

St Francis Newsletter 1st May 2026



Issue No. 14

1st May 2026



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

The Good Shepherd



In assembly this week, the children listened to a reading from John's Gospel and reflected on the meaning of Jesus as the Good Shepherd.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

Through discussion and reflection, the children explored how following Jesus, the Good Shepherd helps guide our choices and actions as Christians today. Even our younger pupils were able to understand this powerful image and relate it to their everyday lives.

This Gospel reading links closely with our school values:

- **Compassion** – Jesus cares deeply for His sheep, showing us the importance of kindness, care, and looking out for others.
- **Humility** – The Good Shepherd serves His flock, reminding us that true leadership means serving others.

- **Responsibility** – Just as a shepherd looks after the sheep, we are called to take responsibility for our actions, each other, and God’s world.
- **Inspiration** – Jesus’ example inspires us to make good choices and live with love, courage, and faith.
- **Solidarity** – The image of the flock teaches us that we belong together and should support one another, especially those who feel lost or vulnerable.
- **Truth** – Jesus leads His sheep with honesty and trust, encouraging us to live truthfully and listen carefully to God’s guidance.

It was wonderful to see pupils of all ages engaging so thoughtfully with this message and making meaningful connections between the Gospel, our school values, and life as Christians today.

Penguin Class Assembly - Responsibility



On Tuesday, Penguin Class delivered a wonderful assembly focused on one of our core school values: **Responsibility**. The children made thoughtful links to our namesake, St Francis, exploring how we can all play our part in caring for the world and all of God’s creatures.

They performed a beautiful song about St Francis and concluded the assembly with a powerful song about plastic, encouraging everyone to reflect on how our actions can help protect the environment.

Well done to Penguin Class for such a meaningful presentation, and thank you to Miss Batchelor and Miss Lucchesi for supporting the children in delivering such a thought-provoking and engaging assembly.

Grand Opening of The Reading Shed





We are excited to announce that our brand-new **Reading Shed is now officially open!** This exciting space will give children a calm and cosy place to enjoy books and share a love of reading. Each year group will have an assigned day to visit the Reading Shed during their lunch break, and our fantastic Reading Ambassadors will be there to lead sessions, recommend books and help everyone feel welcome. We can't wait to see the Reading Shed become a special part of school life! 📖 ✨

Year 3 Explorers

Year 3 were delighted to welcome Lisa from the Ashdown Forest. The children explored compass points and discovered how to identify and point North, developing their navigation skills. They also had a hands-on experience examining and sketching a variety of animal skulls, including those of a badger, cat, sheep, and deer, sparking curiosity about wildlife. To round off the session, the children followed maps and then created their own using twigs and natural materials, combining creativity with their new mapping knowledge. Thank you to both Zebra and Meerkat for representing our school so well.





Mrs Webb - celebrating 25 years



Congratulations to our very glamorous Mrs Webb, who is celebrating an incredible **25 years** of service at St Francis! We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Webb, for her unwavering hard work, commitment, and dedication to the hundreds of children she has supported and inspired over the years.

We are truly grateful for everything she has contributed to our school community.

May Day Procession







We are very much looking forward to welcoming parents, grandparents and friends to our annual May Day Procession. We will share photos in the next issue of this newsletter. Very special thanks to Mrs Keating-Jones for making the beautiful flowers which had the 32

languages spoken at St Francis adorned on the vases. These beautiful pieces were made with Year 4 in readiness for the event.

Friends of St Francis Movie Nights

FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS



MOVIE NIGHTS

KEY STAGE 1 - WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY

ZOOTOPIA 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
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 **PTA**
Parents' Teachers' Association

 **ST FRANCIS DE ASSISI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**
GRANDWAY, 2016 500
TEL: 01274 822099
EMAIL: christophgtr@stfrancis.oxon.sch.uk

FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS



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>

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



Class Photos

The closing date for Yellow Photos is Tuesday 12th May 2026



Congratulations to Meerkat Class for achieving 99% this week, and to Seal Class for achieving 97% .

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

Star of the Week



Ladybird: Arianna Matei

Bumblebee: Amelia Nayee

Koala: Libby Hutchby

Wallaby: Jeremy Isou Caro

Penguin: Reilly Stephens

Seal: Céidín McGovern

Meerkat: Avianna Nakabuye

Zebra: Victoria Haxho

Armadillo: Dani Malkowska-Dias

Raccoon: Deawn Etienne

Leopard: Ashton Baptiste

Panda: Elizabeth MARRS

Toucan: Isabel Bestin

Alpaca: Mollie-Mae Brooker

Reader and Writer of the Week



Ladybird: Mia Pintscher

Bumblebee: Anastazja Mizera

Koala: Iris Watson

Wallaby: Michaela Andama

Penguin: Leah Lyajoon

Seal: Alexander Hatcher

Meerkat: Prescianna Aglae

Zebra: Paul Mackamalil

Armadillo: Aaliya Shakir Ali

Raccoon: Jude Mulligan

Leopard: Eszter Olszowy-Sipos

Panda: Max Gregg

Toucan: Raphael Joseph

Alpaca: Lola-Belle Joyce

Remember we are a nut-free school



Final thoughts

I am thrilled to share with you all that Mr Ferrito is back at school! He has begun a phased return to school and was so happy to see many pupils this week. He is getting stronger every day and we couldn't be happier to have him back.

I hope you all have a wonderful bank holiday weekend and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Tuesday 5th May.

Warmest 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