St. Francis' School Newsletter

22nd October 2026

Value of the month – Responsibility

Dear Parents/Carers

As we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, we are proud of how much there is to celebrate for our children, staff and families. The school has felt very calm and purposeful this year, and your support for what we do has been palpable. Thank you. It has been wonderful seeing so many of you at Parents' Evenings this week and to see so many parents happy with how your children are getting on. They have worked hard this term! I would like to thank all of our teachers and LSAs for the commitment and guidance they provide each day to make such a positive difference to our children, both academically and personally.

I would also like to thank you for your continued support with attendance. I know I sound like a scratched record with this but being in school every day really does matter. I appreciate your efforts in helping us maintain strong attendance across the school, particularly for those of you where this can be a struggle. We would like to help in any way we can so please let me, your teacher or Mrs McEvoy know if there is anything we can do to help towards our aim of 100% from your child.

Attendance Cup Winners this term: *St George's, St Josephine's and St Oscar Romero*

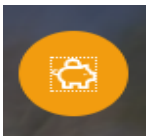
There has been plenty happening outside the classroom. Our football and netball teams have represented the school brilliantly, showing excellent teamwork and sportsmanship. We have also been delighted to see so many children taking part in the growing range of clubs on offer. I was delighted to see how chess club had to overflow into a second classroom with so many attendees! I have also been schooled on my manga/animé knowledge by some of our avid Y5/6 readers. Who knew that the black 5-leaf clover was such a thing?

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent Book Fair. It was a great success, and your support helps us continue to provide exciting reading opportunities for all of our children. Thank you also to those who made such a success of our Macmillan Coffee Morning. Events such as these, along with our Parent Prayer Meetings and other opportunities throughout the term, help to strengthen our school and they can only improve things for our children. I would also like to thank Father Seán and those of you involved with Sacred Heart parish who have welcomed us several times recently. This link is special to us and we are already looking forward to more liturgies (and cake) with the parish. We are grateful to everyone who has joined and/or supported us and we look forward to seeing even more of you at future events.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be considerate when parking around the school and to keep our local area safe. I've noticed something funny this week from the gate. We have been the only school in while Audley and Sunnydown have been on half term, and I still received 2 complaints about poor parking, which means that a few of ourselves need to please take better care of others. If this means leaving a couple of minutes earlier from home, or leaving our school area 2 minutes later, please do that and, as my mother always told us, offer it up. Please avoid kerbs, driveways and yellow lines. A five-minute wait beats a child involved in an accident, especially when there are many pushchairs and toddlers around. We would also like to remind families that the staff car park is not available for parent parking. It is reserved for staff and authorised visitors only and must remain accessible throughout the school day. We kindly ask all families to respect this arrangement and make use of the available parking in the local area instead.

A reminder for our **Year 6 families** that if you have not yet submitted your child's secondary school application, please do so as soon as possible. The closing date is **31st October**, and we strongly encourage families not to miss this important deadline.

I would like to draw your attention to our Governors' Fund where families have an opportunity to make a voluntary contribution towards the continued development of our school community. Every donation, no matter the size, is greatly appreciated and helps support the school's wider aims and aspirations. please go to out website and click [Xavier Catholic Education Trust - Donate now]



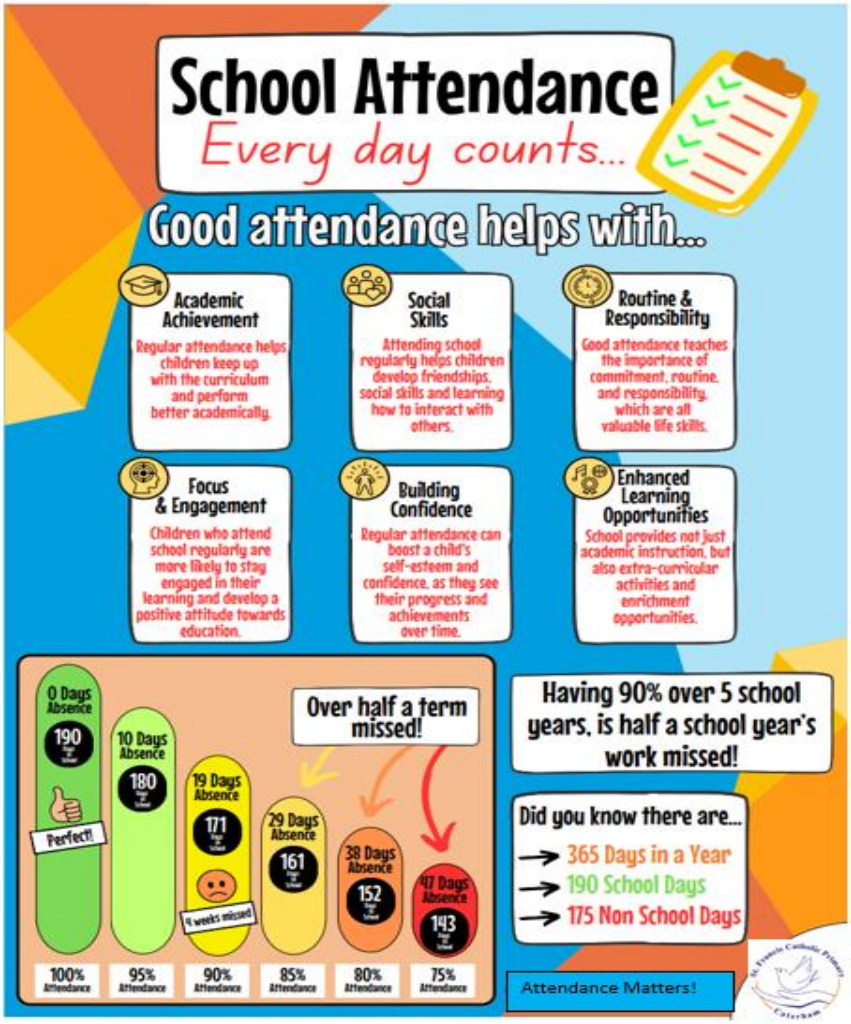
We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing generosity and support of our families . Together, we can continue to make a positive difference for all of our children.

We would like to mention **Taylor in Year 5**, who continues to enjoy success in his acting career alongside his school life at St Francis. Taylor will soon be appearing in **Black Doves Series 2** and **LEGO Friends**, both on Netflix. This is a fantastic achievement, and we know you will join us in congratulating him. We are excited to see him on screen and wish him every success as he continues to balance these exciting opportunities with being a valued member of our school.

Looking ahead, there is much to look forward to in the second half of the Autumn Term. **November and December Events Posters** are below and contain all of the key dates and exciting events planned for the remainder of the term. While we make every effort to keep dates as published, occasionally changes are necessary. Should this happen, we will communicate any updates to families as soon as possible.

We wish all of you and your families a happy and restful half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Tuesday 3rd November**.

Best wishes,
Mr Doyle



November

3rd
PTA AGM

9th
Individual
Photo Day

10th Open
Day

6th
Reception
Disco

16th
Anti-Bullying
Week

11th
Rememberance
Day - Uniformed
Groups
& Yr 2 Vist St
Luke's Church

9th -11th
Poppy Sale

16th
Careers
Week

18th
Red
Wednesday

20th
Careers Day
Parents In

18th
Yr 6 Music @
de Stafford

26th
Harvest
Celebration
& Food
bank

27th Own
Clothes Day
£1

30th
St Francis
Xavier Day
School
Closed

December

1st
Open Day
10am

1st
Advent
Reflections
KS2 3pm

2nd
Advent
Reflections
KS1 3pm

3rd
Panto

4th
Choir @
Westminster

6th
Cedat Tree
Lights
6pm

7th
Mental
health Coffee
Morning
TBC

8th & 9th
Reception
Nativity
9.15am

9th & 10th
KS1
Nativity
2.30pm

16th
Christmas Lunch &
Christmas Jumper

17th
KS2 Carol Concert
@Sacred Heart 2pm

18th
Break up @1pm