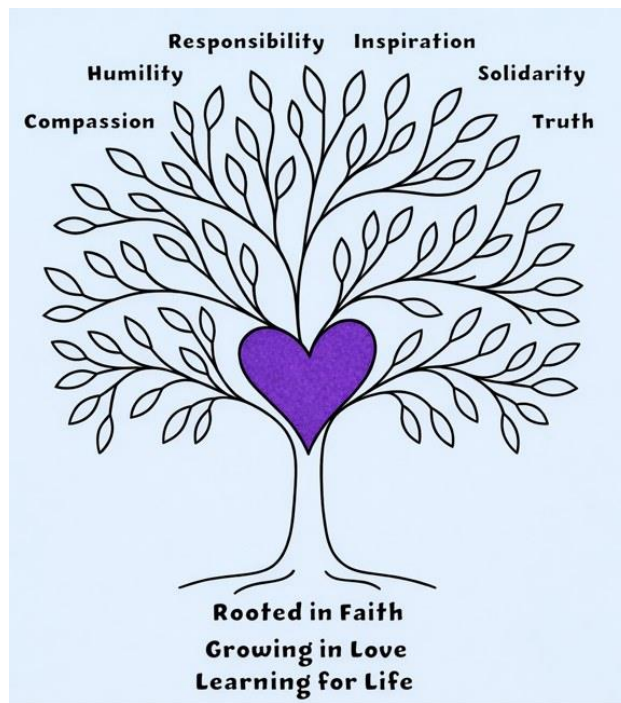


St Francis Newsletter

23rd October 2026



Compassion ~ We love and care

Humility ~ We put others first

Responsibility ~ We do what is right

Inspiration ~ We think big and shine bright

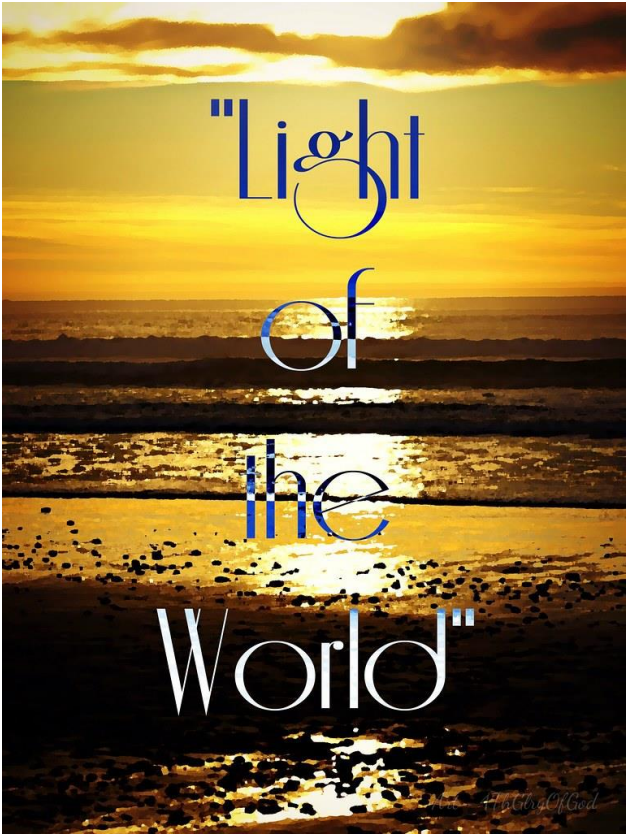
Solidarity ~ We stand together

School value focus: Inspiration

This week's assembly explored our school value of **Inspiration – We Think Big and Shine Bright**. Children reflected on the unique gifts and talents that God has given to each of us and considered how we can use these gifts to inspire others. Through discussion, children thought about what it means to be a positive influence and whether one small act of kindness or encouragement can make a difference. We looked at a lit candle in the dark hall and reflected on how we can be a light for others in the darkness.

The assembly focused on the importance of believing in ourselves, aiming high and encouraging those around us to flourish. Children were reminded that even small acts of kindness, courage and perseverance can inspire others and help our whole school community shine brightly.

Our Gospel message came from Matthew 5:14, where Jesus tells his followers: "You are the light of the world." This powerful message encouraged everyone to think about how they can be a light to others through their words, actions and example. As a school, we reflected on how we can use our talents to inspire, support and uplift those around us, helping everyone to shine bright and achieve their God-given potential. ✨



We love reading!







Our reception children in Ladybird and Bumblebee had a wonderful time visiting Crawley Library this week. They enjoyed listening to a story, discovering lots of different books and exploring the fantastic range of picture books on offer. Many children were able to sign up for their very own library card.

Golden Readers

"The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss

This week, our KS1 children who have been reading at home several times a week came together to celebrate their fantastic commitment to reading at our Golden Readers Celebration!





The children enjoyed a well-deserved treat and had fun on the computers as a reward for their hard work and dedication. A huge well done to all our Golden Readers! Keep up the fantastic reading!

Year 2 Stay and Read







It was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and other family members sharing books with the children on Wednesday morning. Both classrooms were full of families reading together and sharing books. There will be more opportunities across the year to come in and listen to your child read.

Harvest Collection – Thank You

A huge thank you to all our families for your generous Harvest donations in support of Crawley Open House. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated and will make a real difference to people in our local community. Thank you for helping us teach our children the importance of kindness, sharing and caring for others.



Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be on sale after school on the following days:

Monday 2nd November

Tuesday 3rd November

Wednesday 4th November

Monday 9th November

Please note we can only accept cash donations.

Friends of St Francis - School Disco



Thank you to our amazing parent volunteers who ran the schools discos yesterday. The children had an amazing time and funds were raised to support our school. Thank you also to DJ Dude (Mr F) for the tunes!

School Photos

The closing date for Yellow School Photos is Tuesday 3rd November 2026.

We need rocks!

Friends of St Francis PTFA
at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

NON-UNIFORM DAY IN EXCHANGE FOR A ROCK!

Friday 6th November

We are developing a wildlife pond in our school grounds to give our children the chance to explore nature, learn about biodiversity and enjoy outdoor learning.

Each child can come to school in their own clothes in exchange for a rock for our pond.

✓ ROCK REQUIREMENTS



✓ Natural rocks only (e.g. from a woodland walk, beach or garden)

✓ Please ensure your rock is a minimum size of 25cm at the widest point.

✓ Larger rocks are very welcome!

Minimum 25cm (at the widest point)

✗ NOT SUITABLE



✗ No bricks



✗ No paving slabs or concrete



✗ No small stones or pebbles

💡 HALF TERM IDEAS!

Over half term, why not go on a woodland walk, visit the beach or have a look in your garden to find a suitable rock to bring in?

🏠 PLEASE BRING YOUR ROCK TO CLASS ON THE DAY

Simply bring your rock into school with you on Friday 6th November in exchange for wearing non-uniform.

✉ HAVE ANY EXTRA ROCKS TO DONATE?

If you have any additional rocks (e.g. from a garden clear-out, old rockery or pond), please get in touch so we can organise a drop-off point or a collection.

Any questions? Please email Friends of St Francis PTFA at friends@stfrancisassisi.org.uk

Thank you so much for your support. It's always appreciated!

Christmas Fayre



Diary Dates



Diary Dates

October

26-30- HALF TERM

Mon 26th – Christmas Fundraising Project Online shop - last day to order.

November

Wed 4 - Open Morning at 9.15am for 2027/28 intake (please call to make an appointment)

Fri 6- Bring in a rock for the pond area in exchange for wearing your own clothes

Tues 10 - Parents Consultation Evening 3.40 -6.20pm

Thurs 12- Parents Consultation Evening 3.40-6.20pm

Tues 17 - Meerkat class assembly at 9.05am

Attendance



This week's attendance winners are:

Consistency winner: Penguin class for demonstrating excellent consistency in attendance and being committed to learning every day.

Improvement winner: Raccoon class for making a wonderful improvement in attendance. Your commitment to coming to school every day is helping you to achieve your best.

Punctuality: Leopard class for achieving 7 weeks with no late arrivals. Well done!

Star of the Week



Koala: Adaolisa Aniago

Wallaby: Abeeha Taamar

Penguin: Chloe Cooper-Berry

Seal: Prithvika Gopikrishnan

Meerkat: Emma Ciocan

Zebra: Vinny Chase

Armadillo: Kingsley Wright

Raccoon: Antonia Vartejanu

Leopard: Martha Kirwan

Panda: Anaaisha Pandey

Toucan: Alice Lane

Alpaca: Natalia Napoli

Reader and Writer of the Week



Koala: Noemi Fett

Wallaby: Norah Benjamin

Penguin: Raphael Sebunya

Seal: Vanessa Chadinha Jaworska

Meerkat: Cadan Maskell

Zebra: Jayden Nayee

Armadillo: Leo Kalucki

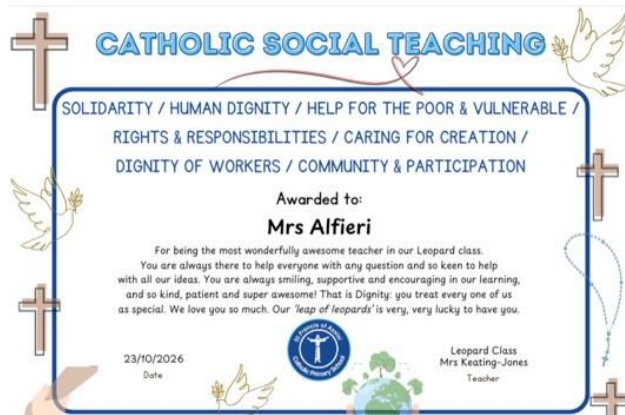
Raccoon: Avianna Nakabuye

Leopard: Alexandra Dudas, Ansh Chaudhari, Athena Carter, Adhish Sanjeev Kumar, Venu Natarajan, Jeevika Arora.

Panda: Lacey O'Flaherty

Toucan: Maria Kearney Portilla

Alpaca: Naina Kamal



Final thoughts



As we come to the end of another busy and successful half term, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of our staff, governors and families for their continued support, dedication and commitment to our school community. Together, we have achieved so much and ensured that our children continue to learn, grow and flourish in a caring and nurturing environment.

As we begin the half term break, I hope that everyone has the opportunity to rest, spend time with loved ones and recharge for the weeks ahead.

In the Gospel this week, Jesus reminds us, *"You are the light of the world"* (Matthew 5:14). May this holiday be a time to recognise the light and goodness around us, and to return refreshed, ready to share our gifts with others.

Wishing you all a happy, peaceful and restful half term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on

Monday 2nd November.

God bless,

Mrs Winton

Headteacher

Child Protection and Safeguarding

At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School, we are committed to promoting the welfare of all our pupils, ensuring they feel safe and can place their trust and confidence in any adult that is working in, volunteering for or visiting the school.

The Designated Safeguarding Leaders at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School are Mrs Winton, Miss Strudwick, Miss Date and Mrs Jones.

If you have concerns about a child you can also call Integrated Front Door (IFD) on 01403 229900 or out of hours on 0330 222 6664.

