



ST FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wednesday 12th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

New Year, New Opportunities

Welcome back to a New Year, one that is hopeful and one where, Covid-19 permitting, we are planning increased opportunities to see you and to meet with you.

As you are already aware, we are delighted to welcome the following new colleagues to the school this term:

Mr Boodell – Interim Vice Principal

Miss Da-Costa – Year 6 teacher

Miss Ebanks – Year 2 teacher

Please also remember in your prayers Mrs Marshall and Miss Ward whom we wish a very speedy recovery from cancer.

In line with our Emmaus MAC vision ‘Excellent education for all in the heart of our communities: nourishing faith, nurturing talent and fostering aspiration’, we are constantly looking at ways to ensure that staff expectations are high and that our children aspire to be the best they can be.

Our current team of talented staff is committed to making a positive difference and we are excited about some of the changes that will be taking place over the coming weeks to further improve the educational experience of our young people.

We firmly believe that a well-maintained school sets the tone and standards, so we are currently working very hard to ensure that the physical environment is both beautiful and safe for our children. You will have noticed that some changes, like the removal of the bamboo fencing, have happened already. The bamboo fencing has been removed as it was no longer fit for purpose. We constantly remind children that they must not go near the fence to remain safe at playtimes and that they must not talk to anyone through the fence. We would appreciate it if you would support us by reinforcing this message to your child also.

In school, many areas have been adapted to ensure that we are making the best use of all areas of our school in order to create an effective learning environment for our children. Our staff continue to work on displays in corridors and classrooms to ensure that vibrant learning walls are created.

We have been reviewing our behaviour for learning which includes our routines. To ensure a purposeful and safe start and end to the school day, from **Monday 24th January**, we are going to change our routines as outlined overleaf.

St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School,
McKean Road, Oldbury,
West Midlands, B69 4BA

Tel: 0121 5521485
www.stfrancis.sch.life
Principal: Mrs J Downes

Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status with the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154





Start of school day routines

8.30am	Gates to be opened. Children to line up in the following areas: Years 1 and Year 2 in the Key Stage 1 playground, using the KS1 gate. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the Key Stage 2 playground, using either gate at the end of the gulley way. Parents to come onto the main playground with children. Children MUST be supervised by parents until 8.40 am. School staff will supervise children from 8.40am onwards. If you have children who have siblings in different key stages, you may wish to drop off your older children first to be supervised by staff on duty.
8.40am	Bell rings All classes line up on this bell. Teachers will be on the playground to collect their classes. There will be markings out for the children to follow. Parents must stand away from the lines so that the children can make their way in safely.
8.45am	Registration starts. Pupils complete gap tasks, morning tasks or read books. All classrooms will be purposeful with activities immediately commencing on entry into the classroom.
8.50am	The gates will be locked.
8.55am	Morning prayer.
9.00am	Registers closed and lessons begin. Any latecomers must make their way to the school office to drop children off and must sign them in if late. If children are late, parents must sign them into school. This is NOT the responsibility of the office staff.

Hometime

3.15pm	Bell rings. Children to say prayers and leave. Y1/2/3/4 leave via their classroom doors. Y5 will exit through the KS2 entrance doors. Y6 will exit through the class library. Parents of Y6 children may wait close to the fence outside the KS2 library (by the shed).
3.30pm	Bell rings. Gates will be locked. Any children left at this point will be collected from the front entrance and parents MUST sign them out.

We are aware that these changes may take time to get used to, but beneficial for our children. The most important thing for our children is for every day to be full of purpose and time to take part in wonderful learning opportunities. The safeguarding and wellbeing of our children always remain our key priority at St Francis and, by taking these measures, we are looking forward to our children making the most of every opportunity to be the best that they can be. Thank you for your continued support and God bless.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Downes
Principal

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