



ST. FRANCIS NEWSLETTER

April 2024



St Francis' Catholic Primary School, Goosnargh, Preston, PR3 2FJ, 01772 865369

St. Francis' Catholic Primary School

LIVING FEELING DREAMING

Living our life as Jesus taught us Feeling the Gospel Values Dreaming of bright futures for all
As children of God, we care for each other and we always try to do our best'

Nut Free School!

We have children with severe nut allergies in school and it is vitally important that no nuts or snacks that contain nuts come into school. Thank you for your support.



A Big Thank You!

A big thank you to all the families that came to the Easter Bingo, supporting school. Also a big thank you to the PTFA for organising another brilliant event! **We raised £927 (the most we have ever raised at an Easter bingo event) which will go towards supplementing school trips for all the children in school!** The PTFA are busy organising the next event for the summer...watch this space!

School Drop-Off and Pick-Up

An increasing number of children from Years 3-6 are being left outside unattended at the start of the school day, outside the front of the school, before 8:45am. Please ensure your child is supervised on the school grounds until the school doors open at 8:45am, thank you. A reminder also, for children not to play football or play on the school equipment at the end of the school day. Thank you.

After School Club availability

We have a growing number of children attending after school club, as a result we have limited spaces now, on a daily basis. **If you wish for your child to be in after school club please contact the school office in advance, we cannot guarantee spaces will be available calling on the day or calling for that week.**

Church closure & Fundraising for Church roof

The Church roof is being repaired in spring, therefore the First Holy Communion programme will be delayed until September/October 2024. **The church and parishioners are desperately trying to raise funds to support the roof repairs. Any support or incentives for support are most welcome!**

The Wednesday Word – bringing the Sunday gospel to you!

Click the link to see month's editions! Click the link below to visit the Wednesday Word website [Wednesday Word website](#)

Toast and Fairtrade Days

Toast is on at break time every Wednesday, for 25p per slice.

Fairtrade & ethical sourced Tuck Shop every Friday (juice carton – 45p, wafer bar – 30p, popcorn – 50p)

Holidays Out of School Time

A reminder that holidays should not be taken in school time. Penalty notices will be issued for absences of 5 days or more.

Holidays in term time

Where possible, parents should try to avoid taking their child on holiday during term time. There are 175 non-school days each year during which holidays can be taken without impacting on a child's learning. Holidays can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and must be requested in advance. If you must take your child away during the school term, please discuss this with school beforehand to try to minimise the impact.

Remember, any cost savings should be weighed up against the cost to your child's education.

Attendance

As always, it is school's role to follow procedures and guidance from the DfE, in particular the guidance for schools 'Working together to improve school attendance'. Every school has an attendance officer, through the local authority, who visits school every half term to analyse attendance of children below 94% in school.

Please rest assured, we always aim for a supportive approach to support your child and your family and we understand that there are a variety of illnesses and viruses that have swept throughout schools since September. Genuine illness reasons for a lower attendance are always taken into consideration and we empathise at every level.

The DfE states that pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. As a school we set our own annual target for attendance based on national averages as our guide. Our target for this year is 96%. In order for us to meet this target we need to ask that all pupils aim for at least this level of attendance. Good attendance at school is vital because even short periods of absence can mean that a child's ability to keep up with school work may be significantly reduced. If your attendance is below 92% (national average) you will receive a letter alerting you to the attendance and what procedure will follow to support improving your child's attendance.

Lancashire
County Council 



Every School Day Counts

Don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

DID YOU KNOW.....

- One week missed from school is the same as missing around 25 hours of learning which can't be repeated. 
- 90% attendance may sound OK but it is the same as missing a month off school each year. Over the course of a school career, this would add up to a whole year missed! Your child would also be classed as a Persistent Absentee.
- **Missed Education = Missed Opportunities**

Absences

A reminder that you call the school office in the morning if your child is off sick, please do not send messages on Seesaw to the class teacher. Teaching staff are busy setting up the classroom and do not always have the time to check Seesaw messages in a morning.

Air Up Bottles

After some consideration, we have decided that the “Air Up” water bottles and similar are not suitable for school. Children are sharing bottles so they can try each other’s flavours – this can pass on germs and be unhygienic. We have had the heartbreak of smashed, lost and broken bottles. The value of them has caused some “showing off” and with that “envy” which are not the values we wish to promote. **Simple water bottles from now on only please.**

Dates for Your Diary:

Tuesday 30th April – Shalom Academy, Kenya – Link visit

Wednesday 1st May – Reception & Year 6 height and weight

Monday 6th May – May Day Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th May – Year 1&2 Football tournament

Thursday 9th May – Ascension Mass whole school @ 9:15am

Week of 13th May – Year 6 SATS week

Monday 20th May – Cricket Workshops for KS1 and KS2

Monday 20th – Wed 22nd May – Year 5/6 @ Tower Wood Outdoor & Adventure Centre

Wednesday 22nd May – Samba Worship

Thursday 23rd May – May Procession

Friday 24th May – BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM – NORMAL TIME

Monday 3rd June – INSET DAY

Wednesday 5th June – Linking Network, Year 5 visit to English Martyr’s Primary School

Wednesday 12th June – Sports Day

Tuesday 18th June – UCLan Sports Festival KS2

Monday 8th July – Dress Rehearsal for Beacon Class School Play

Tuesday 9th July – Eureka School Trip EYFS and KS1

Tuesday 9th July – Beacon Class Play @2pm and 6pm

Wednesday 10th July – Fairsnape Trip to Blackpool Zoo

Friday 12th July – Music Showcase Collaboration Concert, St. Thomas’ Church Claughton @ 1:30pm

Tuesday 16th July – Year 6 Leaver’s Mass @9:30am

Friday 19th July – Leavers’ Assembly @9:15am

Friday 19th July – Break Up for the End of the School Year @ 1:30pm