

St Francis CE Primary School & Nursery



Thursday 13th November 2025

Diary Dates

Monday 3 rd November	All pupils return to school
Friday 7 th November	Year 3 Stone age workshop
Mon 10 th - Fri 14 th November	Anti-bullying week
Monday 10 th November	Odd socks day
Sunday 9 th - 16 th November	Inter-faith week
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Service at 11am
Thursday 13 th November	Children in Need- children to wear something yellow or spotty for a donation via ParentPay Theme: 'Spot'acular!
Friday 14th November	Trust training day- school closed to all pupils
	My Happy Mind Parent workshop from 9-9:30am
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st November	Y6 Residential: Snowdonia
Wednesday 26 th November	Reception Vision Screening
Thursday 27 th November	Year 4 multiplication workshops from 9am
Friday 28 th November	Non-uniform day- chocolate donations
Monday 1 st -Friday 5 th	Assessment week
Wednesday 3 rd December	Advent workshops for Y1-6 led by Reverend Richard and Rachel
Thursday 4 th December	Christmas Fair
Friday 5 th December	Y1 parents DT workshop> 1:15-3:00pm
Friday 12 th December	Y5 parents DT workshop> 1:30-3:00pm
TBA	Height and weight checks for children in Reception and Year 6- from 9:30am
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

Head Teacher update

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a wonderfully busy and meaningful week at school, filled with opportunities for learning, reflection, and community spirit.

- **Odd Sock Day & Anti-Bullying Week:** Thank you to everyone who joined in to celebrate individuality and raise awareness for anti-bullying. The colourful socks were a fantastic reminder that it's great to be different! This year's theme for Anti-Bullying

Week is '*Power for Good*'. In our collective worship on Monday, children were encouraged to think about the good they can do every day—through their words, actions, and even their thoughts.

- **Remembrance Day:** Our pupils showed great respect during our remembrance activities, taking time to reflect on the sacrifices made for peace. It was a moving moment for our school community.
- **Inter Faith Week:** Children have enjoyed exploring and celebrating the rich diversity of beliefs and traditions. In their R.E. lessons, pupils focused on the Christian teaching of the '*Golden Rule*'—"treat others as you would like to be treated"—and discovered similar teachings across other world religions. They will now create artwork depicting these 'Golden Rules' being demonstrated in everyday life, which we look forward to sharing with you soon.
- **Children in Need:** This morning, we held an energy-fuelled assembly led by Mr Pugh, who worked some of our Year 6 pupils very hard in aid of this wonderful cause! It was fantastic to see the enthusiasm and teamwork on display. Donations can still be made via **ParentPay**, so please do contribute if you are able—every penny makes a difference.

As we are closed tomorrow for our Trust training day, we won't be seeing the children until Monday now, so we hope you have a lovely weekend!

Jess Mattocks

Head Teacher

In the interest of safety, please refrain from riding bicycles/scooters across the playground/up the drive; we have had a couple of near misses recently! Thank you for your support.

Reminders

- **Training day- school is closed to all children- on Friday 14th November**
- **Y6 are off to Snowdonia next week from 17th-21st November**
- **Non-uniform day in exchange for a chocolate donation on Friday 28th November**

Collective Worship

This week, our collective worship focused on the value of **compassion** through the story of **baby Moses**. We reflected on how Moses was placed in a basket and set afloat on the river

to escape the Pharaoh's command that all Hebrew baby boys be killed. Despite her father's harsh decree, the Pharaoh's daughter showed great compassion when she discovered Moses. Instead of allowing him to perish, she ensured he was cared for and protected.

We connected this to the Anti-Bullying Week theme, *'Power for Good'*. Just as the Pharaoh's daughter used her position and influence to do something kind and courageous, we encouraged the children to think about how they can use their own power—through their **words, actions, and thoughts**—to make a positive difference every day. Whether it's standing up for someone, offering a kind word, or including others, we all have the power to choose good.

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank You for showing us how important compassion is.

Just like the Pharaoh's daughter cared for baby Moses, help us to use our power for good every day.

Teach us to be kind in our words, thoughtful in our actions, and brave enough to stand up for what is right.

May we always choose to help others, and make our world a better place.

Amen.

Resources Request



Can you help? We are looking for resources to use in our Opal Play outdoors;

- Wooden Palletts
- Small world toys
- Bikes
- Scooters

Our Fledglings Team are also looking for donations of new or lightly used items that can enhance the provision of activities in our breakfast and afterschool club;

- Loom Bands
- Friendship Bracelet materials
- Diamond Painting
- Board Games
- Ping Pong Balls
- Table Football Game
- Play dough
- Musical instruments

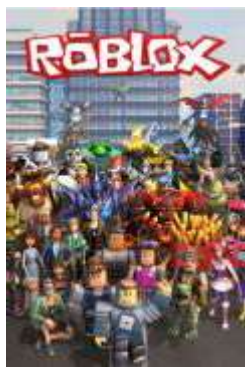
- Barbie dolls and dolls house
- Action figures and sets
- Small world toys - dinosaurs, cars, animals etc
- Crafts items - especially seasonal bits
- Race track
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Pop up tents
- Tuff trays



Christmas Fayre - Thursday 4th December



Important Online Safety Message - Roblox Pop-ups

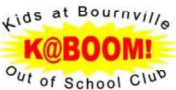


We want to make you aware of reports about a pop-up appearing during **Roblox** gameplay. This pop-up encourages players to download an external app called "**Pollyfuzz**", which describes itself as an AI friend. While the app may start by asking harmless questions, it could later introduce **inappropriate and harmful content**, including themes related to self-harm.

Although these reports have not been fully verified, it's important for everyone to stay alert. Here are some key steps to help keep children safe online:

- **Talk regularly** with your child about what they see and do online. Encourage them to share anything that feels unusual or uncomfortable.
- **Remind them never to download apps or click on links** from pop-ups or third-party sources, especially within games.
- **Monitor online activity** and set clear rules about safe internet use.
- **Stay informed** about new apps, games, and trends. Technology changes quickly, and open communication is one of the best ways to protect children.

Exciting Job Opportunities at St. Francis Church



Kids at Bournville
K@BOOM!
Out of School Club



St. Francis
Youth & Community
Centre

Play Worker Wanted

for K@Boom Out-of-School Club

12 hours per week

Monday to Thursday

3.00 - 6.00 pm

+ the option for extra hours in the school holidays

Job description, Person Specification and
Application Form available on request.

Application deadline: Friday 28 November at 0900

Please email David Lucas, K@Boom Manager:
david.lucas@stfrancisbournville.org.uk



**Bournville Parish Church
with the Body, Mind, Spirit Partnership**

are seeking to appoint an

Assistant Community Development Practitioner

**Connecting People ~ Building
Community ~ Facilitating Participation**

An exciting opportunity has become available for an Assistant Community Development Practitioner, that connects local older people together, enabling them to grow friendships through creating activities that matter to them within the Bournville neighbourhood.

The key task of this new role will be to work alongside an experienced colleague in bringing local people aged 50+ together to develop or maintain healthy and fulfilling lives. This opportunity requires the successful candidate to facilitate good relationships with the local community to inspire a welcoming place where local people who through participating in locally grown participant-led activities can flourish. Experience of working with Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) is desirable for this role.

£10,847 pro rata for 14 hours a week with some flexibility and occasional weekend working. The successful candidate will have sympathy with the aims and ethos of Bournville Parish Church and will be subject to references and an advanced DBS check.

If you would like to know more about this post and the vision we share, please contact Richard Wharton on 07910 343 380, or vicar@stfrancisbournville.org.uk

For an application form, please contact Carol Glynn at parishadmin@stfrancisbournville.org.uk

Application deadline: **Friday 28 November at 0900**
Interviews: **Friday 12 December**

Celebrations



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



Harry in Nursery

Rayella in Reception

Rowan in Reception

Phoebe in Nursery

Felix in Year 3

Mhairi in Year 4



Nursery - Niamh- for confidently sharing her wonderful knowledge, across a range of subjects, with others in Nursery. Well done Niamh. You always impress us with your ideas and thoughts.

Reception - Indie- for being a superstar friend to everybody, for always being kind and compassionate to those around you. Keep being you!

Year 1 - Jacob- you are a lovely, friendly and compassionate boy whose bright smile and funny personality brings joy to everyone around you.

Year 2 - Luke- for being a wonderful superstar who shares his ideas confidently and supports his classmates when they need help. Keep it up, Luke- we're super proud of you.

Year 3 - Mila- for always being caring towards everyone around you and noticing when someone needs a bit of help or support. You show kindness to your friends and to adults every single day, and you make our classroom a happy place to be. Well done, Mila!

Year 4 - Beulah- for being a role-model within the classroom. She looks after those around her and is always considerate of the feelings of others.

Year 5 - Abi- for showing kindness towards everyone around you. Your positive, thoughtful nature helps to make our classroom a caring place for everyone.

Year 6 - Matilda- for always demonstrating compassion and doing her best. With a smile too.



Reception - Maeve

Year 1 - Thomas

Year 2 - James

Year 3 - Elaina

Year 4 - Freya

Year 5 - Harry

Year 6 - Keziah

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.ivlove

Good Attendance Matters!

Every school day counts. Regular attendance and punctuality help children succeed academically and socially. Missing school reduces learning opportunities and can affect future prospects.

Key Points for Parents/Carers:

- **Why it matters:** Attendance is linked to achievement. Being late by 15 minutes daily equals nearly 2 weeks of lost learning.
- **How to help:** Set consistent bedtime and morning routines. Schedule appointments outside school hours. Encourage interest in schoolwork and friendships. Attend school events and support homework.
- **Holidays:** Term-time holidays are not allowed. Unauthorised leave can lead to legal action and fines.
- **Legal responsibility:** Parents must ensure regular attendance. Penalties can include fines up to £2,500 or even prosecution.
- **Need help?** Contact the school for support. Resources:
www.birmingham.gov.uk/saap | www.birmingham.gov.uk/love



Our overall winners with 100% attendance are Year 3!

Reception, Year 5, Year 4 and Year 6 had attendance over 96%.

Overall school attendance is at 97.0% for this academic year.

Dojo



Year 1 are the winners of dojos this week.

Year 4 were 2nd and Year 5 in third