

St Francis CE Primary School & Nursery



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

Head Teacher update

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to start by saying how proud we are of the children for the incredible effort they have put into their recent English and Maths assessments. They have worked so hard, and we can't wait for you to see their achievements. In the coming weeks, we will be sending the assessment papers home so you can celebrate their hard work together.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the Christmas Fair yesterday—it was another wonderful occasion! Special thanks go to **FRIENDS** for their dedication in making the event happen, and in particular to our Year 5 parents for their preparation and running stalls. Every penny spent across the stalls goes straight back into school, helping us make things happen for the children.

We also want to thank all staff for attending and give a special mention to **Mr Pugh** for his hard work and ongoing liaison with FRIENDS. And of course, a big thank you to **Father Christmas**, who met so many excited children and now has a few last-minute presents to arrange!

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events coming up:

- **Spirited Arts Week** next week, where children will explore and express spirituality through a variety of art forms.
- Our **school choir** will be visiting Upton House to perform a Christmas medley for the residents—a lovely way to spread festive cheer.
- We will be in touch with **Year 1 parents** to try and rearrange this weeks postponed Shelters workshop- look out for a survey from us!

Thank you all for your continued support—it really does make a difference.

Warm regards,

Jess Mattocks

Arbor



We're pleased to let you know that the changes to booking **Fledglings** have now taken place and are **live on Arbor**. You can also purchase **school house T-shirts** through Arbor's shop.

Looking ahead to the **New Year**, we'll be migrating **school lunches and trips** to Arbor too. Our aim is to have everything in one place, rather than spread across different apps, making things simpler and more convenient for everyone.

Did you know? If apps aren't your thing, you can also access the **web version of Arbor** using the same login details – perfect for those who prefer using a computer.

Thank you for supporting this transition as we work towards streamlining our systems!

**Arbor**



FLEDGLINGS BOOKINGS

Great news!

You can now use the Arbor app to book Fledglings for both Breakfast Club and After School Club. This new system makes booking quick and easy, all in one place.

We'll be fully switching over from 30th November, giving us time to iron out any challenges before the Christmas break. Thank you for your support as we make this transition smoother for everyone!

How to Book Fledglings Clubs via the Arbor App

Step 1: Download the Arbor App

- Find it on the App Store (iOS) or Google Play Store (Android).

Step 2: Log In

- Use your existing Arbor login details.
- If you're new to Arbor, follow the on-screen instructions to set up your account.

Step 3: Select Your School

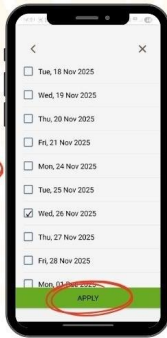
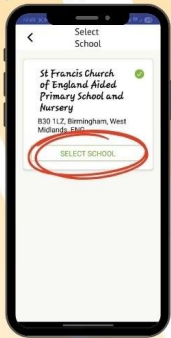
- Once logged in, choose your child's school from the list.

Step 4: Access Your Child's Profile

- Tap your child's name to open their profile.
- Here you can manage various areas (soon all features will be available).

Step 5: Book a Club

- From your child's profile, select Clubs under Activities.
- Choose Fledglings Breakfast Club or Fledglings After School Club.
- Click the green button: Register child for this club.
- Select the term and the specific days you'd like to book.



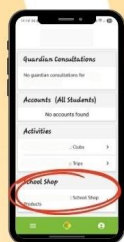
Please note:
You can only book Fledglings if you have money on your Arbor account.

"Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end." – Robin Sharma



Arbor

School
SHOP



How to Use Arbor to Purchase School Items

Step 1: Log In

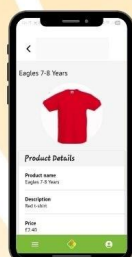
- Use your existing Arbor login details.
- If you're new to Arbor, follow the on-screen instructions to set up your account.

Step 2: Select Your School

- Once logged in, choose your child's school from the list provided.

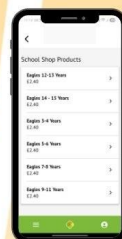
Step 3: Access Your Child's Profile

- Tap your child's name to open their profile.
- Here you can manage various areas (more features will be available soon).



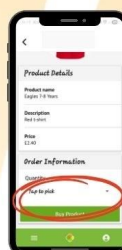
Step 4: Go to the School Shop

- Scroll down and select School Shop.
- When the page opens, you'll see the items available for purchase for your child.
- Currently, this includes school t-shirts, personalized to your child's house.



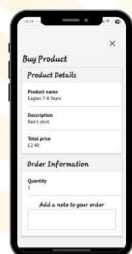
Step 5: Choose Your Item

- Select the size you would like to purchase.
- Scroll down and tap to pick the quantity you need.
- Then click Buy Product.



Step 6: Confirm and Pay

- You will then be taken to a Buy Product page that confirms the details of your order.
1. From here, you can:
 - a. Make payment via GPay or Apple Pay.
 - b. Enter your payment details manually.
 - c. Or add the item to your basket if you have other things to purchase.



IMPORTANT

You can only have one basket per child. It is not possible to combine multiple children's items into a single basket.

"Change is the end result of all true learning."
— Leo Buscaglia

Christmas Dinner - 17th December



Our much-loved **Christmas Dinner** will be served on **Wednesday, 17th December!** The festive menu is attached for you to enjoy.

Children who usually have a school dinner will automatically be included. If your child normally brings a packed lunch but would like to join the celebration, please complete [this form]¹ by **9:30 am on Friday, 12th December**.

Let's make this a wonderful festive experience for all our pupils!

¹<https://forms.office.com/e/12wWpFSesJ>

Our library needs you!



Do you have a little free time and a love for books? We're looking for volunteers to help in our school library. Your support can make a big difference in keeping the library organised and welcoming for our children.

Tasks might include:

- Shelving and tidying books
- Supporting with simple library admin

Whether you can offer an hour a week or just occasionally, we'd love to hear from you!

Please contact the school office or email **parents.stf@fioretti.co.uk** if you're interested.

Thank you for helping us keep the joy of reading alive!

Celebrations



Happy Birthday to those with birthdays this week and over half term!



Phoenix in Reception

Ava in Reception



Nursery - Jonah- for making fantastic progress since the start of term and trying really hard to do the right thing. Well done!

Reception - Tilly- For always noticing when other people need help and showing kindness to those around you.

Year 1 - Aiza- is a compassionate girl who shows kindness by helping others, noticing when friends need support, and using gentle, caring words with everyone around her.

Year 2 - Matilda- for being a kind and caring friend on the playground, always looking out for others, especially the younger children.

Year 3 - Theo- for being kind, helpful and compassionate to other children and adults around you. Well done Theo!

Year 4 - Mimi- for being a kind and compassionate member of the class and always caring for those around her.

Year 5 - Georgia - for taking the time to think of others and going the extra mile to comfort those in need.

Year 6 - Drew- for demonstrating a wonderful sense of compassion for others, especially during Opal lunchtimes.



Nursery- Sara

Reception - Sapphire

Year 1 - Thea

Year 2 - Genesis

Year 3 - Joshua

Year 4 - Willow

Year 5 - Joshua

Year 6- Kurt

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/minftec>.

SCAN ME

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



Attendance Champions

- **Overall Winners (99.2% Attendance):** ✓ Year 5
- **Over 96% Attendance:** ✓ Year 6 ✓ Year 1 ✓ Year 2 ✓ Year 4 ✓ Reception

Whole School Attendance:

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

Dojo



Dojo Winners This Week

- **1st Place:** Year 5
- **2nd Place:** Year 4
- **3rd Place:** Reception

Things to do locally



FREE SPACES IN BOURNVILLE

HOLIDAY CLUBS

WINTER HOLIDAY CLUBS

BOURNVILLE SCHOOL, B30 1SH
MONDAY 22ND-WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER
£14 PER DAY / 11AM - 3PM

FREE PLACES AVAILABLE!
FOR CHILDREN IN RECEIPT OF FREE SCHOOL MEAL (FSM CODE REQUIRED)
BOOK 'MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAY ACTIVITY & FOOD CAMP'

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.PREMIER-EDUCATION.COM/HOLIDAY-CAMPS

BOOK TODAY

WORKING WITH STREET GAMES



Premier Education

Excellent
★★★★★
★ Trustpilot