

Catholic Life Survey Results

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The school offers a distinctively Catholic Education	59%	41%		
The school provides clear moral teaching	53%	44%		3%
The school provides opportunities for spiritual and moral development	50%	47%		3%
There are opportunities for my child to serve others and those in need	47%	50%		3%
The school promotes a strong partnership with parents	29%	62%	6%	3%
There are strong links between the school and our local parish	68%	26%	6%	
The school invites parents to attend masses and liturgies	76%	21%	3%	
What do you like about St Francis Catholic Primary School?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liturgies and Masses for school children - It provides a good education and good moral teaching along with a spiritual understanding to guide their life - A good level of teaching, good safeguarding and promoting a catholic life - A good school - Teaching incorporated into daily life and routine making them more achievable to young minds. - The encouragement of the children to be involved in living out the catholic ethos beyond the school hours. The school recognises the effort and work children carry out beyond the school day. - Very welcoming of families to all events such a liturgies, assemblies etc. - Extremely welcoming to parents to be involved and RE is the main focus point in learning, songs and links to the parish - Ethos and teachings 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The nuns teaching - Moral and respectful education - Everything - Inclusive - A possibility of building experience of catholic life by organising masses and liturgies. The school is promoting very important catholic values and teaches the children what is important in their lives - We particularly like the serving others at home chart - Very friendly staff and great school - Everything about the school envelops students and their families into the Catholic way of life. It encourages charity, kindness, dedication to God and an active Church community - I love the family feel, everyone including other parents and teachers are all so welcoming and friendly to each other. There is no feel of 'cliques' or 'playground politics' that is often seen in most school and I feel that's due to the Catholic morals and the strong message of love - Behaviour is kept in check - It is very welcoming, it has good morals and ethos - A lot of opportunities to learn how to follow Jesus steps (mass, liturgy, meditation, serve others etc...) - It is very friendly - Superb dedicated teaching from talented professionals - Welcoming our son into the school and providing him with good teachers and a good moral base to get through life -
<p>What would you like to see improved at St Francis as a Catholic school?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engaging communication between teachers and parents, providing regular feedback about children's development and constant reviews regarding teachers performance. - More current environmental topics discussed. More varied after school clubs like science experiments, basic engineering, arts and crafts club, but certainly a homework club like other schools in Melton - More support with families with English as an additional language - Wider range of after school clubs which includes art and craft, music (orchestra/band) and includes more for KS1 - Involvement of the Convent if they are willing - More integrated activities between school, church and parishioners - Pick up situation - Debating/presenting skills - Nothing - Too soon to know as daughter is in EYFS - Help youngest in school to help others in school (small tasks) - A rounder view on morals, not just from the Catholic perspective but from a more non-denominational background - Class dojo points returned for parents to see and tapestry to run again so we have a better understanding of what our child is doing during the day. The chance for parents to come in and enjoy lunch with their children.

Thank you for all of your helpful comments and ideas.

After School Clubs

We appreciate that many of our afterschool clubs are sport based but we do have a wide variety including dance, yoga, dodgeball and many more. There is plenty of space in our afterschool choir for any budding singers! Our main barrier here is staffing as our teachers who run after school clubs do so voluntarily. However, each teacher is asked to run a club for a term so I will feedback the request for arts and crafts clubs as I am sure that one of our staff will be able to run something in the next two terms. Last year, over the year, we had a Science Club, Lego and Heritage Club. On a positive note, Homework Club is up and running on a Monday night after school and this is free to attend.

Environmental Topics

This term in House Families we have discussed the problems facing our world and have given the children the opportunity to discuss their ideas for improving our school environment. We focussed on homelessness on World Homeless Day and were delighted with all of the essential items that the children brought in, all of which were donated to StoreHouse Melton. In the Lent (Spring) term we are welcoming Severn Trent to run workshops about our water system as well as Biffa Waste to discuss recycling. Our Active Travel campaign is going well with many children receiving badges for their improvements in actively coming to school each day!

Involvement of the Convent

We are delighted to have Sr Thomas More as a Foundation Governor on our Local Governing Board. Sr Thomas More regularly pops into school as do many of the Sisters. Three of our children are currently training to be Altar Servers with Sr Thomas More and they visit the Convent after school for lessons. If any other children would like to join in with this and serve in the parish then please contact me in school. Sr Halina is providing excellent support to Year 3 children by coming into school to read with the children at least once a week. Sr Valerie is supporting with the First Holy Communion Classes. Our Heritage project has had the Convent sisters at its heart and we warmly invite you to come and see the Heritage Play which is all about how our school came to exist in the town of Melton Mowbray.

Pick up situation

This is where we rely on you as parents to ensure that you park sensibly when coming to school to collect your child. We are not in the position to be able to provide a car park for all parents and hope that you can appreciate that the school's location is also something over which we have no control. Our Active Travel campaign encourages the children to be more active on their way into and going home from school. If you could support us by parking sensibly, perhaps a little further away from the school than usual and parking respectfully, we would be extremely grateful. I am liaising with Melton Police with regards to more regular patrols of parking near the school. If you feel you have any practical suggestions to ease the situation then please do contact me directly.

Communication

We have launched Class Dojo as a means of communicating with parents so that all classes can have their own feed. We are very much at the beginning of our journey with this and welcome any feedback that you have. Our initial concerns have been around teachers being expected to reply to each message they receive or that there is an expectation for teachers to post continuously about

what is happening in class. As you would expect, the teachers are working hard to ensure that the learning opportunities that they present the children with are of the highest quality and support the children to make excellent progress. I have asked teachers to post updates around once per week and will review this termly with regards to workload for our teachers. I have also asked teachers to set quiet hours so that they are not disturbed during the weekend or in the evenings. Thank you to everyone for respecting these. Where you have sent a message letting the teacher know something about your child, please do not expect a reply. They do read their messages but don't always have time to respond. If you have an urgent query, the first point of contact should always be the school office. Similarly, if you would like to contact me, please call the school office.

Progress Updates

We hope that you enjoyed the Parent's Open Evening in classrooms. This was an opportunity for you to come and meet your child's class teacher, to see their learning environment and books. If you would like an update on your child's progress or you have any concerns then please arrange to see or speak to the class teacher. If your child has English as an additional language be assured that they receive many different types of support in school. If you as a parent would like support, please do contact me and let me know what type of support we can provide. We would be keen to know more about how we can help families who have English as an additional language.

British Values

We promote British Values in our school which fit very well with our Catholic Ethos. A new display in our entrance foyer highlights these integral values and we discuss these regularly as part of our PSHCE curriculum, as part of House Families and in conjunction with our character strengths and virtues. As a Catholic School, our Catholic Virtues and Gospel Values are at the centre of our school curriculum and ethos. Pupils do study other religions as well as Catholicism. This term each class has been learning about Judaism.