

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

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

28th April 2023,

Dear Parents/Carers,

Next week we will be celebrating the Coronation in school. Children are able to come into school next Friday wearing their own clothes or in red, white or blue. We will also be making crowns and participating in lots of royal activities! Fingers crossed the weather is nice when we have our street party.

Diary Dates

Monday 1st May – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR BANK HOLIDAY

Friday 5th May – Street party on the playground to celebrate the Coronation

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 Thursday 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.

The next planned strike is **Tuesday 2nd May** if an agreement between the union and the government cannot be reached before then. We have already informed those affected so if you have not been informed, please send your child in to school as normal.

After School Clubs

After School Clubs as follows:

Tuesdays – Gymnastics WLSP Y3 & Y4 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Thursdays – Athletics WLSP Y5 & Y6 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Couch to 5K running club with Miss Austin 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Reading Challenge

Well done this week to Kennedy, Orlaith, Alfie, Mason, Kaleb, Darcie, and Maya.

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.westlancs.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.

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend,

Best wishes,
Ann Naylor (Headteacher)