



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

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Principal: Mr. G. J. Linford



Issue 103: Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Well, we are hurtling towards the half-term break now and I know that the children (and staff) are looking forward to having a well-earned rest!

This is the third newsletter of the school year and contains useful dates of events which will be happening between now and Christmas.

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Well done to everyone for getting used to the new routines so quickly this week and doing your best to get your child into school **by 8:40 every morning.**



The gates and doors now open at 8:30 a.m. to provide a 10 minute window for your children to arrive at school.

Morning tasks are set out for the children to get on with from 8:40 a.m. whilst the teachers listen to three children read. This is the same routine at the start of the afternoon session, too, which means that every child is heard read by their teacher at least once a week. If your child arrives late to school then they may miss their chance!

There has only been a few parents who are not getting their children to school on time before the gates are locked at 8:45, which is 5 minutes after the start of the school day. Unfortunately, I have seen some parents just pulling up outside of school, opening the car doors and leaving their children to walk into school unaccompanied. **If your child is late, parents are responsible for walking them into school safely to sign them in at the school office.**

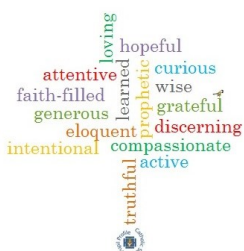
Stating "traffic" as the reason for lateness should only be used for exceptional circumstances when the roads are snared up - not just because you haven't given yourselves enough time to get to school.

COMMUNICATION

We're delighted that so many of you have now signed up on **Class Dojo** and connected with your child's class. This will enable you to keep up with all the latest teaching and learning highlights and developments, success stories and wider news stories. On Thursday, the election for Parent Governor went live on Dojo, too! This table shows the very latest sign-up figures:

Nursery: 92%	Y1: 87%	Y3: 100%	Y5: 87%
Reception: 90%	Y2: 87%	Y4: 97%	Y6: 100%

After half-term, teachers will also use Class Dojo to post reminders of **homework** tasks that have been set for the children, so please do get signed up as quickly as possible.



Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts...

Whole school attendance for the academic year currently stands at:

96.2%

This is below our **target** of **97.5%**. All classes need to hit the target to ensure we are **OUTSTANDING** in this area. Please note that if your child arrives late after the register has closed in the morning, this also counts as an absence! Here's a table which shows how well each class is doing at the moment:

Nursery	96.4%	Year 3	97.7%
Reception	93.7%	Year 4	97.8%
Year 1	94.2%	Year 5	96.1%
Year 2	96.3%	Year 6	97.6%

Pupils in **Year 3, Year 4** and **Year 6** are off to a "golden" start! From next week, all children will get an extra Dojo award whenever their class attendance is 100% for that day. Let's see how quickly we can get the average up!

We are so grateful that four parents have put themselves forward to be one of two Parent Governors on our Local Governing Body. The vote is now **OPEN**. Each parent is entitled to vote for two candidates of their choice. The candidates' supporting statements were posted on Class Dojo on Thursday afternoon. The vote closes at **4:00 p.m. next Thursday, 20th October**. You can vote by clicking on the Parent Governor Vacancy image above, or by going to:



<https://forms.office.com/r/yjvL31FBah>

Good luck to all of the candidates!

Please keep this newsletter in a safe place so that you don't lose track of forthcoming dates and events.

Mr. Linford and the SFX Team

"Jesus holds us in the palm of His hand."

Dates for the diary:**Thursday 20th October: School Mass**9:15 a.m. start in Church for **HARVEST**
(led by children in **Year 5**)**OCTOBER HALF-TERM HOLIDAY**

Monday 24th to Friday 28th October

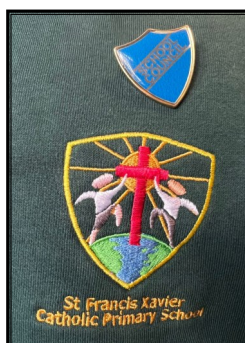
Tuesday 1st November: School Mass9:15 a.m. start in Church for **All Saints' Day**
(led by children in **Year 3**)**Thursday 10th November: School Mass**9:15 a.m. start in Church for **REMEMBRANCE**
(led by children in **Year 6**)**Friday 18th November: 9:00 a.m.**Present & Praise Assembly for **Anti-Bullying Week.****PARENTS' EVENINGS**Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th November
3:30-6:00 p.m.**Thursday 1st December: School Mass**9:15 a.m. start in Church for **Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier** (led by children in **Year 5**)**PARISH MASS: Sunday 11th December at 11:00 a.m.** All are welcome to attend.**Thursday 15th December: School Mass**9:15 a.m. start in Church (led by children in **Year 4**)**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAY**

Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd January

STAFF INSET on Tuesday 3rd January

On Monday 10th October, we came together and joined with hundreds of other children in schools across the Archdiocese of Birmingham in a special prayer service that was livestreamed from the Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Bicester in the presence of the relics of Saint Bernadette. A recording of this can be accessed here: <https://youtu.be/ybMcUqdTmEw>

The children prayed five decades of the Rosary whilst reflecting on the Glorious Mysteries and invoking the intercessions of Our Lady and St. Bernadette, and they did so with great reverence and respect. Well done, all!

**SCHOOL COUNCIL 2022-23**

Year 6: Elizabeth & Theo

Year 5: Ella & Lukasz

Year 4: Jenelle & Xander

Year 3: Autumn & Ethan

Year 2: Edeltrude & Jaiden

Please remember our new school councillors in your prayers.



Any donations of food items will be gratefully received ahead of this Thursday's Mass. Please be as generous as you can at this difficult time for so many people in our local community. **Thank you.**

SCHOOL UNIFORM: Please remember that all items of school uniform should be clearly labelled with your child's name. We already have items of lost property beginning to mount up which can not be returned because they haven't been labelled. On **P.E. days**, children should wear plain black trainers, please - not expensive, fashionable brands which become a point of discussion and competition!