

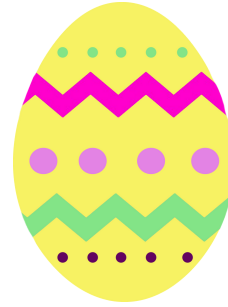
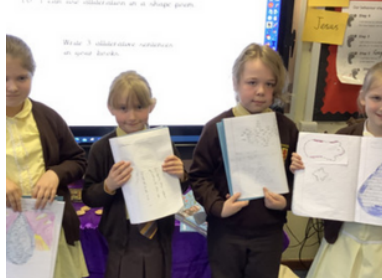


Easter 2022

ST FRANCIS NEWS



Easter Newsletter



Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of another term, I write to thank you for your tremendous support this term, particularly in the aspect of fundraising for both the school and for charities. I have always been overwhelmed with the generosity of spirit within our school community when it comes to charitable giving. We have raised some incredible amounts and I cannot wait to share the final figures with you soon. Huge praise to the children too for coming up with fabulous ideas for fundraising and nominating charities which reflect their empathy and compassion towards those in need.

You will be aware that the final term sees the children's incredible work come to fruition with the end of Key Stage Assessment tests. Again, we thank you for your support with these assessments. We try to make the experience of testing as positive as possible for the children and remind them often that they are so much more than the results of any assessment or test! A reminder that there are lots of resources to support you as parents on our school website.

It would be wonderful to see some of our families at Mass over the Easter period and I urge to read the parish newsletter this week for mass times and updates. Easter is a time for renewal and a time for us to see with fresh eyes the presence of God's glory in our world. Wishing you and your families a very happy Easter.

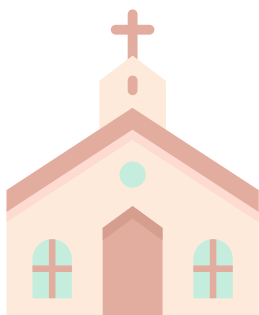
God Bless,
Mrs Brown



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MASS IN THE CONVENT CHAPEL

From after half term, we will resume our much missed visits to Mass at the Convent chapel on a Friday. These will be on a rota so that all classes can attend at some point. We thank the sisters for extending an invitation for us to join them back at weekly mass and invite parents to attend also. If you have never attended, the Convent chapel is a beautiful, quiet and reflective space. Mass will be on a Friday at 10.30am.

ASPIRATIONS WEEK

During the week of the 23rd May, we will be holding a whole school aspirations week. The Melton Mowbray Building Society will be delivering workshops about keeping money safe, money choices and spending and saving.

We have lots of other activities being planned to support children in exploring different job roles.

Please don't forget to sign up to support us with this and speak to our children about your job and career. The google form to complete is linked below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6X6A372YaE24KJDknNKQ_a7_DHi6MzhEgtomW3cjK9lUOUlCQ09EVDNHNEExIM0VMOUJHUU1KMtIFRC4u



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STAFFING UPDATE

We said a fond farewell to Mrs Woch this term as she embarks on new adventures, travelling the world and spending time with her family. Mrs Woch has been a member of staff at St Francis for 18 years, working across the school as a teaching assistant and Higher Level Teaching Assistant. We thank her for her generous service to the school.

PTA

A huge thank you to our PTA for their fundraising efforts this term. Despite a challenging year with regards to COVID, the team have managed to successfully organise a couple of events. The children have enjoyed two discos and the mother's day gifts went down a treat. Twos Day was an incredible opportunity for children to get involved personally in fundraising and we saw some incredible contributions. Joining the PTA is an excellent way to get involved in the life of the school and your contribution can be small or large. It was great to see new members get involved for the pop up event! We hope to see more parents, grandparents and carers getting involved soon.

Contact the PTA on
stfrancisschoolpta@outlook.com

ACHIEVEMENTS

We love to celebrate all of the things that our children do both in and outside of school. If your child takes part in something outside of school and you would like to share this with us then please share via Dojo or they can bring in any certificates or medals to be shared in our Friday celebration assembly!



PARENT COFFEE MORNING

Come and join us on Friday 6th May for an informal coffee morning after the 9am Celebration Liturgy in the hall. The Melton Mowbray Building Society will also be present so that you can discuss opening savings accounts for your child. This is also a chance to ask questions of the school leadership team and discuss any general school related issues.



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SEND PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

As a school we know that having a child with special educational needs and disabilities can be challenging and especially worrying for a parent/carer. Mrs Griffiths is our special educational needs co-ordinator and she has hosted a SEND support coffee morning this term. Going forward, we would like to begin a SEND support group for parents with Mrs Griffiths attending on alternate weeks. Two parents have stepped forward to run this. This will take place on Wednesdays in the school library. Please see the dates at the end of the newsletter and add these to your diary.



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OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT IN SCHOOL- BUILDING CULTURAL CAPITAL

We recognise that for pupils to aspire and be successful academically and in the wider areas of their lives, they need to be given rich and sustained opportunities to develop their cultural capital. At St Francis we have identified six key areas of development that are interrelated and cumulatively contribute to the sum of a pupil's cultural capital:

1. Personal Development
2. Social Development, including political and current affairs awareness
3. Physical Development
4. Spiritual Development
5. Moral Development
6. Cultural Development

In school we plan for a range of activities to support each strand of Cultural Capital. We will be updating you about these in our future newsletters. Our Lenten fundraising was a great example of this- giving the children ownership of fundraising for a charity and recognising the importance of giving to others who are less fortunate. We had some really enterprising ideas!

Each week the children have had the chance to listen to music from a different genre. The children have really enjoyed this.

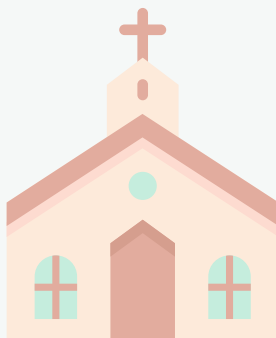
We have enjoyed hearing each class learn and recite a poem off by heart this term. Next Term, we will be asking each class to read a book linked to inclusivity and share a recommendation in the liturgy.



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PARISH NEWS

We are pleased to see that Fr Tom is back celebrating Mass in the parish following his recent illness. I have added some information from the parish with regards to services of reconciliation during Lent. Please also see the parish newsletter which I will begin to send out on Dojo each week.

QUICK GLANCE FOR EASTER ARRANGEMENTS

Thursday 14th	10am	St John's	Mass followed by confessions 10.30-11
	7pm	St Francis	Maundy Thursday Mass
Friday 15th	10am	St John's	Stations of the Cross followed by meeting in the market square at 11am
	3pm	St John's	Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord
	7pm	St John's	Stations of the Cross and Veneration of the Cross
Saturday 16th	10-11am	St John's	Confessions
	7pm	St John's	Easter Vigil
Sunday 17th	9am	St John's	Mass
	10.30am	St Francis	Mass



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Miss Hall's Class- Fundraising to save lives!

Miss Hall's Year 1&2 class are raising money for Meningitis Now by wearing orange.

Meningitis Now is the UK's largest meningitis charity, offering support, funding research, and raising awareness. Their vision is a future where no one in the UK loses their life to meningitis and everyone affected gets the support they need to rebuild their lives.



Meningitis is an inflammation of the lining around your brain and spinal cord. It can be very serious if not treated quickly. Symptoms include being sick, a headache, a stiff neck, and a dislike of bright lights. You may sometimes get a rash. If this happens, you should seek medical help straight away.



Meningitis Now urgently need funds to continue their research to fund their multiple research projects across the UK, working towards eradicating meningitis.

Billy was 6 months old when he contracted meningitis after

his Mum noticed he was under the weather with a fever of 40°C. When they got to the hospital, she noticed the purple bruises covering his legs. Luckily, Billy responded to the IV antibiotics and recovered, but he was left partially deaf.

His Mum contacted Meningitis Now whilst in hospital and they provided support day and night providing company and answering any questions she had.



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Miss Curley's Class- A fund close to our hearts. Total so far... £200

Miss Curley's Year 1 & 2 class would like to raise money for Little Princess Trust.

The Little Princess Trust provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions.

Two of our class members this year have had their long hair cut shorter and donated it to Little Princess Trust so that another child could have a wig.

We would like to continue to support the charity by raising money this Lent. We are going to have a sponsored 'crazy hair day' to fundraise for this amazing, supportive charity.

Miss Vissani's class raised £162 with Mr Plumb for the Ukraine!





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This Lent, Miss Lucas' class are raising money for the Donkey Sanctuary by completing a Donkey Dawdle (a sponsored walk). The aim is to walk anywhere up to 5km, raising money to help ensure that donkeys that are used around the world to carry heavy loads over long distances are cared for and well looked after.

Donkeys are calm and intelligent creatures and are easily able to walk across difficult terrain. Donkeys used in tourist areas can sometimes be forced to carry heavy loads without rest and go without shade and water for a long time.

Our class is filled with animal lovers who want to do what is possible to help animals in need, just like St Francis.

Any money that you can donate to help our class support the donkeys would be very much appreciated.





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Miss Stapleford's Class raised money for MacMillan

This Lent, Miss Stapleford's class are raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support by taking part in a sponsored 'wear your pyjamas to school' day.



Macmillan is a very important charity, which works to support, care and raise money for people whose lives are affected by cancer and their families too.

Our class is filled with kind, compassionate children who want to do all that is possible to help everyone of God's creations, just like St Francis did. This is why they have chosen to support Macmillan Cancer Support.

Any money that you can donate to help our class support Macmillan would be very much appreciated.

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



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EYFS- Balance Bike Super Stars! £230 and still counting!

EYFS 100 mile cycle challenge for

For our Lent fundraiser, the EYFS team have completed a 100 -mile cycle challenge to raise money for the UNHCR (United Nations Refugee Agency), which works to protect and assist Refugees everywhere. It was a real team effort with parents and staff adding their miles to our total. On Tuesday 29th March all the children took turns to cycle around the playground and Filip Czata was our speediest cyclist completing a whopping 54 laps! Mrs Griffiths wasn't able to cycle to school from Nottingham as she planned to due to the weather that day but completed the distance on an indoor exercise bike instead. Lana cycled and did a bit of scootering every day to school and George's dad managed to get us up and just over our target miles. Well done everyone!



Mrs Orridge's
Class raised
£296.10 in their
sponsored
silence.





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Melton
Borough
Council

Climate change picture competition



What if instead of imagining how bad things could get, we imagined how good things could be. What if we solved climate change?

It could mean fewer cars, more green spaces, buying more local produce, bus stop gardens, cycle cities and communities coming together.

**Can you
help us?**



We want you to draw a picture to show us what you think your community should look like to help our planet.

Enter for a chance to win an eco goody bag!

One goody bag each for the Key Stage 1 and 2 winners
plus 8 runner-up prizes.

Closing date for entries is Friday 29th April 2022

Once the entrant has completed their picture, please take a photo of it and send to climatechange@melton.gov.uk or post your entry to: Climate Change Picture Competition, Melton Borough Council, Burton St, Melton Mowbray LE131GH. Remember to include the artists name, age, and your contact details so we can let you know if you win.

Terms and conditions available at www.melton.gov.uk/climate/competition or contact the council at the above address for a copy.



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April

Monday 25th April- Pentecost Term Begins
Wednesday 27th April- Mass in school hall 2.15pm
Wednesday 27th April- SEND support group meeting- 1.30-3pm
Friday 29th- No celebration Liturgy
Friday 29th- EYFS & Y6 to attend Mass at Convent at 10.30am
Friday 29th April- Young Voices Concert

May

Monday 2nd May- Year 5 Bikeability all week
Wednesday 4th May- Class Photos- Hardy's Photography
Friday 6th May- Melton Building Society visit to parent coffee morning after
Celebration Liturgy.
Friday 6th May- Y3/4 to attend Mass at Convent at 10.30am
Sunday 8th May- PTA Meeting, time TBC
Monday 9th May- Thursday 12th May- Y6 SATS Tests
Thursday 12th May- First Confessions Y3/4 & Reconciliation Service for Y3/4
Friday 13th May- Y6 Party in the Park
Friday 13th May- Y5 to attend Mass at Convent at 10.30am
Wednesday 18th May- SEND support group with Mrs Griffiths- 1.30-3pm
Friday 20th May- Y1/2 to attend Mass at Convent at 10.30am
Tuesday 24th May- Aspirations Day/Platinum Jubilee Picnic Lunch- all welcome
Friday 27th May- Dress as your future job role- £1 PTA fundraiser
Friday 27th May- EYFS to attend Convent Mass at 10.30am

Half Term

Monday 30th May- Friday 3rd June

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half Term

Monday 30th May- Friday 3rd June

June

Monday 6th June- School Opens

Wednesday 8th June- SEND support group- 1.30-3pm

Friday 10th June- Y6 to attend Convent Mass at 10.30am

Friday 17th June- PTA Father's Day Shop

Friday 17th June- Y5 to attend Convent Mass at 10.30am

Friday 24th June Y3/4 to attend Convent Mass at 10.30am

Monday 27th- Weds 29th June- Y6 Briars Residential

Wednesday 29th June- PTA Summer Disco

Wednesday 29th June SEND support group- 1.30-3pm

July

Friday 1st July Y1/2 to attend Mass at Convent Chapel

Wednesday 6th July- Leavers' Mass 2pm Chapel

Last Day of Term- Thursday 7th July