



# ST FRANCIS NEWS

*20th December 2021*

**In Jesus we will do our best as we love, pray, learn  
and play because this is the St Francis Way**

Dear parents,

It has been lovely to see the pictures on Class Dojo of the children using the virtual travelling crib resource. Please keep sending these in and see the link below to access the resource as a family if you have not done so already. This can be done at any time over the Christmas period. I hope that you have enjoyed the recordings of the nativities and a huge thank you to all staff for putting these together.

I know that there is much talk of additional restrictions at the moment and I do hope that you all manage to enjoy Christmas with your families. If there are any changes to the way that we will operate after Christmas then I will be in contact with you before the start of the new term.

On behalf of all of the staff at St Francis, I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas with all of the joy of the season as we celebrate the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ.

God Bless  
Gosia Brown







Today the children enjoyed a great assembly to start off our celebrations before breaking up tomorrow.

The year is 1891. Mrs Corah and her housekeeper, Mrs Salisbury are preparing the house for Christmas with all the trimmings.

Children will learn about 'Stir up Sunday', 'mumping', 'cosaques' and other traditions from Christmas's past in our interactive assembly incorporating real museum artefacts. How does a Victorian Christmas differ from our Christmas's today?



# Christmas Fun!





## Virtual Travelling Crib.

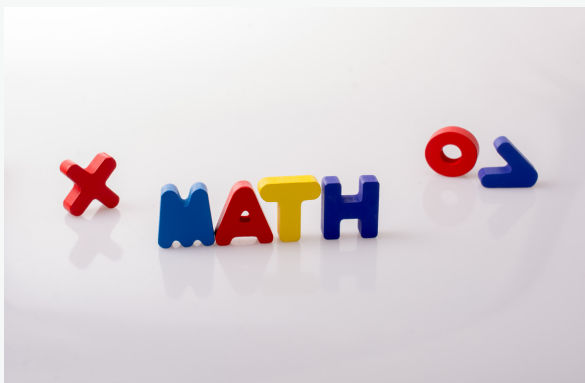
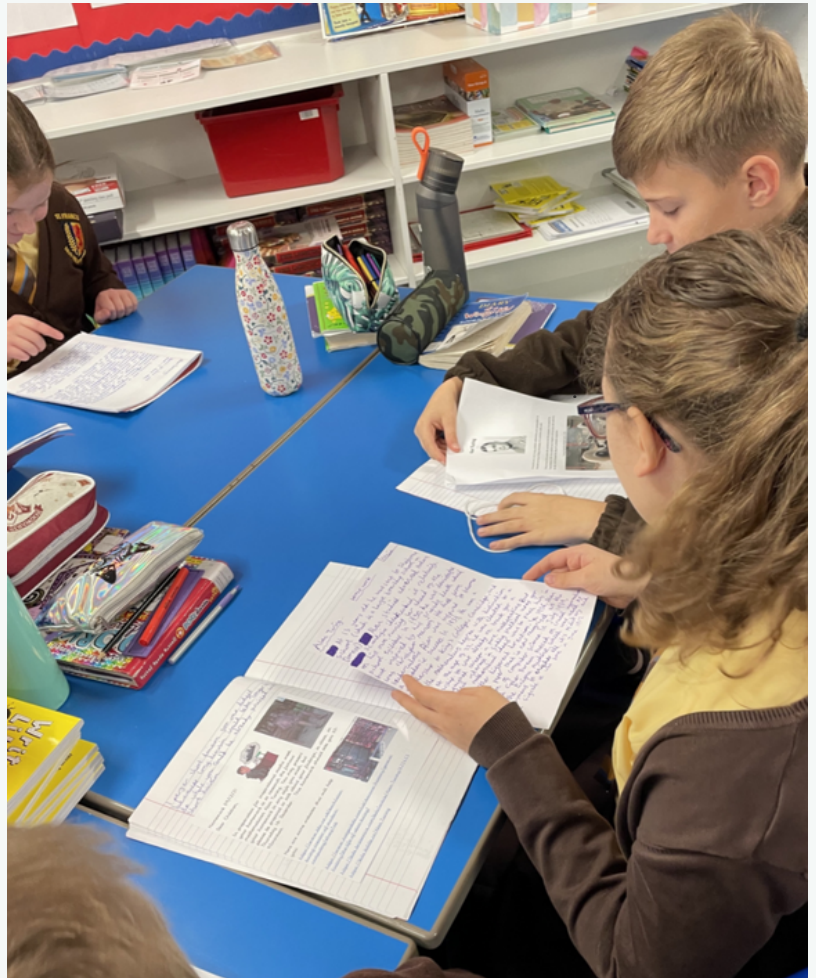
Please follow the link embedded for our virtual travelling crib. We would like children to send in photos of them using the travelling crib resource at home. This has previous been a wonderful way for all families to feel involved in the wider life of the school and we warmly invite you to join in with this.





## Inspirational Maths Week

Rock Star Day and Inspirational Maths Week have been a great success. The children have enjoyed finding out about famous mathematicians and the Maths activities have been fun and challenging.





Rockstar Yoga!



## Forest School

We are delighted that Mrs Spencer is able to lead forest school activities here at St Francis. She is Forest School trained and this means that she can lead activities in our grounds.

Forest School is a developmental learning approach that hinges on the learner being actively engaged with their outdoor environment on a regular basis.

The Forest School model was developed in Scandinavia and has grown dramatically all over Britain in the last 20 years – it is now practised all over the UK.





## Stay Well Guide

The link below is to a new guide to support parents finding the right treatment for common injuries and illnesses: University Hospitals Leicester (UHL) has created a new guide to support parents and carers of young children with finding the right treatment for common injuries and illnesses.

It will come as no surprise that during this time of year the emergency department at Leicester Royal Infirmary and GP surgeries see many more children with illnesses. Most of these can be treated by their families in the comfort of their own homes, avoiding lengthy waits at hospital or in a GP surgery, and the guide aims to help parents/carers understand the best course of action for their child.

Parent's Stay Well Guide ([leicestershospitals.nhs.uk](https://leicestershospitals.nhs.uk))





The Trust are now signed up to Dell Advantage Student, which allows students to get exclusive discounts of up to 20%.

Below is a small summary of how the programme works for students.

STUDENTS: Dell Advantage Student for Schools & Colleges (DAS) works like this:

1. DAS is a free programme that offers genuine savings to your students – up to 20% off.
2. They will follow the link below and enter their unique passcode to receive all voucher codes via an email
3. The voucher code is then entered at the point of purchase and the student/parent/guardian will be able to choose the option of monthly payments, through PayPal. They will automatically get one year's free warranty
4. The student/parent/guardian will own the product that they buy, so the school does not have any ties

Next Steps:

1. Passcode: 9VYBAY

<https://www.dell.com/en-uk/lp/k12-students>

## Year 3/4- Fossils Workshop

By all accounts the children had a great day when 'Up and At Em History' visited to run some workshops on fossils.



Today, the year 3/4 class got the exciting opportunity to work as palaeontologists and complete a fossil-filled activity morning. There were lots of fun challenges and the children learnt some amazing dinosaur and fossil facts.





### **The Queen's Jubilee Art Competition:**

2021 marks 70 years of The Queen's reign. The Platinum Jubilee celebrations will centre around an extended weekend in 2021 on 2, 3, 4 and 5 June. The Queen came to the throne on 6 February 1952 and her coronation took place on 2 June 1953. Her Majesty celebrated her Silver Jubilee (25 years) in 1977, her Golden Jubilee (50 years) in 2002, and her Diamond Jubilee (60 years) in 2012. Never has a British monarch celebrated a Platinum Jubilee, so this really is a historic and momentous occasion!

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Mike Kapur OBE, would like to encourage children to participate in the Platinum Jubilee activities and with this in mind wishes to create an exhibition of Jubilee themed paintings, produced by children in Leicester and Leicestershire.

The brief is simple: please express in a painting what The Queen's Platinum Jubilee means to you!

The competition is open to children in both KS1 and KS2 year groups with a Winner and Runner-Up Award for each group.

All entries will be displayed on our website in a virtual exhibition and the winning entries will be displayed at County Hall. The winners and their families will be invited to a reception with the Lord-Lieutenant, where special certificates will be presented.

Winning entries will be displayed at County Hall or City Hall with a reception planned and certificates to be presented by the Lord-Lieutenant. All entries will also be displayed in a Virtual Gallery hosted by the County Council, which will go live once judging has been completed.



|                            |                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>January</b>             |                                                                                                             |
| Weds 5 <sup>th</sup>       | School Opens                                                                                                |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>     | House Family Meeting- No liturgy                                                                            |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>    | Mass at 9.15am for Feast of Baptism of Our Lord                                                             |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> | Parent Forum- Parent Questionnaire Feedback and questions/Safeguarding in the curriculum                    |
|                            | Y6 Heights and Weight- School Nurse Visit                                                                   |
|                            | PTA- Swishing event @7PM- TBC                                                                               |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>    | Y6 (JO class) to perform a poem during celebration liturgy                                                  |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>    | Y6 (AS class) to perform a poem during celebration liturgy                                                  |
| <b>February</b>            |                                                                                                             |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>     | Y5 (LV class) to perform a poem during celebration liturgy                                                  |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>    | Internet Safety Day- Activities in School                                                                   |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>    | 'Wear it Blue' day- £1 donation- Trust Lourdes <u>Pilgrimage</u><br>No celebration Liturgy (House Families) |
| <b>Half Term</b>           | <b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup></b>                                                               |