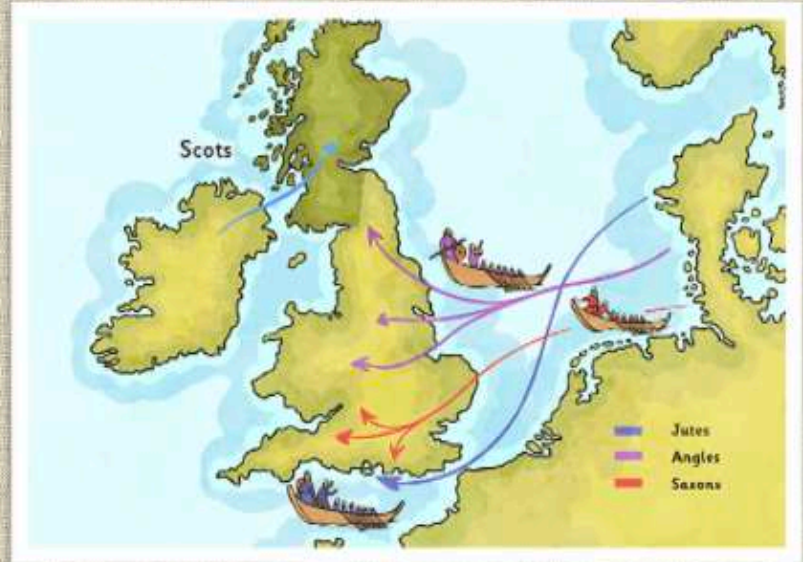


In term 2 the children have enjoyed a DT Day focusing on sewing skills. They are making bags to house Guatemalan worry dolls, which will be made from pipe cleaners. The children have practised running stitch and cross stitch skills.

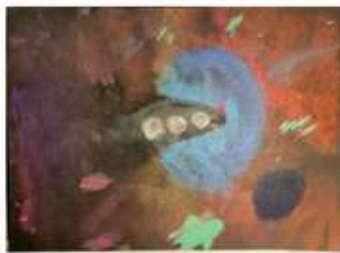
Topic days - Year 4

Our Year 4 class has been buzzing with excitement as we journeyed back in time for our topic, 'Why do we speak English?! We became history detectives, uncovering the secrets of the Anglo-Saxons, the groups who sailed across the sea to Britain centuries ago. We learned all about where they came from (mainly Denmark, and the Netherlands) and how they bravely settled, creating the Seven Kingdoms that shaped early England! We met the legendary brothers, Hengist and Horsa, and explored what daily life was truly like—from the homes they built to the incredible artefacts they left behind.

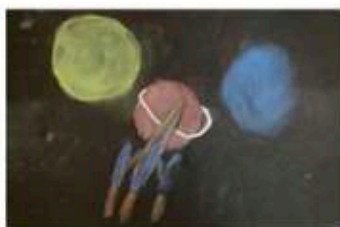
The absolute highlight of the term was our unforgettable visit from a brilliant Historical Re-enactor. He spent a whole day turning our classroom into an Anglo-Saxon village! We watched thrilling battle re-enactments, got up close to amazing replica weapons, and heard captivating stories of the age. It was a truly immersive experience that brought history leaping off the pages of our books and right into our school hall! Year 4 now knows that history isn't just about dates and names—it's about epic adventures, legendary people, and discovering how our language and country came to be!



Topic days - Year 6



Year 6 immersed themselves in the bold and imaginative world of Peter Thorpe's art. Inspired by his striking use of colour, shape, and space-themed designs, the children recreated their own versions, producing vibrant and unique pieces that showcase both creativity and individuality.



Concert

The children have been taking part in **iRock music lessons**, where they've had the chance to sing, play guitar and learn the drums. They've thoroughly enjoyed exploring new musical skills and working together as a band.

Recently, the children gave a **fantastic performance** for parents and fellow pupils. It was wonderful to see so much confidence and enthusiasm on stage!

A massive **well done to all the children** — your hard work truly paid off, and the event was a great success!



Welcome

Parents have been coming in for **phonics and maths workshops**, where they've had the chance to learn more about how these subjects are taught and pick up useful strategies. After the sessions, they visited the classrooms to see phonics and maths learning in action, which was lovely to share.

We also welcomed parents into school for an **EYFS craft session**, where they enjoyed getting creative alongside their children. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and great teamwork!

December reflection

ST. LUCY

December 13th



St Lucy is remembered in December, when the days are darkest. Her name comes from the word light, and her life reminds us that faithfulness to God often shows itself in quiet courage rather than grand gestures.

In the busy and sometimes tiring weeks of Advent, Lucy encourages us to notice how small acts can make a real difference. A moment of patience, a kind word, or simply being present for someone who is struggling can bring light into their day.

As we prepare for Christmas, may St Lucy inspire us to be people who gently carry Christ's light into our classrooms, schools and communities.



Pupil Leaders

HEAD GIRL



Hey, I am Olivia, your new Head Girl. I am so proud to have achieved this role. Here are a few things about me: I am very confident, energetic, fun and I love sports and music.

I will try my best to set a good example and help others whether it's for some friendly advice or just someone to listen to. I am so proud to be part of St Francis Catholic Primary School.

HEAD BOY

Hello, my name is Jadon and I am very grateful to be your Head Boy this year.

I have a real passion for sports - especially football and basketball.

I love being a part of St Francis Catholic Primary School because it is a place where I have made good friends, played sports and have supportive teachers around me.

I want every single person to feel valued, safe and happy as I do.

I wanted to become Head Boy because I enjoy helping and supporting others and ever since I heard about this role, it has been my goal to achieve it - I am so proud to have done so.



DEPUTY HEAD GIRL

Hi, I am Matilda and I am incredibly proud to represent St Francis as Deputy Head Girl.

My favourite subjects at school are English and maths. I love dance gymnastics! I am really looking forward to working with the team and being a positive role model for the younger children.

I am hardworking, kind and an ambitious girl and I promise to give 100% to the role.

DEPUTY HEAD BOY

Hi, my name is Alex, I am very honoured to be your Deputy Head Boy this year and proud to have been elected as this is an extremely nice school. I would like to explain a little about myself; I enjoy football and basketball and sports alike. My favourite lessons are art, English and maths.

I look forward to helping others within my school and to make sure that no one is ever left out or feels excluded.

I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity and I am excited about all the things we are going to achieve together.



Academy Showcase

On the 27th of November I went to the MEPA academy showcase and we walked there. I had so much fun there with my class. It was an amazing experience, and I am very thankful of that opportunity. It was great.

Ivy-Rae

This showcase was nothing short of spectacular from the talented students of MEPA Academy. It was performed in the glamorous Studio6 with a mixture of acting, singing and dancing and the be honest it was all very impressive.

Jayden Z

The first thing we watched was the courtroom drama, it was brilliant and we got to pick who was guilty or innocent, then we watched them glide through the dance floor, all the dances were from movies, some of them I recognised others I didn't, but I loved all of them.

Edward

I loved the showcase because the dancing was breathtaking and the singing was very good. I loved everything about the showcase (especially the acting). I loved the way that they stayed on beat and they just kept smiling. If I am one hundred percent honest, I have only positive comments. So, I would like to say a huge thank you to MEPA and I hope I see you again.

Ramiyah



We have been very fortunate to have been invited to watch the MEPA Studio students end of academy showcase. Year 6 had an amazing time and had this to say...

All of us were pumping with adrenaline. So excited to see what they had install for us. The first part of the showcase was victims in court. Despite everyone disagreeing with the judges, at the end of the day we all came to a conclusion that the victim was guilty. The second part of the showcase was dancing and singing. There were a lot of brilliant dancers and singers, my favourites were stranger things and the chipets.

Rueben



Christmas fun!

11th December The children enjoyed their **CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY**

They made hats and placemats
and listened to festive music
while they enjoyed their dinner



It was so lovely to
see everyone
wearing their
Christmas jumpers
on Friday 12th
December

Christmas JUMPER DAY



Christmas Talent

FS and KS1 showed off their
wonderful talents to the rest of
the school and the parents in 2
magnificent nativity
performances, well done to our
youngest performers!

KS2 shared their beautiful
singing voices to the parents in
a lovely carol service. With
special performances from our
choir.

A group of 10 children joined
children from St Simon Stock at
a carol service at St Francis
Church. It was a well-attended
event, and the children did our
school proud.

Our resident DJ Miss
Page got the party
started at our
wonderful Christmas
discos – a big
thankyou from all
the children who
helped organise and
staff the discos.



Father Christmas visited
the children of St Francis
to read stories helped by
the wonderful PTA elves



Pantomime



KS2 was lucky enough to be invited to watch the MEPA pantomime. The children walked to studio 6 and had a wonderful time.



It was wonderful to see some of our very own St Francis children showcasing their dancing, singing and acting skills. As is tradition Mr Loynes also got the chance to participate!



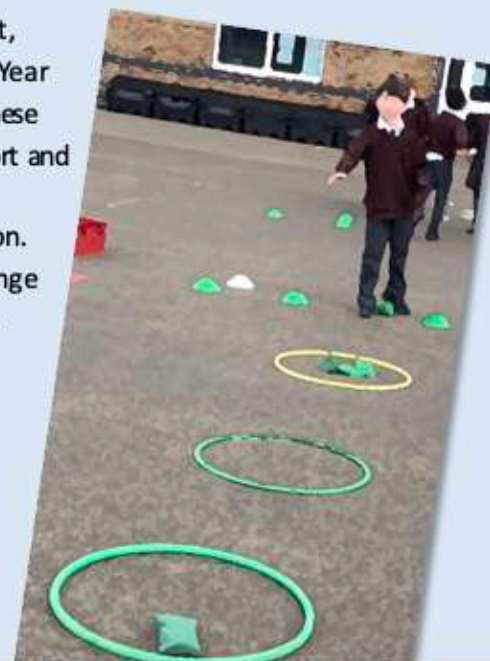
Intra House Challenge

On Wednesday 16th December, our pupils enjoyed a wonderful whole-school Intra House Challenge. The weather was kind to us, allowing the event to take place outdoors in a bright and cheerful atmosphere. Every child took part in the beanbag challenge, which involved throwing ten beanbags into hoops worth different points. This activity encouraged teamwork, patience, and careful concentration, as pupils quickly learned that rushing often led to missed opportunities.

The event was brilliantly organised and led by our Year 6 house captains and pupil leaders, who took responsibility for running the challenge for the entire school. KS1 pupils were the first to compete, setting the tone for the day with their enthusiasm and determination. Children proudly represented their houses: St Maximilian Kolbe, St Martin de Porres, St Alphonsa, and St Teresa Benedicta, each striving to achieve the highest scores for their teams.

Overall, St Maximilian Kolbe emerged as the most successful house, averaging 17.58 points per pupil. Within KS1, St Matthew (Year 1) from St Maximilian Kolbe stood out, achieving an impressive average of 24 points per child. Meanwhile, in KS2, St Peter (Year 4) from St Alphonsa excelled with a remarkable average of 28.71 points per child. These results highlighted not only individual class achievements but also the collective effort and spirit of the houses.

The day was a joyful celebration of teamwork, perseverance, and friendly competition. With the weather on our side and the whole school involved, the Intra House Challenge was a successful event that brought pupils together and we look forward to the next challenge next term!



KS1 Spanish Club
13th Jan – 17th Feb



Diary Dates

Friday 19 th December	Last day of term 2
Monday 5 th January 2026	First day of term 3
Monday 19 th January	Start of Diversity Week
Thursday 22 nd January	International Fair
Monday 26 th January	Start of Bikeability for year 6
Wednesday 11 th February	Parents Evening
Thursday 12 th February	Parents Evening
Friday 13 th February	PTA non-uniform day
Friday 13 th February	Last day of term 3
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Monday 23 rd February	First day of term 4
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 6 th March	PTA Mother's Day event
Monday 9 th March	Start of British Science Week
Sunday 15 th March	Parish mass @ St Francis Church
Monday 30 th March	PTA Easter event
Monday 30 th March	Start of Arts Week
Thursday 2 nd April	Non- uniform - Autism Awareness Day
Thursday 2 nd April	Last day of term 4
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Monday 20 th April	First day of term 5
Monday 4 th May	Early May Bank Holiday
Friday 22 nd May	Last day of term 5
Monday 1 st June	Development day – no children in school

Inclusion News

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We would like everyone to check if your child is eligible to receive Free School Meals from Kent County Council. Go to:

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent> and enter your personal details. If eligible, you will receive confirmation and KCC will inform the school directly.

We aim to be nut free

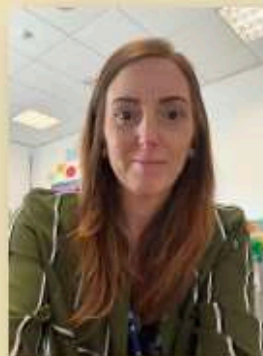


We do not allow nuts or nut products at St Francis to protect children with allergies. Please ensure that you do not bring any nut products into the school.

Full details about how we manage this can be found in our Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.

Thank you for your help in keeping everybody safe in our school.

Hello! My name is Mrs Neill; I am the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at St Francis. My role is to support children with additional needs, ensuring they receive the right help to thrive and succeed. I work closely with staff, parents, and external professionals to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment for every child.



If you ever have any questions or need support, please don't hesitate to reach out—I'm always happy to help!

sen@stfranciscatholicprimary.com

01622 771540

SEND Google form

The SEND google form is still live, **if you have already completed this for your child you do not need to do it again.** Even if you do not believe your child has SEN, please complete the form to indicate this. If you have any questions, then please let me know.

<https://forms.gle/z8TQXSaEihtTa>



For more information regarding Kent's local offer please scan the QR code to navigate to their website

