

St. Francis' Catholic Primary Newsletter



Issue 1 22nd October 2021

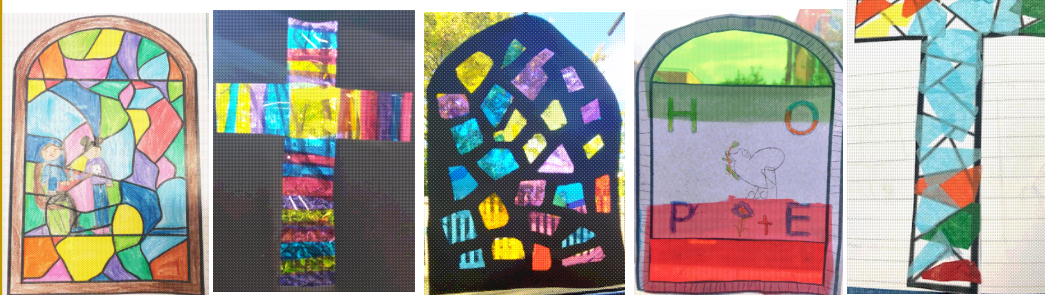
Feast of St Francis



To celebrate the feast of St Francis this year and in keeping with the message of Pope Francis where he urges each one of us to "Listen to the cry of the earth, and the cry of the poor," we have explored the virtues of our patron saint. During the week, the children spent time exploring their own virtues and how they could try to be more like

Francis; becoming instruments of compassion, of gratitude, of forgiveness; of love.

The week's activities began with the celebration of the Mass in honour of St Francis. While pupils from years 2 to 6 celebrated the Eucharist in the church, the Reception and Year 1 children celebrated the feast day in school with our Parish Priest. Beautiful designs of stained glass windows along with intricate colouring of pictures of St Francis, gave every child the opportunity to explore their artistic talents. Children were also challenged to write a new verse, demonstrating their given virtues, to the well-known hymn of St Francis-Make me an instrument of your peace. As a school, we truly feel honoured to be a part of the legacy of such a wonderful, caring man as we live out our mission through Peace, Love and Knowledge.



Important Dates

22nd October 2021

Last day of half term

1st November 2021

First day of half term

All Saints Day Mass

9th & 10th November

2021

Parents' Conference
Meetings for years 1—6

Week Beginning

15th November 2021

Anti-bullying Week

6th December 2021

EYFS Parents' Conference
Meetings
(school closed to EYFS)

8th December 2021

Panto Years 1—3

10th December 2021





Panto Years 4—6

School Council 2021-2022

We are pleased to announce the school council members for this academic year. The school council is a very important part of who we are at St. Francis'. Our school council members are selected by the children in their classes to represent them and share their views and ideas. They will make important decisions on behalf of the entire pupil community and will take part in various projects to improve the learning, development and well-being of our school.



The Zones of Regulation

Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
			
Sick Sad Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Good to Go Focused Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Anxious Excited	Mad/Angry Mean Yelling/Hitting Out of Control I Need Time and Space

This term we are introducing a programme called the Zones of Regulation. The Zones of Regulation uses four colours to help children self-identify how they're feeling and categorise it based on colour.

It helps children better understand their emotions, sensory needs, and thinking patterns. They learn different strategies to help them cope and manage their emotions based on which colour zone they are in.

"Zones of regulation is a system to help you get ready for learning. The zones can help you calm down when you feel angry or anxious." **GM, 3A**

"I am in the yellow zone. To move to green zone, I have to relax and take some time off to calm my mind." **KG, Y4**

"I'm very happy in the green zone. I work very hard."
AB, RED

"I can move to the green zone by reading or listening music." **M-C J 5R.**

Going for Gold

To all pupils who have been on Gold since
2nd September 2021

Well done!

Mini Vinnies

The Mini Vinnies here at St Francis', are children who are encouraged to embark on their first steps as possible 'Vincentians for life', where they put their faith into action. Members of the Mini Vinnies give support to the homeless, the elderly and disadvantaged or disabled children and young people in our community. Our mini SVPs are hoping to do lots of wonderful things for the rest of the year - one of which is to create a flower garden as they follow the words of Pope Francis and 'listen to the cry of the earth'.



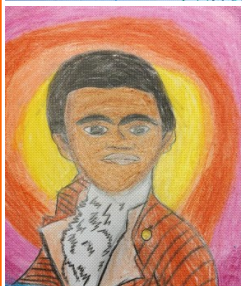
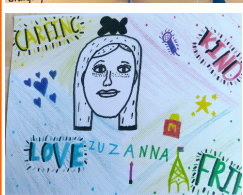
Attendance for the this half term:

Gold: **6G** 99%

Silver: **4J** 98.1%

Bronze: **5R** 97.2%

Attendance must be 100% because any absence affects children's learning and the more they miss the harder it will be for them to catch up.



Black London

Black History Month is always a big celebration and focus for us at St Francis' Catholic Primary School. This year our theme is 'Black London.' Our city is one of the most amazing, historical and culturally diverse on the planet. Many people would assume that there have only been black communities in London since the end of the Second World War and the arrival of the Windrush. But there have been black communities in London for over a thousand years, stretching right back to Roman Britain.

Black History topics have also tended to focus on American Civil Rights and the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa. These are vitally important, worthwhile and interesting topics. However, there is so much Black History right here in our capital city which is often ignored. This year, the children of St Francis' are exploring themes close to home and will realise that there is Black History all around them. Children also emulated the artwork of young up and coming black artists based in London and performed a dub track, an authentically London music style that grew out of reggae in the 1960s and 70s.

