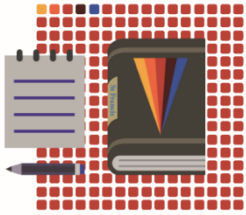


St Francis News

14th February



Catholic Life and Mission

There is a strong culture of prayer in school and it's great to see how the children are developing in their leading of liturgy. Please do join us for Key Stage liturgies, Masses and for Mass in the Convent on a Friday. Mr Orzech has been running a singing liturgy group on two breaktimes a week. It is wonderful to hear the children singing joyfully in the school.



Our lunchtime prayer club, led by our Chaplaincy Team, is increasingly popular and children enjoy spending the last 15 minutes of lunchtime in prayer and reflection.

CAFOD Thursday 2nd April – MOVE 'LENT'

Pray Give

This Lent, schools in England and Wales are holding fun football fundraisers to help the people of the Amazon.

At St Francis, each class will be doing a football obstacle course around coins!

We are asking the children to collect at least £1 in copper and silver coins, so that we can use them on the day to help create our football obstacle course. The coins can either be a simple donation or in exchange for little jobs around the home. Pupils can bring any coins into school and put them into the class collection container between now and 1st April.



Lord,
may my support bring hope to people
who are in difficulty around the world.
May they know that you are with them
and that they have sisters and brothers
who care for them.
Amen

Mission Money Challenge

Don't forget to send any loose change in to the mission money boxes. The children love the chance to put money in the boxes and we are starting to see our contributions add up! So far, in the last two weeks, we have raised £21.73 for CAFOD and we have a target of £500 by Easter. Year 4 (CS) raised a total of £12.50 in the last week alone! Well done and thank you for your contributions. We will be holding some 'Football Fundraising' in the second half of the Lent Term which will hopefully help us to reach our total. See the letter from Mrs Eaves for more information.

Reading

Reading is such a vital life skill and research shows that reading with your child for just 20 minutes a day strengthens children's language and literacy skills. I have been monitoring reading records and have noticed that some children need to read at home more regularly. Our early morning reading club is becoming more and more popular and we have two members of staff on hand to hear children read. We have decided to continue providing the early morning reading club beyond this term so that more of our children can read each day with a member of staff. If you would like your child to come to

reading club, the doors open at 8.15am. After this time, access if through the school office. However, nothing replaces the benefits of hearing your own child read and reading aloud to your child. Please see the link below for more information.

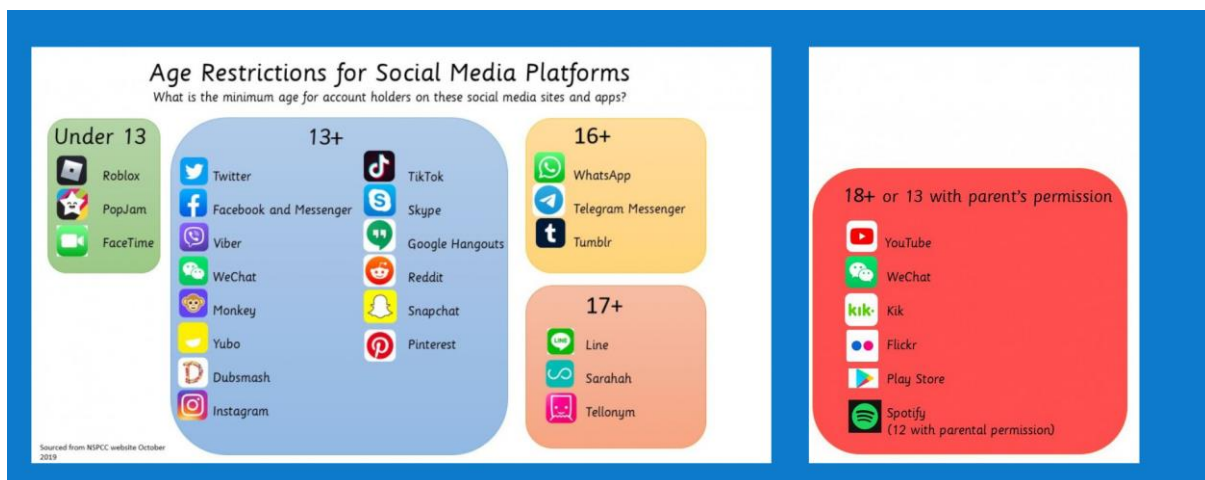
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/>

World Book Day

Don't forget World Book Day on Thursday 6th March. Children are invited to dress up as a word. If you search for 'world book day word costumes' online, there are plenty of easy to make at home ideas.

Internet Safety

Internet safety is embedded in our curriculum and this week classes have explored aspects of e-safety in their learning in class. Children have taken part in activities to learn about how to stay safe online and how to use a smart phone responsibly. A lot of our children have been talking about social media apps they use and I thought it would be useful to share the age restrictions of many of the popular apps. Making sure children are accessing age appropriate content is important as part of our role to educate children to become responsible internet users.



Sky Dance Theatre Success!

I would like to thank the children, parents and teachers for their support it making the Sky Dance Theatre Challenge a success. I thoroughly enjoyed the performances of all of the children involved and felt that our children's performance was spectacular. A lot of hard work goes into organising such events and I would like to particularly thank Miss Wolfe, Mrs Eaves and Mrs Evans for their generosity

with their time. We won certificates for 'Best Hair', 'Best Makeup' and a surprise additional award for 'Best Costumes'. I think that tells us that the children all looked fabulous!

World Thinking Day

World Thinking Day is a celebration of ten million girls worldwide that has taken place on every February since 1926. It remains a day for all Guides and Girl Scouts to think of each other and celebrate their sisters all around the world. We warmly invite any children in school who are part of a scouting group (boys and girls) to come in to school in their scouting uniform on Monday 24th February to celebrate their belonging to the group.

Contact Details

Please remember to inform the office if your contact details change. We need to hold at least two sets of emergency contact details for each child in case of emergency. We have noticed that some mobile numbers have changed when we have been trying to contact parents recently so please do let us know if you have an updated number.

PTA

If you would like to join the PTA, we are always on the lookout for members or volunteers. Please contact Mary Atterbury on 07939300767 if you can offer help.

Have a wonderful half term break.

GBrown

Gosia Brown- Head Teacher

Monday 17 th -Friday 21 st February	Half Term Break
Monday 24 th February	School Opens
Wednesday 26 th February	9.05am Ash Wednesday Mass in hall.
Thursday 27 th February	Y4 Key Stage Liturgy @9am
Friday 28 th February	Y3 to Mass in Convent @9.30am Y2 Attending KS1 Cross Country
Saturday 29 th February	Area Cross Country
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day- dress as a word- vocabulary parade. EYFS KS Liturgy @9am

Friday 6 th March	Y6 to Mass in Convent @9.30am
Week Beginning 9 th March	British Science Week-activities in school
Thursday 12 th March	Y4 (BC) Key Stage Liturgy
Friday 13 th March	Y5/6 to Mass in Convent @9.30am
Thursday 19 th March	Y3 KS Liturgy @9am
Friday 20 th March	Y4 to Mass in Convent @9.30am
Friday 27 th March	Y2 to Mass in Convent @9.30am
Saturday 28 th March	Swimarathon
Monday 30 th March	Jerusalem Joy @2pm Y3/4 (school hall) Confessions with Fr Tom (KS2)
Tuesday 31 st March	Confessions with Fr Tom (KS2)
Wednesday 1 st April	Jerusalem Joy @2pm Y3/4 (school hall)
Friday 3 rd April	End of Term