

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs A E Naylor
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Lamph

5th May 2023,

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a wonderful day today celebrating the Coronation in school. We have particularly enjoyed our street party so a big thank you to Hayley and our lovely kitchen and welfare staff for all of your hard work! I would also like to thank our teachers and support staff who have also put a lot of effort into making today such a lovely experience for our children.

Diary Dates

Monday 8th May – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR ADDITIONAL BANK HOLIDAY

Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May – KS2 SATS. Please note that the SATS are national tests. We cannot move any test dates or change them.

Strike Action – Thank You

Many thanks for your support and understanding on Tuesday when school was partially affected by strike action. We recognise that this will have caused significant disruption for some families.

For the members of the NEU in our school who took strike action, this was not an easy decision. Over the years school budgets have drastically reduced and this inevitably impacts on childrens education. It is also becoming increasingly difficult for schools to recruit staff. Our children deserve the very best education we can give them and this is why all of our staff support the actions of our NEU colleagues.

I will inform you as soon as possible of any future strike action.

Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows –

Reception – 80.8%

Y1/2 – 93.3%

Y3 – 95.7%

Y4 – 87.5%

Y5 – 94.4%

Y6 – 87.9%



SATS

Next week is a really important week for our Year 6 children who will be starting their SATs on Tuesday. Best of luck Year 6 – you are all amazing!

EYFS Ducklings

Over the last couple of weeks we have welcomed some feathery friends into our 2 year old room. The children have loved the experience of watching the eggs hatch into little ducklings and it's now time to wave them 'Goodbye'. They will be returned to the farm to be with the rest of their family.

Many thanks to the Early Years staff for organising this experience and for helping the children to look after them – particularly Mrs Wilson and India who had some extra special guests staying at their house last weekend.

Parent Governor

If you are interested in an opportunity to become a parent governor, please contact me or come and see me by next Friday.

Reading Challenge

Well done this week to Kennedy, Alfie, Orlaith, Brooklyn and Jacob.

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/directory-of-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](#). This website summarises some of the most useful information from Lancashire County Council and they have asked that we share it with you.

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend,

Best wishes,

Ann Naylor (Headteacher)