



St Francis CE Primary School & Nursery



Friday 19th December 2025

Diary Dates

Monday 1 st - Friday 5 th December	Assessment week
Wednesday 3 rd December	Advent workshops for Y1-6 led by Reverend Richard and Rachel
Thursday 4 th December	Y1 parents DT workshop> 1:15-3:00pm Christmas Fair
Monday 15 th December	Christmas Nativity Rehearsal (PM)
Tuesday 16 th December	Christmas Nativity performance at the Church from 9am Evening performance from 5pm
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas dinner day
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas carols for grandparents> *change of time* now scheduled for 9:15am
Mon 15 th - Fri 19 th	Pupil progress meetings
Friday 19 th December	Christmas jumper day Values ambassador assembly 9-9:30 Visit from Father Christmas Last Day of Term

Monday 5th January	INSET DAY – Closed to pupils
Tuesday 6th January	School re-opens to pupils for Spring term
Tuesday 6th January	Extra-curricular clubs resume for Spring term
Wednesday 7th January	Choir recommences for the Spring term Peripatetic music lessons resume for the Spring term
Thursday 15th January	Y6 SATs workshop for parent 9-10am in the hall
Thursday 15th January	Census day
Thursday 22nd January	Year 1 Phonics workshop
Thursday 22nd January	FRIENDS movie night
Friday 6th February	Year 4 Viking Workshop
Mon 9th – Fri 13th Feb	Safer Internet Week
Wednesday 11th February	Reception class assembly from 9am- Chinese New Year
Thursday 12th February	E-Safety workshop from 9am
Friday 13th February	<u>Chinese new year</u> - themed lunch
Friday 13th February	Values Ambassador Assembly 9:00-9:30 in the hall FRIENDS Friday treats Last day of half term
Monday 16th- Friday 20th February	HALF TERM- closed to pupils
Monday 23rd February	School re-opens to pupils

Head Teacher update

Dear parents and carers,

A Wonderful End to Our Autumn Term

As we reach the last day of the autumn term, we want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has helped make this week so special.

On **Tuesday**, our whole school came together at St Francis Church for a beautiful **Nativity performance**. Every child played a part—whether through singing, playing in the concert band, or acting in Year 2's wonderful retelling of the Christmas story.

On **Wednesday**, we welcomed grandparents for a joyful **Carol Concert**, led by our fantastic Year 6 narrators. The whole school joined in for a good sing-song, filling the hall with festive cheer. Later that day, we enjoyed a delicious **Christmas dinner**, lovingly prepared by our amazing kitchen team—thank you for making it such a treat!

This morning we celebrated our **Values Ambassador Assembly**, recognising one child from each class who has consistently shown our High Five values, with a special focus on this term's value of **Compassion**. Thank you to the parents who joined us for this proud moment.

Finally, we had a very special visitor—**Father Christmas**! He took time out of his busy schedule to come and see us at St Francis, bringing festive cheer to every classroom. Each child received a beautiful '**Believe**' bell as a gift from all of us here at school, reminding us of the magic and joy of Christmas. A huge thank you to Father Christmas for making this day so memorable!

As we look ahead to Christmas, we are grateful for the kindness, joy, and community spirit that shines through our school. Wishing all our families a peaceful and happy Christmas break—we look forward to seeing you in the new year!

Warm regards,

Jess Mattocks

Fioretti Trust

Dear parents & carers,

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting all schools this week – and watching a variety of amazing Nativity's and Carol / Christmas Concerts.

It's the most exhausting time of year – for all of us! But, seeing the joy of celebrating Christmas on the faces of our children, parents/carers and community members is worth all the hard work and preparation that goes into it! WELL DONE to all our brilliant children and to everyone involved!

Wishing you all a wonderful & restful Christmas break,
Miss Grainger (Head of Trust)

Trustee Updates:

We are on track to welcome St Laurence Church Infant and St Laurence Church Junior Schools next term. The schools, based on the same site in Northfield, have been working with our team for a few years and we are looking forward to officially welcoming them into the Fioretti family.

Karla Mulrain is stepping down as a trustee, due to a conflict of interest as a staff member when St Laurence Junior School officially joins our family of schools next term. Since joining the board in 2021, Karla has played an important role, and her contributions has been invaluable.

Thank you, Karla! We are delighted to welcome Lee Williams as a new trustee.

Lee brings a wealth of education expertise, from his professional life as a CEO and Executive Headteacher. Welcome to the team, Lee!



Calling all grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles

We'd love your help supporting our young readers!

If you have some time during the school week, from Year 1 upwards, come and join us to listen to children read and help build their confidence.

Your time makes a big difference!

For more details or to volunteer, please contact the school office.



Collective worship

This week in Collective Worship, we explored the theme of **Giants of Faith**—people who make a big difference in the world through kindness and compassion.

We learned about **Marcus Rashford**, a footballer who used his voice and influence to help families who needed support with free school meals. His actions remind us that caring for others is a powerful way to live out our values.

We also discovered the work of **Magic Breakfast**, an organisation that provides healthy breakfasts so children can start the day ready to learn. These examples show us that being a “giant of faith” isn’t about size or fame—it’s about using what we have to help others.

We finished by thinking about how **we** can be giants of faith in our own lives—through small acts of kindness, sharing, and looking out for those in need.

Prayer

Dear God,

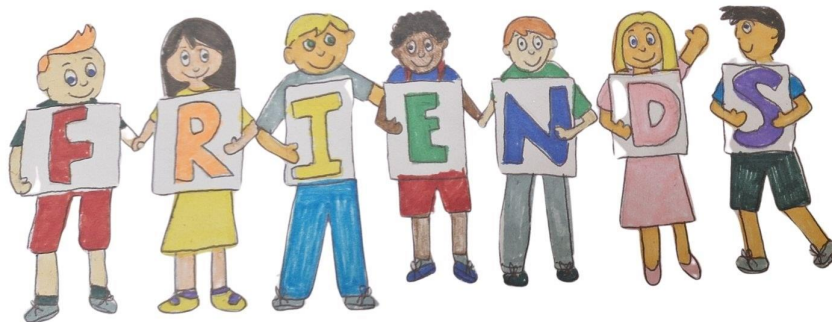
Thank You for people who use their gifts to help others, like Marcus Rashford and those who provide breakfasts for children.

Please help us to notice when someone needs kindness and give us the courage to act.

Show us how to share what we have and make a difference in our school, our homes, and our world.

Amen.

FRIENDS Update



The Friends of St Francis are delighted to share how much we have raised between September and December. Thanks to the incredible support from our school community, we raised:

Autumn Disco: £614

Cake Sales: £160

Christmas Fayre: £2,309.52

This brings our **total fundraising amount to £3,083.52.**

A huge thank you to everyone who helped organise, volunteer, donate, and attend these events — your continued support makes a real difference for our children and school.

Arbor - Parent Portal (Web based)

Access the Parent Portal via Arbor

You can now view your child's information online through our **Parent Portal**:

Click here to log in¹

The **Dashboard** is your starting point, showing a quick overview of your child's timetable, behaviour points, meals, notices, attendance, and progress.

From the homepage, you can also:

- Book **Parents' Evening** slots
- Check **attendance and behaviour statistics**
- View **account balances** for meals and top-ups
- Sign up for **clubs and trips** (trips coming soon!)
- Access the **School Shop**

Managing multiple children? Switch profiles easily via the menu or app.

Click on any item (e.g., attendance) for more details, or visit your child's **Student Profile** to update contact details, medical info, and consents.

¹<https://st-francis-church-of-england-aided-primary-school-and-nursery.uk.arbor.sc/?/guardians/home-ui/dashboard>

Celebrations



Happy Birthday to those with birthdays this week and over the holidays!



Caleb in Year 1

Bess in Nursery

James in Year 2

Esther in Nursery

Sienna in Reception

Dexter in Year 3

Arta in Year 4

Seb in Year 1

Ruby in Year 4



Nursery - Ayla

Reception - Bobbie-Rose

Year 1 - Khaleb

Year 2 - Willow

Year 3 - Isla

Year 4 - Elliott

Year 5 - Talitha

Year 6 - Harry

Attendance

Every Day Counts – Let's Make Attendance a Priority!

Together, we can achieve great attendance.



Why it matters:

Even being late by 15 minutes each day adds up to nearly two weeks of lost learning!



Top tips for parents:

- Keep bedtime and morning routines consistent.
- Book appointments outside school hours whenever possible.
- Encourage your child to enjoy school and celebrate their progress.
- Join in school events and support homework – it really helps!



Holidays:

Please remember, term-time holidays aren't allowed. Unauthorised absences can lead to fines or legal action.



Need support? We're here to help. If you're struggling with attendance, talk to us. Helpful links:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/saap • www.birmingham.iv/love

We know that winter brings its share of sniffles and colds, but being in school every day is vital for your child's learning and progress. Most minor illnesses don't need to keep children at home, and coming to school helps them stay on track.

If your child is genuinely too unwell to attend, **please let us know by phoning the school office or emailing parents.stf@fioretti.co.uk.**

Not sure if they're well enough for school? The NHS offers clear guidance on common illnesses and when children should stay home:

👉 Is my child too ill for school? – NHS²

Thank you for supporting excellent attendance – every day counts!

UK Health Security Agency **NHS**

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for **health protection in schools** or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfnc>.

SCAN ME

²<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Attendance Champions

- **Overall Winners (100% Attendance):** ☒ Year 1
- **Over 96% Attendance:** ☒ Year 4 ☒ Year 5 ☒ Nursery

Whole School Attendance:

96.8% for the academic year so far – fantastic effort!

Dojo



Dojo Winners This Week

1. Year 1
2. Year 6
3. Year 3
4. Year 5
5. Reception

6. Year 4

7. Year 2

Dojo winners this term

1. Year 5

2. Reception

3. Year 4

4. Year 6

5. Year 2

6. Year 3

7. Year 1

Top Dojo earners in each year group

Reception - Joni

Year 1 - Lily

Year 2 - Bea

Year 3 - Francessca

Year 4 - Niamh and Felix

Year 5 - Lydia

Year 6 - Josh

Overall highest in school - Niamh and Felix (451)

Things to do locally





**BIRMINGHAM
CITY
FOUNDATION**
MORE THAN FOOTBALL

Girls

Player Development Centres Expression of Interest forms

**Age groups for U8s, u10s,
u12s, u14s and u16s.**

Direct pathway into our ETC and Academy

You may have to log in via an email
address to complete the form.



THE BOURNVILLE SOCIETY



BOURNVILLE
PARISH CHURCH



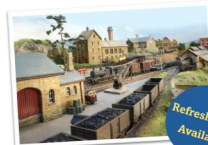
Inclusive
Church

MODEL RAILWAY SHOW

ST FRANCIS CHURCH – BOURNVILLE – B30 2AA

SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 2026

10am to 4pm



Refreshments
Available

Adults £5
Children £2.50
(5 to 16 years)
Under 5's Free



Sponsored by:

FOOTPLATE

CROSSCOUNTRY



TRAINS IN THE GARDEN

Proceeds to Cadbury No:1
Cosmetic Restoration Appeal