



# St Francis Catholic Primary School Newsletter

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

**Friday 8th September**

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a very busy (and warm!) first full week back with lots going on in school.

Mrs Culley was delighted to tell me that attendance has been super this week with an average attendance this year of 97.6%! Our target is 97% so we are already ahead. It would be wonderful if we could keep this up all year and beat last years figure of 95.33%.

8 Billion Ideas Club (Inventor's Club) was incorrectly labelled as a KS1 club on parent pay- we will adapt the cost for this on Monday and then children from KS2 can be signed up to this club.

Next week, on Tuesday, Hardy's photography are coming in to take individual and sibling photos. They will be in the school hall from 8.30am to take photos of children with younger siblings if desired. You can enter the school building by the side red door or through the school office. Reading club will be in the library on Tuesday.

I have popped a few advance dates in the calendar below to help you with your planning for the term. We have lots coming up, including the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September. We appreciate any donations of cake and sweet treats for this event and ask for these to be sent in on the day before at the earliest. More information about this event will follow.

Enjoy the warm weather this weekend,

Mrs Brown

## Brightening up our playground

Mrs Marsh offered a super idea last term to help brighten up our playground and allow each child to create a unique piece of art work to help with this. This idea also fits in perfectly with our school value of 'community' and this week's theme of welcome.

The idea is to create a rock snake by the side of our playground. If each child (and adult!!) would like to paint a rock and place it in a line after the head of the snake- we can see how far he can grow. We will share this idea with the children on Monday so that everyone can then add their rock to the line and see how long Frankie can get.

Thank you Mrs Marsh for this fabulous idea. Here is an example from another community.



Please feel free to get as many members of your family involved in this activity as you can.

## School Rules

We have created some refreshed school rules to make it really clear to the children what our expected and unexpected behaviours are. Here is a poster of our new rules.





# Uniform

The school uniform worn by pupils at St Francis is a very important part of the school's heritage and reflects our culture of high expectations and academic achievement.

All pupils must dress according to the uniform policy.

Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times.

We have a required school uniform for several reasons:

- Uniforms unite the school and it promotes a strong, cohesive identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life.
- Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their St Francis uniform that they will abide by the rules of the community and it promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school.
- Uniforms look professional. Pupils look neat and ready to learn.
- Uniforms make us all equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to school looking the same way.
- It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community
- Uniforms reduce distractions.

We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

Please see the link to our uniform policy.

[Microsoft Word - PE Kit Policy \(st-francis.leics.sch.uk\)](https://st-francis.leics.sch.uk)

Please remember that our pre-loved uniform shop sells items for £1 and items are free for free school meals children. Thank you to Mrs Saunby and Mrs Parker for washing and ironing

the uniforms ready for the school shop!

# Communication

Communication between home and school is important and we aim to communicate regularly with you so that we can achieve the very best for your child.

You can call or email the school during school hours if you would like to speak to a member of staff. A call back can be arranged with your child's class teacher or with Mrs Brown and the Senior Leadership Team.

Our Weekly Newsletter shares key information and key dates but Class Dojo is used to update you in between these newsletters. We try to RAG rate these messages so that you know if they are urgent or just for information. Red is important information, Amber is for things we'd advise you to read but are not urgent and Green is for information that you may find useful and is an optional read.

Direct messages can be sent to Mrs Brown or to class teachers through Class Dojo and we will respond within 48 hours. (It is usually much quicker!)

Urgent messages should be passed to the school office directly. You can speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the school day but please ensure that the class teacher has dismissed all of the children first.

Our school website is regularly updated with information. You can follow our school on Twitter and Facebook where we will share general news and celebrate good news with our community.

# Parent Forum



My first parent forum will run next week on Thursday at 2.45pm. I will be joined by Sharon Booth who is an Educational Mental Health Practitioner. Sharon will give a short presentation

to parents about children's mental health with some top tips on how parents/carers can support and promote good mental health at home.

# Universal Free School Meals

All children who attend St Francis can receive a free school meal if they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. This is different from your child being registered for free school meals as a result of any benefits received.

**If parents of children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 are in receipt of any of the benefits listed below, please also put in an application as although your child is already eligible for a free school meal due to their age, the school will also receive additional funding called pupil premium.**

**Please see the link to this handy leaflet which describes the link between free school meals and pupil premium, including how the school, and you, can benefit.**

[The Pupil Premium - Information for parents \(leicestershire.gov.uk\)](https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/pupil-premium)

If your child isn't registered for Free School Meals and you receive any of the following benefits, your child may be able to get free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

**Applications can be made directly through the parent portal.**

[Synergy - Enquiry \(servelec-synergy.com\)](https://www.servelec-synergy.com)

# Catholic Life



## Mass

Today, we held a lovely celebration of Mass for the start of the school year. Thank you to all of our parents, parishioners and past teachers of St Francis who joined us for the feast of the birthday of Mary. It was lovely to see the Convent Sisters join us for Mass too. Our next school Mass will be for the Feast of St Francis and Harvest Mass on Friday 6th September. We would like to ask for donations of items which will be used to fill the shoeboxes from the Rotary Club.

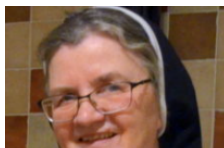
## Rotary Club Boxes

The following items are usually requested: Cars, trucks, etc, balls, complete jigsaws, action figures, colouring books, pens, crayons, yo-yo, bubble blowers, wooden and plastic toys, pencil case, pencil sharpener, dominoes, play-doh / plasticine & cutters, fluffy toys, dolls, stickers, writing pads, skipping rope, scarf, mittens / gloves, hat, harmonica, games, cards. Please begin to send these items in and we will display them for the harvest festival and then get them boxed up for the rotary club.



Our foodbank is currently full of items and we welcome any family to come into school to access the foodbank at any time. We have a variety of food and household items available.

## Sr Dorothy Paul- Parish Sister





Sr Dorothy Paul is our parish sister and works hard to make links between the school and parish. She will be regularly on the playground in the mornings having a chat with parents and families. Please have a chat with her when she is there as she loves to get to know our families.

# Local Events and Activities



**OPEN EVENING**  
WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2023



A promotional banner for an Open Evening event. It features the Catmose College logo in the top left corner, which consists of three concentric green circles. The main image shows two students, a Black woman and a white woman, both wearing white lab coats and safety goggles, working in a chemistry laboratory. They are looking at a piece of glassware. The text 'OPEN EVENING' is written in large, dark blue, sans-serif capital letters across the middle, with 'WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2023' in smaller, green, sans-serif capital letters below it.

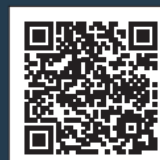
COME AND JOIN US



We are delighted to invite prospective students and their families to join us at our Open Evening on **Wednesday 4 October 2023** from **5.30 - 7.30pm**, where you will be able to experience our unique educational offer and have a guided tour of our outstanding facilities, including the new building. Staff and students will give you a flavour of College life and answer any questions you may have. Information will be available regarding extracurricular activities, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Electives, music and sport as well as classroom demonstrations in science and art. You will also have the opportunity to watch performances by our music and drama students. Our Principal, Stuart Williams, welcomes you to his presentation at 5.45pm and 6.45pm, along with our head students, there is no need to book for the presentation.

If you are unable to attend, we are offering tours with our prefects the week commencing Monday 9 October. Please email [office@catmosecollege.com](mailto:office@catmosecollege.com) if you would like to arrange this or if you have any questions. Further information can be found on our website, including the prospectus [www.catmosecollege.com/online-prospectus/](http://www.catmosecollege.com/online-prospectus/)

-  [facebook.com/catmosecollege](https://facebook.com/catmosecollege)
-  [instagram.com/catmose\\_college\\_oakham](https://instagram.com/catmose_college_oakham)





Join the Cultural Youth Forum's  
8 week **environmental art project**  
after hours in the museum.



# Young Person



Aged  
11-16?

Book via  
the QR  
code!

# Environment Project

THE PROJECT

Explore environmental issues that matter to you and create a group artwork for display in the museum. Led by **artist, Danielle Vaughan**. No prior art skills required.

DETAILS

**STARTS:** Tue 19th Sep,  
4-5:30pm

**WHERE:** Melton Carnegie Museum.

**FIND OUT MORE:**  
Email: [Bethany.Nugent@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Bethany.Nugent@leics.gov.uk)  
Call: 0116 305 1442



ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

DANIELLE VAUGHAN









# LONG FIELD SPENCER ACADEMY

Principal: Christopher Haggett BSc PGCE NPQH

Ambleside Way  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE13 0BN  
Tel: 01664 561234



Dear Parents/Carers

**The dates for the Year 5 & 6 Workshops this academic year are below. Each Workshop is from 4pm – 5pm. Please come to Reception on arrival.**

## 2023/2024

- English – Weds 13<sup>th</sup> September
- Science – Weds 11<sup>th</sup> October
- Modern Foreign Languages – Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> November
- D&T – Weds 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Computing – Weds 14<sup>th</sup> February
- Performing Arts – Weds 20<sup>th</sup> March
- PE – Weds 24<sup>th</sup> April
- Maths – Weds 8<sup>th</sup> May
- Social Sciences – Weds 19<sup>th</sup> June

Please help us spread the word to any parents of children in Years 5 & 6 please give them this e-mail address or ask them to call the school to get booked on.

Yours faithfully

Aisling Marshall & Lindsay Wilce  
Reception Team

Long Field Spencer Academy  
[help@longfield.leics.sch.uk](mailto:help@longfield.leics.sch.uk)

# Calendar



September	
Tuesday 12th September	Hardy's School Photography- Individual Photos
Thursday 14th September	2.45pm Parent Forum- all welcome-school library
Friday 15th September	AS class to Chapel for Mass- 10am

	2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
Saturday 16th September	Potential date for Welcome Fair- TBC
Friday 22nd September	JU class to mass in chapel- 10am 2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
Thursday 28th September	Phonics Meeting in Hall 3.15pm- All welcome- aimed at EYFS and KS1
Friday 29th September	Y6 Macmillan Coffee Morning EH class to mass in chapel- 10am 2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
<b>October</b>	
Friday 6th October	Feast of St Francis and Harvest Mass at 9.30am followed by tea/coffee for parents/parishioners
Week beginning 9th October	Book Fair in school
Friday 13th October	NC class to mass in chapel- 10am 2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
Half Term Break	Monday 16th to Friday 20th October
Monday 23rd October	School opens to all pupils
Friday 27th October	Y1/2 BB class to mass in chapel- 10am 2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
<b>November</b>	
Friday 3rd November	Mass in school at 9.30am
	SO class to mass in chapel- 10am

Friday 10th November	2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
Friday 17th November	School Closed to Pupils- INSET DAY
Friday 24th November	EYFS class to mass in chapel- 10am 2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
<b>December</b>	
Friday 1st December	Mass in School at 9.15am Menphys' Carol Service
Saturday and Sunday 2nd/3rd December	Parish Wreath Festival and other parish events- look out for more information.
Friday 8th December	Y5/6 AS class to mass in chapel- 10am 2.40pm Celebration Liturgy
Tuesday 12th December	EYFS Nativity 2pm
Thursday 14th December	Year ½ Nativity- 2pm
Friday 15th December	Christmas Fair 3.15pm
Tuesday 19th December	Year ¾ Carol Concert
Thursday 21st December	Y5/6 Carols by Candlelight- TBC
Friday 22nd December	Last Day of Term- Christmas Jumper Day