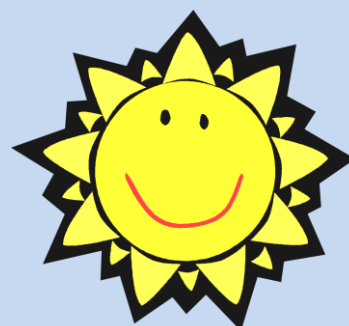
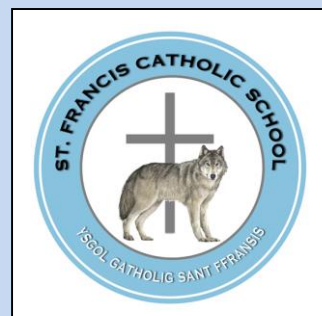


# St Francis Catholic Primary School

## AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER 2021

Welcome back to you all after the summer break. It is lovely to see the children all looking so smart in their new uniforms and shoes. A special welcome to our new pupils who are joining us for the first time this term; we hope that your time at St Francis will be a very happy and productive one. The staff and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who gave such kind gifts and cards at the end of last term, it was very generous of you and much appreciated. We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Mrs Thomas who will be teaching Dosbarth Skomer and to Miss Phillips who will be with us for this term to provide additional support for pupils in all classes. We also welcome Mrs Bowen back from her maternity leave. Mrs Bowen and Miss Gallagher will both assume the shared role of Acting Deputy Headteacher for this year.



### COVID Arrangements

Although restrictions are beginning to ease, we are still obliged to take reasonable measures to protect staff, learners and others from COVID-19 within our setting. We will continue with our focus on hand hygiene, both sanitising and washing hands regularly. We would also ask that face coverings are worn when entering the school site and that you continue to social distance. We are reminded by our latest Welsh Government guidance that our one-way system at the front of school should also remain in operation. Therefore, please ensure that you follow the yellow arrows indicating the direction of pedestrians. We would kindly ask that at the KS2 door parents of Skomer Class pupils stand in the area adjacent to the door, while Ramsey Class parents stand further back on the playground, but where the class teacher can still see you to dismiss your child. In Foundation Phase we ask that you practise social distancing and arrive just before collection time and depart promptly. The cases in Pembrokeshire are still quite high and we are judged to be in the 'moderate' risk category. Thank you for helping to keep our school site safe.

### MEET THE TEACHER EVENINGS

There will be the opportunity to meet your child's teacher in the school hall and receive information about the curriculum content for this term next week. Please see dates and times below:

Starfish Class – Tues 7<sup>th</sup> September – 3.30pm – in classroom

Dolphin Class – Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Sept – 4pm – in school hall

Puffin Class – Weds 8<sup>th</sup> Sept – 3.30pm – in school hall

Skomer Class – Weds 8<sup>th</sup> Sept – 4pm – in school hall

Ramsey Class – Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Sept – 3.30pm – in school hall

Teachers will be explaining the classroom routines and timetable and will be available to answer any queries that you may have regarding your child's new class. There will be lots of useful information to take on board and we hope as many of you as possible can attend. Please could you wear a face-covering to enter the school building.



## ATTENDANCE

The monitoring of attendance is back to normal now and there is the expectation that all pupils attend school daily, unless they are ill. This will be closely monitored by County Hall staff as it has been in the past and parents whose children are persistently absent will be visited by the Educational Welfare Officer. We have set a whole school target of 95% this year which we are keen to achieve.

***This year's Attendance Ambassadors are Eva Bower and Celina-Akeelah Greene-Rayside who both had the highest attendance last year.***

## First Holy Communion

Fr Paul has confirmed that this will go ahead on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September. The pupils will receive their first confession prior to this. The Church still has restrictions in place and therefore only one bench will be allocated to each family. Further details will be sent home when received from Fr Paul.

## ***Catholic Virtues***

Our new virtues for this half-term will be '**Learned and Wise**'.

The children will be learning what it means to be **learned**, finding God in all things; and **wise** in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

The children will have the opportunity to explore these virtues through our weekly whole school and class collective worship assemblies.

*At that time Jesus said  
"I praise you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and  
earth, because you  
have hidden these  
things from the learned  
and wise, and revealed  
them to little children."  
Matthew 11:25*

## ***MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING***

We have once again decided to support this very worthy cause and would like your help in raising as much as we can to help. We intend to hold a coffee morning on the 24<sup>th</sup> September. Please see the weekly newsletter nearer the time for more information as this year arrangements will be different to normal.



## ***REMINDERS***

- ❖ Homework diaries are needed every day in KS2; reading records and books in Foundation Phase.
- ❖ School will be closed for our annual diocesan INSET day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.
- ❖ Please label school uniform clearly with your child's name.
- ❖ Dolphin Class - Please dress up as an 'everyday superhero' on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

## ***SCHOOL UNIFORM***

Pupils may wear summer uniform until the half-term break, after which they must return in winter uniform. Pupils should also be wearing the school PE uniform which can be bought in Granby's. On swimming days pupils in Y2 -6 are able to wear the school PE

## ***Change of address***

***Please could you notify Mrs Thomas in the school office of any changes to home address or contact details. It is very important that we keep our records up to date in case we need to contact you in an emergency. Many thanks to all of you who have provided new details already.***

<p>hoody and navy-blue joggers/leggings into school. This saves on changing time at the pool and avoids the loss of school uniform. Please do not wear any non-uniform clothing into school on these days. If your child does not have the PE kit, then normal school uniform should be worn. Football shirts are not suitable for PE lessons and should not be worn.</p>	<p><b>INSET DAYS 2021-22</b></p> <p>Please note that the school will be closed for staff training on the following days:</p> <p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2021  Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021  Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021  Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2021  Monday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2022  Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022  Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022  Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022  Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022 (in lieu of Queen's Jubilee bank holiday)</p>
<p><b><i>Election of Head Girl &amp; Boy</i></b></p> <p><i>These will take place in the next couple of weeks with all prospective candidates making their presentations in assembly. These roles are open to any pupils in Y6. However, other roles of responsibility will be available in all year groups. Pupils will be invited to volunteer once they have the responsibilities explained to them. All classes will elect two members for Y Llais so that the voice of all pupils will be heard. Please could those of you who have badges at home return them to school next week – thank you.</i></p>	
<p><b><i>Clubs</i></b></p> <p><i>Breakfast Club is continuing to run on restricted numbers. We are keeping numbers to a safe level whilst trying to accommodate the needs of working parents. Many thanks for your co-operation with this and for only requesting it on days that it is actually needed. This allows more parents to access this support. We will recommence Friday afternoon provision from next week, but as this is not a statutory provision, numbers will be kept to a minimum. We are hoping to resume after-school activity clubs this term. We have asked pupils to think about the type of activities they would like to have access to.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS TERM</u></b></p> <p><b>SEPTEMBER</b></p> <p><i>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – individual &amp; family photographs (further details will be sent nearer the day)</i>  <i>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – Macmillan Coffee Morning – details TBC</i>  <i>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> – First Holy Communion in parish church</i></p> <p><b>OCTOBER</b></p> <p><i>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Feast Day of St Francis</i>  <i>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – INSET day/break up for half-term</i>  <i>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Oct – half-term</i></p> <p><b>DECEMBER</b></p> <p><i>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – Torch Theatre pantomime trip for Reception – Y6 - am</i>  <i>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – Advent Mass in church/break up for Christmas holidays</i></p> <p><i>Other dates will be communicated with you in the weekly newsletter as they occur throughout the term.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>And finally...</u></b></p> <p>Thank you so much for sending your children back to school in their smart new uniforms. The last two days have been an absolute pleasure; it is so nice to have them all back. Holiday birthdays were Dolphin: Travis Jay, Finley, Quinnie, Ana. All 5; Puffins: Isabelle, Ava R, Layla - all 6; Skomer: Imogen – 7; Ramsey: Eva 11, Celina-Akeelah 11, Cady 10, Maise 10. Penblwydd hapus I bawb!</p>	

