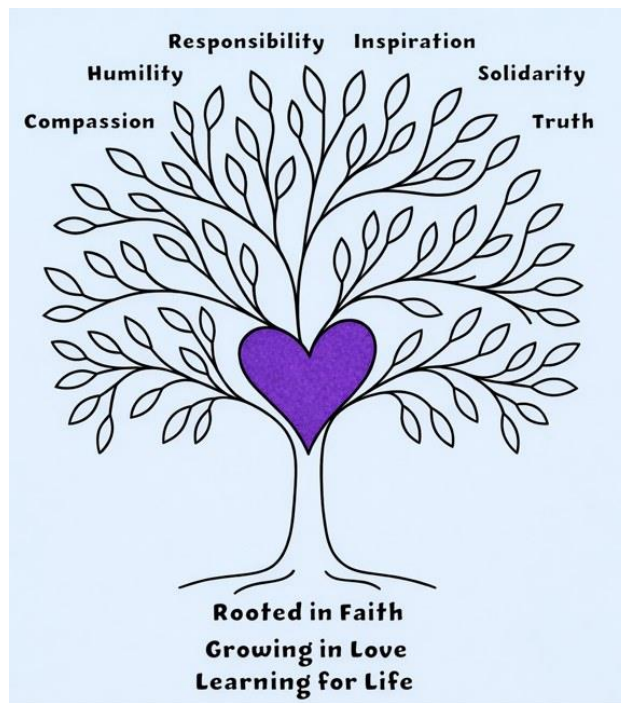


St Francis Newsletter

18th September 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

Compassion



Dear Parents and Carers

Each week this half term, our Gospel assemblies will explore one of our six school values. This week, the children reflected on our value of **Compassion** through the Parable of the Good Samaritan. They listened thoughtfully to the story and shared insightful responses about what it teaches us about kindness, mercy and caring for others, especially those in need.

Together, we considered how compassion can be lived out in our daily lives, through our words, actions and the way we treat one another. The children spoke beautifully about helping others, showing empathy and being a friend to everyone.

As Jesus reminds us: **"Go and do likewise."** (Luke 10:37)

May we all continue to follow the example of the Good Samaritan by noticing those who need our care and responding with hearts full of compassion. ❤️

A gift to our school

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



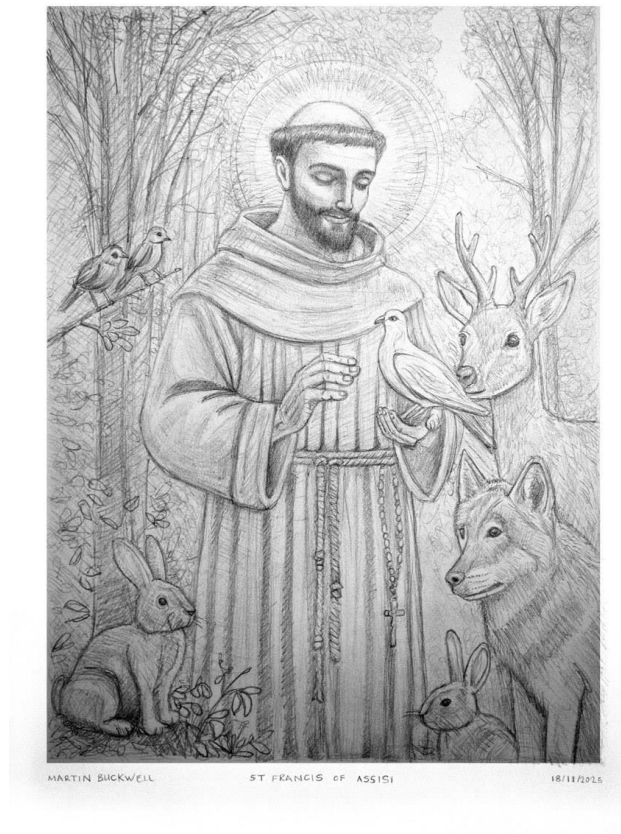
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Dennis Batchelor** for commissioning a beautiful original piece of artwork for our school by **Martin Buckwell**, a talented Brighton-based artist.

Martin carefully sketched and then lovingly painted in oils an image of **St Francis of Assisi**, capturing his deep love of nature and animals. The painting is rich in symbolism. The white dove represents the Holy Spirit, while the positioning of St Francis' hands and the dove forms a central triangle, symbolising the Holy Trinity. The wolf depicted is the Wolf of Gubbio, recalling the well-known story of how St Francis tamed and saved a ferocious wolf through peace, understanding and compassion.

The painting now hangs proudly at the front of the school, welcoming all who enter. A smaller reproduction has been placed in our chapel, while the original sketch has a special place in my office.

This wonderful gift serves as a daily reminder of the values of faith, peace, stewardship and compassion that lie at the heart of our school community. We are deeply grateful to Dennis and Martin for leaving such a lasting legacy for the children and families of St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School.



Census Day and School Photos

Census Day and School Photographs – Thursday 1st October

On **Thursday 1st October**, schools across the country will take part in the annual **School Census**. This is a very important day, as attendance figures recorded on that day help determine future school funding. We kindly ask that, wherever possible, all children attend school on this date so that they can be included in the census count.

The day is also **School Photo Day**, so please ensure that children come to school in their **full school uniform**, looking smart and ready for their photographs.

To make the day even more exciting, **Tommy the Tomato is celebrating his 18th birthday!** Easy Lunch will be providing a special celebratory lunch menu, followed by a delicious birthday cake for the children to enjoy.

We look forward to a fantastic day of learning, smiles and celebrations! 🍅🍰📷



Happy 18th Birthday Tommy Tomato! Thursday 1st October

To celebrate 18 wonderful years of The Easy Lunch Company and Tommy's 18th Birthday we are having a special birthday celebration on Thursday 1st October

Pork Sausage (gluten/wheat, sulphites),
Oven baked wedges
Served with carrots and peas, ketchup
or
Cumberland style vegan sausage (allergen free)
Oven baked wedges
Served with carrots and peas, ketchup

Chocolate birthday cake with Tommy Topper
(Contains Wheat/gluten and egg)

To Order: If you already have a meal placed on SchoolGrid it will be provided as the menu above, you do not need to do anything else unless you wish to cancel.
To book Pork sausages – Order pasta Bolognese
To book Cumberland vegan sausages – Order Sunshine Vegetable Biryani
Jacket potatoes and packed lunches will be provided as per your pre-order
ALL REGISTERED SPECIAL DIETS WILL BE CATERED FOR ACCORDINGLY
If you require any further information about the Census lunch, please call Emma at The Easy Lunch Company 01403 741177 or email emma@theeasylunchcompany.co.uk



Changes to Free School Meal Eligibility

Please be aware that from September 2026, the Government will introduce substantial changes to Free School Meal eligibility. Under the new national criteria, **all families in receipt of Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals**, meaning that more students will become eligible.

Please use the link attached to apply for free school meals if you think you may qualify. **Although children in EYFS or KS1 already receive free school meals, it is still important to register if you qualify as it will provide extra funding for the school.**

Free School Meals

Diary Dates



Diary Dates

September

Mon 21 - Year 6 Residential**Mon 28 - PFA Annual General Meeting****Tues 29 - Year 3 Egyptian Day**

October

Thurs 1 - School Photographer in for individual photos

Is your child starting school next year?

**St Francis of Assisi
Catholic Primary School**

**Is your child starting
school in September 2027?**

Come and discover what makes
St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School
such a special place to learn, grow and thrive!

— ♥ —

Join us for a friendly school tour with our Headteacher
and see our happy, welcoming school in action.

School Tour Dates

- 🕒 9:15am
- ✅ 7th October
- ✅ 4th November
- ✅ 2nd December

To book your place,
please contact the
School Office on

01293 521009.

We can't wait to meet you
and your family and show you
all that our wonderful school
has to offer!

St Francis of Assisi
Catholic Primary School



Friends of St Francis PTFA

**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

 **Monday 28th September**

 **3:30pm**

 **Seal Class**

All parents, carers & staff welcome!

- ✓ Review the year
- ✓ Elect the new committee
- ✓ Plan for the year ahead

Get involved & make a difference!

Star of the Week



Koala: Felix Cogley

Wallaby: Leo Labonne

Penguin: Leo Farrell

Seal: Thea Ceapa

Meerkat: Ariana Agrela

Zebra: Kian Fernandes

Armadillo: Victoria Haxho

Raccoon: Pearl Legras

Leopard: Venu Natarajan

Panda: Henry Hull

Toucan: David Ijeh

Alpaca: Amelie Huang

Reader and Writer of the Week



Koala: Deshawn Rubruck

Wallaby: Emily Ochan

Penguin: Nikola Samborska

Seal: Sebastian Follette

Meerkat: Noor Abbasi

Zebra: Amelia Hull

Armadillo: Jordan Botlar

Raccoon: Filip Galazka

Leopard: Ankan Saha

Panda: Zarah Abbasi

Toucan: Arman Kumar

Alpaca: Chevy Fernandes



As we continue our journey through this half term's focus on our school values, I have been so proud of the way our children have reflected on what it means to live out these values each day. Their kindness, thoughtfulness and willingness to care for one another are a wonderful witness to the spirit of our school community.

"Freely you have received God's mercy; freely give mercy to others." *Matthew 10:8*

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, encouragement and partnership.

May God bless you and your families,

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.

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.

Remember we are a nut-free school

