



ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Recognising Christ in Everyone'

Head Teacher – Mrs Miccoli

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Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

Class 2 trip to The Lookout Discovery Centre

As part of our Science learning Class Two visited the Lookout on Wednesday 25th February 2026. We had a very interesting workshop on Light and Sound, with lots of experiments to show us how they travel. The sun shone for us which meant we could get out into the forest and build dens as part of our Structures unit in Design and Technology learning.



Visit from Slough Gurdwara

Class Three children were fortunate to receive a special visit from a representative of Slough Gurdwara as part of their multicultural RE learning.

Ms Kaur shared a range of objects that are sacred within the Sikh faith and demonstrated acts of worship and devotion, helping the children to deepen their understanding in a meaningful and engaging way.

The children participated with enthusiasm and respect, asking thoughtful and insightful questions that showed great maturity and a genuine interest in learning about different beliefs and traditions.



Class 1 – Bracknell Foodbank Collection

As part of our Catholic Social Teaching, Class One children are focusing on the theme of Distributive Justice (sharing fairly). During this time of Lent, and in the spirit of Almsgiving, Class One are organising a collection for Bracknell Food Bank.

Please could all donations be brought to school (and dropped off in the gazebo) on the morning of **Tuesday, 24th March**.

All donations gratefully received. The food bank is especially in need of:

- **Food:** UHT milk, fruit juice/squash, tinned meat (hot/cold), tinned fruit/vegetables, pasta sauce, and cereal.
- **Toiletries:** Shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, and shaving gel.
- **Other:** Nappies, baby wipes, and toilet paper.

St Michael's Girls Football Tournament

On Monday, 2nd of March, St Francis sent two teams to take part in the St Michaels' Year 5/6 Girls Football Tournament at Ascot United. During this round-robin format, each team played eight fixtures against local schools.

Both teams performed extremely well, winning matches, with one progressing to the semi-final stage where they, unfortunately, were narrowly defeated. However, they won their next fixture, ensuring an impressive third-place finish.

As well as shining on the pitch, all the girls displayed excellent behaviour and sportsmanship. We would like to extend our gratitude to Mrs Van Bommel and Mr Haydon for managing the teams so brilliantly.



RHS School Gardening Award

Reception class have been awarded the RHS School Gardening Award level 1! They have been rewarded with seeds to plant and a certificate which sits proudly in our class. Staff also received a gardening book on Well Being.

We had to prove that we understand the 'benefits of gardening, that we have an accessible growing space and that we garden'- all of which fits into our Nature Based Pedagogy. Every week we have Wildlife Wednesday where we learn about wildlife and the environment.

Children respond so positively to being outside and developing a respect for nature.

They planted bulbs in the Autumn which are now in full Spring bloom and making the outdoor area look wonderful. The outdoor area is used throughout the year for planting and growing, including edibles! The children are encouraged to slow down and notice small changes across the seasons and recognise and name trees, birds, and other wildlife. The children can use vocabulary in context such as knowing 'habitats' for different creatures. Children are

taught about how the outdoors can support them to self-regulate too with calm quiet places and herbs to smell.

We regularly visit the school pond and have enjoyed watching it change from being empty in the Winter to now excitedly seeing it full of water ready for Spring having seen sleepy newts and queen bumblebees under the logs!

We are currently now planning how to submit for level 2. For this the children have to put forward their ideas for improving our wildlife areas so are thinking about the pond area and with the move to our temporary classrooms soon how we can create an outdoor area on the field.

Class Five Recorder Lessons

This term, Class Five began learning the recorder for the first time. The children learned how to look after the instrument, hold it properly, and make a clear, gentle sound. A big focus has been listening carefully to our own playing and using self-assessment to fix squeaks by checking our breath, posture, and finger placement.

They enjoyed a multi-sensory learning experience, using movement, rhythm games, and lots of fun songs to help us play confidently. These songs supported our steady breathing, smooth fingering, and sense of beat. The children also continued building their music-reading skills by learning crotchets (ta) and quavers (titi).



Mother's Day Breakfast

Thank you to all who attended today and supported Class Four's Lenten Enterprise - Mothers' Day Café. Our school choir sang beautifully at the event.



Class Three trip to Reading Museum

On Wednesday 4th March, Class Three explored the fascinating story of the Anglo-Saxons as part of their History and Art topic for this term.

To enrich their learning, the children discovered the full story and many interesting facts about one of the most famous pieces of medieval art – the Bayeux Tapestry. They also learned how the tapestry tells the legendary story of the Norman Conquest of England, when William the Conqueror invaded and defeated King Harold Godwinson. To bring history to life, the children also took part in drama and dressing-up activities, which they thoroughly enjoyed.



Portsmouth Cathedral

Our Junior Leadership Team represented our school at a mass in Portsmouth Cathedral this week. Aoife read beautifully and the children were a credit to the school.



Uniform -Brown Trousers

School leaders and Governors have spent time discussing our school uniform, especially our brown trousers as we are mindful that they are difficult to source. We even contemplated a move to black or grey trousers but the history and tradition behind our brown uniform is too strong and important to us as a school, that this was quickly squashed.

Our office staff have spent time researching providers and following on from their research, the best providers for brown trousers that they could find were:

[George Asda](#) - £11 (pack of 2)

[Amazon](#) - £10-£18

We have looked at alternative suppliers to PMG and have not found anywhere that is currently more competitive. We do aim to hold more regular pre-loved uniform sales to also help. Any assistance supporting this would be gratefully appreciated.

STEPS

The STEPS (Sorry, Thank You, Excuse me, Please and Smile) Award is given for wonderful manners shown around school to both staff, peers, and visitors. Please see below a picture of our children who received their awards recently.



TenTen

TenTen resources are used by us to enrich our Catholic faith and mission statement in our school. They are particularly useful for our Celebration of the Word and Collective Worship assemblies.

The parent newsletter is a lovely way of sharing this with you.

Please find below a link to the TenTen newsletter below:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/parent-newsletter/>

Also, please click [here](#) to view our parish website of Christ the King.

Absences Add Up

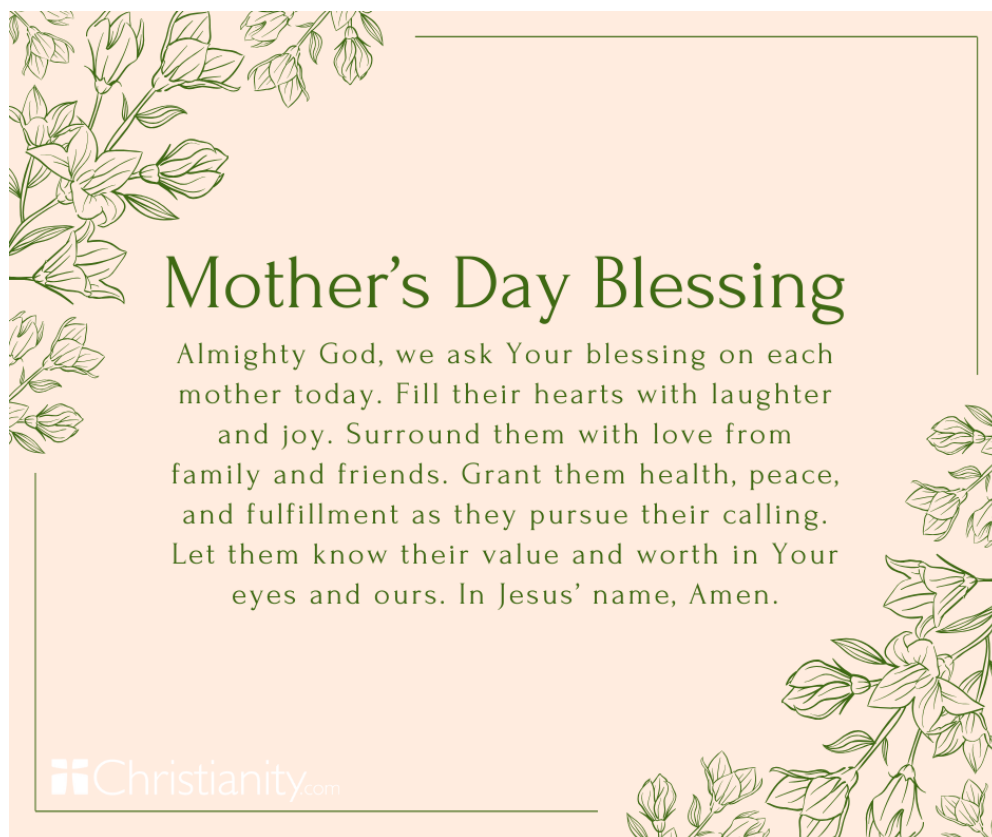
We want all children to attend and enjoy school. 98% means outstanding attendance. Good attendance is 96%, which is the minimum we would expect. Missing two days a month means a child misses 10% of the school year.



| Attendance | % |
|-----------------|------|
| Reception Class | 97.3 |
| Class 1 | 98.0 |
| Class 2 | 96.5 |
| Class 3 | 97.6 |
| Class 4 | 96.7 |
| Class 5 | 94.2 |
| Class 6 | 95.9 |
| School Average | 96.5 |

Attend today, achieve tomorrow. Be part of our 98 Club.

Reflection



Have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Miccoli & the St Francis Team

Attachments:

- RBWM SCITT flyer
- Spring Ascot Racecourse Day Flyer



LENTEN ENTERPRISES

| DATE | Project | Amount Raised |
|--|--|----------------|
| Reception Wednesday 4th March | Pretzel Project Reception Class will be selling the goods they make during this project to their families after school. | £86.20 |
| Class One Friday 6th March | Photo Frames Class One children are inviting their parents to purchase their original handmade photo frames that contain a picture of their child. | £156.00 |
| Class Two Friday 27th February | Bookmarks Class Two children invite their parents to purchase their unique handmade bookmarks. | £186.50 |
| Class Three Friday 27th February | Prayer Stones Class Three will be selling these to their families after school and to the school during the day. | £52.50 |
| Class Four Friday 13th March | Mother's Day Breakfast So called as the event is near to Mother's Day. All our school community are warmly invited for a continental breakfast 9am -10am in our school hall. | £151.55 |
| Class Five Friday 20th March | St Francis Friendship Bracelets Class Five are making St Francis themed Friendship bracelets, to share with our whole school community. | |
| Class Six Thursday 26th March | Class 6 Enterprise Stalls Class Six put their entrepreneurial skills to the test during the day by running their stalls to the whole school. | |
| | TOTAL | £632.75 |



**St Francis Catholic Primary School
Spring Term 2026**

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| March | |
| Tuesday 17 th | Parent's Evening 16:00 -19:00 |
| Wednesday 18 th | Ascot Bake Off Final |
| Thursday 19 th | Parent's Evening 16:00 -19:00 |
| Friday 20 th | Class 5 Friendship Bracelets |
| Thursday 26 th | Easter Bonnet Parade – EYFS & KS1 |
| Thursday 26 th | Class 6 Enterprise Stalls to whole school (am) |
| Thursday 26th | Last day of Term - 13:30 finish |
| Friday 27 th | INSET – Mother Teresa Catholic Academy Trust Day |
| April 2026 | |
| Monday 13 th | INSET Day |
| Tuesday 14th | School Opens for all children 08:40 |

