

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs A E Naylor
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22nd June 2023,

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well and haven't melted in the heat ! I have added a few new dates for the diary this week.

Diary Dates

INSET DAYS – Friday 23rd June and Monday 26th June. School closed to children on these dates.

Y6 Leaver's Assembly – Thursday 20th July at 9.15am. This will be followed by a day of celebration for Y6 children.

Reception Graduation Assembly – Friday 14th July at 2pm.

Summer Bingo – Monday 3rd July (Save the date!)

Sparkle Day – Tuesday 4th July

Film Night – Wednesday 5th July

SPORTS DAYS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

KS2 (Y3-Y6) - 30th June at 10am

NURSERY TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

Nursery have had a very busy week this week with a lovely Sport's Day and a Teddy Bear's Picnic!

Thank you to our friends at Bishop Martin for hosting us as well as our adults for walking with us. All of the children had a lovely time and we hope to return the favour soon. The teddy bears had lots of fun too!

PE

Please ensure that children have suitable footwear for outdoor PE lessons – either plimsolls or trainers. Thank you.

SPARKLE DAY

We will be holding a non-uniform day on Tuesday 4th July. The day will be a 'Sparkle Day' to raise funds for a local charity called the Sparkle Bean Trust.

The charity aims to support primary schools with advice and grants following the sudden death of a pupil so that school communities are supported. The charity was born out of the experiences of Tarleton Community Primary School as they experienced the loss of a pupil, Saffie-Rose Roussos, in the Manchester Arena Attack and the subsequent trauma that engulfed them. Through the generosity of strangers and other schools, a fund

was set up which aided their recovery. Many schools held 'wear what you like days' to raise money and to show solidarity. For further information, please visit www.sparklebean.co.uk.

Therefore, on Tuesday 4th July, we are asking children to make a donation and come to school in their own clothes and preferably something sparkly! Saffie-Rose would have been 15 on this day.

In addition, we will be selling charity slap bands to support the charity. These priced at £1.50 and are available in either blue and red or purple and pink. They are available from the school office and will further support the charity to raise awareness. It would be great if you could support this.

I am sure that you will agree, this is an excellent way for our school to join others and come together to support the charity and therefore children and school communities in their darkest hour.

CALLING FORMER PUPILS – St Francis of Assisi, St Mark's St Matthews and St Luke's

Many thanks to those former pupils who have responded to our appeal. We will keep your names on file so that we can invite you into school.

St Francis of Assisi School opened in 2005 when St Mark's, St Matthew's and St Luke's amalgamated. It would be lovely to have some of our grown-up former pupils back in school to talk to our children about the jobs you currently do. We always like to hear how our past pupils are doing and the children find it interesting to learn about different careers.

If you know any former grown-up pupils, please ask them to contact me at the heads email address.

PARKING

As I have previously requested, please be considerate and avoid parking in residential parking spaces around school. I have had several recent complaints from the local community.

Maths

Mrs Wright is our Maths Lead in school and she has asked me to share this link with you as she thinks it may be useful:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/maths-with-michael>

There are 6 videos that explain how you can help your child with maths and there are some useful resources too.

Teacher Training – North West SCITT

As a key partner of NW SHARES SCITT Primary Teacher Training programme we are delighted to share the news that our teacher training programme has recently been judged to be outstanding by Ofsted in the recent inspection. Only 6 other providers in the country currently hold this grade under the inspection framework introduced in 2020. **If you are interested in training to become a primary school teacher and already hold a degree, call the office on 01695 557488 for more information.**

The Household Support Fund

The Household Support Fund is now available... Please spread the word and click the link below for further details:

[Household Support Fund - West Lancashire Borough Council \(westlancs.gov.uk\)](https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/household-support-fund)

Directory of Support Services

The Financial Inclusion Team at West Lancs Borough Council have generated a directory of resources that's easily accessible for anyone and everyone.

Please click the link below to have a look as it's a great resource to have to hand.

[Directory of Support Services - West Lancashire Borough Council \(westlancs.gov.uk\)](https://www.westlancs.gov.uk/support-services)

Help and Assistance in Difficult Times

Times are hard at the moment for many. The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) can provide practical assistance if you need it and we have a local branch in Skelmersdale. You can ring them on 07470351042. They are really approachable and non-judgemental and they help us a lot as a school. There is a foodbank available behind St Francis of Assisi Church near the entrance to the adjoining house. This is open every Wednesday from 12 noon until 1pm.

Cost of Living Support – Guidance for parents and carers

Find out the most up-to-date information about what help is available for households and businesses in Lancashire on the [Cost of living support website](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support). This website summarises some of the most useful information from Lancashire County Council and they have asked that we share it with you.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Ann Naylor (Headteacher)