

# St Francis Newsletter 24th April 2026



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*Issue No. 13*

*24th April 2026*

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*Compassion ~ We love and care*

*Humility ~ We put others first*

*Responsibility ~ We do what is right*

*Inspiration ~ We love to learn and achieve*

*Solidarity ~ We stand together*

*Truth ~ We live by God's Word*

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## Authorised Absences

Over the last few months, we have seen a number of requests for authorised absence during term time due to exceptional circumstances, such as funerals, baptisms, or family emergencies. These requests have been especially common in the week leading up to a school holiday or immediately after.

Unfortunately, in several cases it has later become apparent that the stated reasons were not accurate and that a family holiday had been taken instead. This places the school in a difficult position and undermines the trust that is so important between families and school.

Going forward, **all requests for authorised absence during term time will require appropriate supporting evidence**. This applies to any absence being requested for exceptional circumstances. Requests that are not supported by evidence will not be authorised.

We strongly believe that honest and open communication between school and families is essential. If there are difficulties or concerns, we encourage parents and carers to speak with us rather than feel pressured to provide inaccurate information.

Good attendance is vital for children's academic progress, wellbeing, and sense of belonging. Research consistently shows that pupils achieve best when attendance is **above 95%**, and even short periods of absence can have a significant impact on learning.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure that all children benefit fully from their education.

## Golden Reading



Don't forget that children need to be reading at **least 4 times a week** and updating their reading journals. Children who complete this challenge will become our Golden Readers and take part in a very special treat at the end of this half term.

## May Day Procession



On **Friday 1st May**, we will be holding our annual May Day Procession. We warmly welcome all parents, carers, grandparents, and friends to join us for this special celebration.

The event will begin **promptly at 2.30pm on the playground**. Children will be organised in their year group phases and will move around a number of stops, where they will listen to prayers and scripture reflecting on Mary.

We are delighted that Father Peter will be in attendance and will conclude the procession by bestowing a blessing upon the children.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing this meaningful occasion together.

## St George's Day Celebrations

Following **St George's House Team** winning last term's house point competition, pupils enjoyed their well-earned treat last week: an extra playtime on the field, complete with refreshing ice lollies.

Yesterday, we also celebrated **St George's Day**, and it was wonderful to see the children once again wearing their house colours proudly and showing great team spirit.

## Friends of St Francis Movie Nights

**FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS**

**MOVIE NIGHTS**

KEY STAGE 1 - WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY

**ZOOTOPA 2**

3.15PM - 5.15PM  
**£2.00 PER TICKET**

FREE DRINKS & POPCORN will be available

To book tickets use the QR code or visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofstfrancisofassisi/?event=event&eventid=116276>

Book this ticket if you signed up to Easyfundraising in February and email us from the email you signed up with - 1 ticket per sign up

Book this ticket if you did not sign up to Easyfundraising in February

**FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS**

**MOVIE NIGHTS**

KEY STAGE 2 - THURSDAY 21ST MAY

**ORION AND THE DARK**

3.15PM - 5.15PM  
**£2.00 PER TICKET**

FREE DRINKS & POPCORN will be available

To book tickets use the QR code or visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofstfrancisofassisi/?event=event&eventid=116276>

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## Diary Dates



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#### April

**Mon 27** - EYFS Balance Bikes (all week)

**Tues 28** - Penguin Class Assembly at 9.05am -Parents/Carers/Grandparents Welcome

**Tues 28** - Year 3 & 4 Maths Parents Meeting at 2.45pm

**Thurs 30**- Year 5 BMX Workshop

#### May

**Fri 01** - May Procession at 2.30pm - Parents/Carers/Grandparents welcome

## Attendance and Punctuality



Congratulations to Seal Class for achieving a perfect 100% this week, and well done to Alpaca Class for achieving 99% .

Perfect Punctuality Pizza slice awarded this week to Bumblebee, Seal, Penguin and Panda Classes.

## Star of the Week



***Ladybird: Mia Pintscher***

***Bumblebee: Norah Benjamin***

***Koala: Isabella Santiago***

***Wallaby: Monty De Taylor***

***Penguin: Nathan Mendes***

***Seal: Rushika Patel***

***Meerkat: Ezra Fevrier***

***Zebra: Luke Dias***

***Armadillo: Athena Carter***

***Raccoon: Martyna Matlak***

***Leopard: Sarah Alappatt***

***Panda: Thomas Cooper-Berry***

***Toucan: Catherine Andama***

***Alpaca: Chloé Follette***

## Reader and Writer of the Week



***Ladybird: Ayra Rajeswaran***

***Bumblebee: Maxzion Evenor***

***Koala: Cataleya Goddard***

***Wallaby: Lashanna Dorley***

***Penguin: Olivia Pereira***

***Seal: Molly-Mae Casimir***

***Meerkat: Ryan Pereira***

***Zebra: Hope Jacques***

***Armadillo: Emanuel Benchea***

***Raccoon: Arianna Kardilis Manfredi***

***Leopard: David Ijeh***

***Panda: Neriah Ephraim***

***Toucan: Favour Benjamin***

***Alpaca: Jakub Matlak***

Remember we are a nut-free school



It's been lovely having the scaffolding down and the side walk-way open again. All the normal entrances and exits are back in use and will be until half term. After half term, Phase 2 of the roof replacement will start. I will keep you updated with how this will affect access to the site. Thank you for your patience and understanding over the last few months.

Have a lovely weekend,

Best wishes, Mrs Winton



## 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**