



Head Teacher / Principal: Mrs J Downes

Happy New Year!

We are glad to see that so many of our school family have returned safely back to school and are ready for the new year ahead. Please look out for the Ten Ten newsletter that will follow this one as we come to the end of the Christmas season on Sunday with the celebration of Jesus' Baptism.



Dear God,

Thank you for showing us that Jesus is your Son, the chosen one.
Help us to get to know Jesus better, and change to become more like Him.

Amen

Parent/Carer Views

Thank you to those who have completed the parent/carers survey. The survey will close this weekend, so if you haven't, please complete before Monday.

******* Prize Draw - £50 M & S Gift Vouchers *********Schoolcomms**

Again, thank you to all who have registered for this app. We have so many of you who have, but we really need ALL parents/carers to download it to use. If ALL families download the app, it will be a great help to the school for contact with you.

If we reach our target of ALL parents/carers (at least one for each family), we will run a prize draw for M & S vouchers, worth £50.

Compassionate and Loving

The term has begun with many challenges for us all in many different ways. For some the learning journey can be difficult and we aim to help our boys and girls and everyone in our school family achieve their best. The staff have been learning some new language in Maths during training and will be sharing this with our children to help them achieve to the highest standard possible. These sessions are always useful in helping us realise as the children's teachers what it feels like to be in their 'shoes', learning new and sometimes difficult concepts.

During this half term, our focus is on being **Compassionate and Loving**. Knowing that this is our focus, it is beholden unto us to ensure that we are all compassionate and loving in the way we work together as a school family. We expect the very best of ourselves and those around us and it is our duty to ensure that we compassionate and loving in the way that we work. Please help your son / daughter do this by reminding them that we work together to help them in their learning and in their play.

**Want to save the pennies after Christmas?**

I am sure, like everyone, you may be feeling the pinch after Christmas. If you are looking for ways to save money as a family in any way, this may be of help to you...

<https://toogoodtogo.co.uk>

To save money as well as the planet, this is a great site with super ideas. The Too Good to Go app can also be used to find local supermarkets and restaurants nearby that have great food offers.



SUN BOOK TOKENS - We are continuing to collect book tokens. Please send tokens to Mrs Downes via the main office.

Safety in our school

Thank you to all parents and carers who are dropping your boys and girls safely into school. Please remember that it is helpful for you to leave your son or daughter with school staff to hang up their coat, bag, etc and to organise themselves for the day. The children are taught this skill when they are in Nursery and every day is excellent practice for them to become more independent.

Also, please remember that only children and staff are allowed in cloakrooms. We do have an open-door policy and we are happy to talk with you. But please be sympathetic to the fact that mornings can be very busy for staff who are beginning activities and helping the boys and girls begin their day.

If you have something to discuss, please approach the staff at home time, where they will have more time to assist you. If this is a problem or the member of staff is not available, please telephone to have a chat or book a meeting. Remember, we are here to work with you to help your son and daughter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: PLEASE NOTE THAT FROM MARCH 2020, IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY WILL BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PRINTOUT OF THIS, PLEASE ASK AT THE OFFICE. FOR THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE CALENDAR, GO TO:

<http://www.st-francisxavier.sandwell.sch.uk/Page/Calendar>

EARLY BIRDKEEPERS: Well done Reception, Year 1, 3, 4 and 6!



Well done, there have been **0** late marks in these classes, everyone in those classes can have a house point. Across the whole school, there have only been **2** late marks after the register has closed. From next week, we will be measuring punctuality from before the registers have closed, where there are some children who just about make it into school on time. Please be aware the difference being early makes. Thank you all for your support.

Attendance Update

We are extremely proud of our boys and girls who are working hard to be in every day that they can.

Class	Y5	Y4	Y2	Y6	YR	Y3
Attendance	93%	95%	96%	96%	97%	98%
Comment	Below target.	Everyone will have 1 House Point for being above 95% - keep going (or coming in!)				

Remember:

If there is sickness or diarrhoea, your son / daughter must remain at home for 48 hours.

Everyone is encouraged to wash hands with soap (rather than sanitizer) before and after eating as well as coughing and sneezing.

If there is sneezing / coughing, it is important to carry tissues – catch it, kill it, bin it.

At school, everyone is being encouraged to cough/sneeze onto arms/sleeves as opposed to hands.

Your son/daughter's health is important and we wish to support you with giving you as much information as we can to prevent the spread of nasty bugs that will make our boys and girls feel unwell.

Thank you for your continued support in this.

REMINDER: REQUESTS FOR HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Leave of absence request meetings can take place every fortnight at 2pm. You will notice them in the dates for the diary. You will need to contact the school office should you wish to book an appointment.

Please note that penalty notices **will** be enforced **FROM THIS TERM** in adherence to our school policy and government legislation.