



**Rooted in Faith
Growing in Love
Learning for Life**

Newsletter—No. 5

Friday 6th February 2026



*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.*

Matthew 5:9

Dear Parents and Carers,

The week began with an exploration of the Beatitudes and linking them to our new school values and the principles Catholic Social Teaching. The children enjoyed sharing how they can live out the Beatitudes this week in school and at home.

Real life archaeologists!

Year 3 were delighted to welcome Petra from the Horsham Museum this week. Petra delivered an incredible Stone Age workshop where the children were able to share their knowledge from their History lessons. The children became archaeologists and used trowels to dig up stone tools and weapons from the Paleolithic period.



Next week - Children's Mental Health Week

Next Thursday is the Friends of St Francis disco - and what better week to have it in as it is Mental Health Week.

Next week we will be learning about looking after our wellbeing and mental health plus keeping safe online on Tuesday for Safer Internet Day.



What big teeth you have!

Well done to Koala Class for their wonderful retelling of Little Red Riding Hood this week. The children did an amazing job of learning their lines and performing the story.



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,
Mrs Winton



SPORTS NEWS!

Well done to the Year 6 football team who represented the school superbly at the EFL tournament, organised by Crawley Town. The boys finished second in a highly competitive group of five, earning a place in the semi-final against Milton Mount. After a strong and disciplined defensive performance, the match went to penalties, with the boys holding their nerve to win a tense shoot-out 3–2. The final saw them face a very strong Maidenbower side. Despite a determined and spirited display, the team were eventually beaten 2–0. Although narrowly missing out on the trophy, the boys proudly collected their runners-up medals and even bagged free tickets to watch Crawley Town in action this Saturday — a fantastic reward for a brilliant effort all round.

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

If your child has been absent from school with diarrhoea and vomiting, they must not return to school until they have been clear of their last episode for 48 hours.

This is to stop the spread of infection to others .

Thank you.

Could You Be Our Next Parent Governor?

Before becoming a governor at St Francis, I had no background in education or teaching and wasn't quite sure what to expect, but I needn't have been concerned - joining the governing body has been a very positive and rewarding experience!

I have four children and work full-time, and I have found the role to be far more manageable and flexible than I initially anticipated. From the outset, I was supported by experienced and welcoming governors who were happy to share their knowledge and offer guidance. Excellent training opportunities are available through the Diocese and West Sussex County Council, all of which can be completed online at times that fit around work and family commitments.

Meetings are scheduled well in advance, and I often combine governor responsibilities with times I am already in school — such as drop-off or pick-up, or when helping at Friends of St Francis events.

As Link Governor for Maths and Pupil Premium, I've had the opportunity to engage with areas I haven't worked in before. I approach these with a fresh, questioning perspective and really value listening to staff and learning from their professional expertise. The governing body is flexible, with opportunities to take on different roles over time depending on interest and availability — from curriculum subjects to areas such as admissions, attendance or health and safety.

I have found the role both enjoyable and fulfilling. It has given me a deeper understanding of how the school operates and has allowed me to make a meaningful contribution to the life of the school and the education of its pupils. No prior experience is required — just a willingness to learn and a desire to help the school continue to thrive. I would be very happy to talk to anyone who would like to know more about what the role involves!

Danielle
Vice Chair, Foundation Governor



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Congratulations to Seal Class for achieving 100% and Raccoon for achieving 99% this week.

Perfect Punctuality Pizza slice awarded this week to Ladybird, Meerkat, Zebra, Armadillo and Panda Class.

Diary Dates

February

Tues 10 - Safer Internet Day

Tues 10 - Toucan Class Assembly at 9.05am– Parents/Carers/Grandparents welcome

Thurs 12- Friends of St Francis Disco

Years R,1 & 2—2pm-2.45pm £3 per child (includes drink & snack)

Years 3,4,5 & 6—3.20pm-4.30pm £2 per child (includes a drink)

Thurs 12—Lost Property 3pm outside front office

Fri13—Last day of term (normal finishing time)

16-20—HALF TERM



Ladybird: Miguel Do Carmo
Bumblebee: Isabelle Bray
Koala: Leo Notturmo
Wallaby: Lashanna Dorley
Penguin: Leah Lyajoon
Seal: Miylah Stephens
Meerkat: Prescianna Aglae
Zebra: Leondre Chery Furtado
Armadillo: Lorenzo Fenu
Raccoon: Zahra-Rose Ahmed
Leopard: Vinayak Pillai
Panda: Seb Mrowiec
Toucan: Lola Brooker
Alpaca: Nico Cifaldi-Hartfield



Ladybird: Abeeha Tamaar
Bumblebee: Samuel Onasanwo
Koala: Liepa Maikstenaite
Wallaby: Leo Farrell
Penguin: Amelia Michalska
Seal: Nevin Joseph
Meerkat: Logan Pereira
Zebra: Jarren Besa-Bicol
Armadillo: Aariana De Heredia
Raccoon: Benjamin Pratt
Leopard: Noah Walsh
Panda: Harry Butler
Toucan: Max Scioiano
Alpaca: Faith Dias

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