



Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life.' - John 14:6

Love Courage Friendship

**St. Francis Catholic & Church
of England Primary Academy**

Newsletter 34

20th June 2025

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What an absolutely wonderful week we've had at St Francis Primary Academy! I'm delighted to share some of the exciting experiences our children have been enjoying.

In Monday's Collective Worship, we read some of the Gospel according to John, where Jesus explains that He wants to share more with his friends, including understanding the mystery of who God is. We learnt how there is one God made up of three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the Holy Trinity; that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide us to the truth of God's way; The Holy Spirit helps us to know, love and serve God more.

Last Friday, our Year 1 children embarked on a fantastic adventure to Carisbrooke Castle. The excitement was palpable as they explored this historic landmark, bringing their learning to life in the most engaging way possible. There's something truly magical about watching young minds discover history firsthand, and I know our Year 1s returned to school with heads full of stories and newfound knowledge about our local heritage.

On Tuesday, we had the absolute pleasure of welcoming our future Reception children for a special 'stay and play' session. It was heartwarming to see these little ones stepping through our doors and beginning to familiarise themselves with what will soon become their school home. The current children were wonderful ambassadors, showing kindness and enthusiasm as they welcomed their new friends. These transition opportunities are so valuable in helping our youngest learners feel confident and excited about starting their educational journey with us.

Looking ahead, I'm thrilled to share some exciting news about our Year 6 children's upcoming adventures. Some of our Year 6s will have the incredible opportunity to visit Paris – what an amazing way to broaden their horizons and create memories that will last a lifetime! For those children who won't be travelling to Paris, please don't worry – we have planned an equally exciting programme of activities both here at school and around our beautiful island. Every child will have wonderful experiences tailored to inspire and engage them during this special time.

These kinds of experiences are at the heart of what we do here at St Francis. Whether it's exploring ancient castles, welcoming new friends, or discovering new places, we're committed to providing our children with rich, meaningful opportunities that extend far beyond the classroom walls. Thank you for your continued support in making these experiences possible for our children. It's partnerships like ours that truly make the difference in creating those special moments that our children will treasure forever.

The big question last week was:

What would the world be like without imagination?

"Boring, because you couldn't have imaginary friends." Dixie, Y2

"You couldn't dream in your sleep." Daisy Y3

"I think it would be a bit boring because there wouldn't be any fantastic books around." Felix Y4

"There would be nothing because nobody would have ideas." Alys Y6

The big question this week is:

Can one person change the world?

Thank you for your continued support in making these wonderful experiences possible for all our children.

With warm wishes,

Mr Craig

Important Dates

2nd June - 7th July, Every Monday -Yr 6 Swimming @ Waterside

24th June—Reception starters Stay & Play with parents

24th- 27th June—Yr 6 Trip to Paris

2nd- 4th July - Yr 4 Little Canada Trip

8th July - School Transition Day

8th July - PTA End of Year Discos - KS1 - 3pm — 4.15pm, KS2 - 4.30pm - 5.45pm.

1st & 9th July - Bikeability - Yr 6

10th July - DCAT Enriched - Hurstpierpoint College

10th July - Yr 6 Leavers Service - Portsmouth Cathedral

11th July - Sports Day

15th July - New starters and current Yr R Teddy Bears picnic

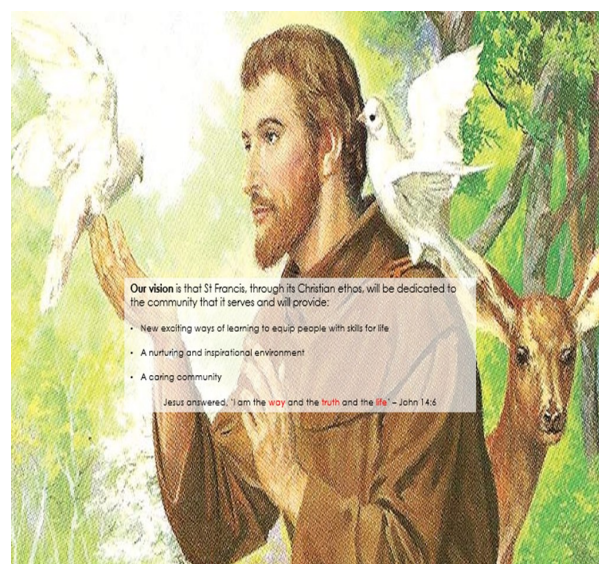
16th July - Reception Trip to Blue Reef Aquarium

21st July - Whole School Worship @ St Catherines Church

23rd July - Year 6 trip to Houses of Parliament & Westminster Abbey

24th July - Leavers Assembly —1pm –2pm

Our School Vision



Our vision is that St Francis, through its Christian ethos, will be dedicated to the community that it serves and will provide:

- New exciting ways of learning to equip people with skills for life
- A nurturing and inspirational environment
- A caring community

Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life' - John 14:6

Tanni Grey-Thompson Class News

Year 2 have had a great start to the new term. They have been hard at work in all lessons and have been earning lots of Dojos.

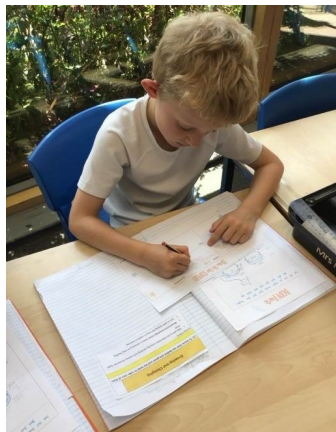
In English we have been learning about wombats and creating fact files. We have learnt lots of interesting information and fun facts, such as a wombat has a pouch that faces backwards so it doesn't fill up with earth when the wombat is digging.

In maths we are learning about fractions and getting to grips with halves, quarters and thirds and in geography we are learning all about maps.

We are beginning to learn about taking photographs in computing and we have learnt how to stay clean and healthy in PHSE.

In RE we are learning about what it's like to follow God and we have read about Noah and the promise God made to him.

In PE we are practising our batting and fielding skills through lots of different games and in D&T we have been creating picnic food.



Stars of the Week



Finn -Yr R



Congratulations ! Maryanne -Yr 1



Jordan -Yr 2



Logan -Yr 3



Peaches - Yr 4



River -Yr5



Angel -Yr6

House Points



Pandas - 232

Snow Leopard - 215

Tigers - 202

Polar bears - 190



Class Attendance

Congratulations to Year 1 Class for having the highest class attendance this week.

Year 1 = 99.5%

Year 2 = 96.7%

Year 4 = 95.6%

Year 6 = 93.3%

Year 5 = 92.3%

Year 3 = 89.4%

Year R = 85.2%



There will be no KS2 Cricket Club on Monday 23rd June.

Outstanding Library Books

Thank you to everyone who has sent some books in or are arranging replacements.

There are still a number of books not returned, please have a good look for any school library books and return them asap.

PE Days this term

Monday—5 & 6

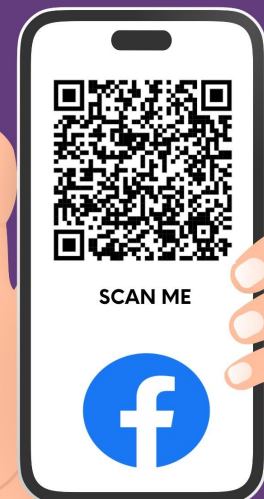
Tuesday—Reception

Wednesday— Year 3

Thursday— Years 1 & 2

Friday—Years 4

Follow MHST on Facebook for upcoming workshops and support



mental
health
support
TEAM

PE Days this term

Monday—5 & 6

Tuesday—Reception

Wednesday— Year 3

Thursday— Years 1 & 2

Friday—Years 4

As the weather is warming up, please can you ensure your child has sun cream applied before school and they bring a water bottle and hat to school every day. Thank you



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

As its name suggests, YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of Google's online video-sharing platform. Its colourful user interface is designed with young people in mind, and it offers a curated, family-friendly experience with features like age-based content settings and parental controls.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS
YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate content than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app allowing age-inappropriate content for young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promoted self-harm, suicide, drug culture and firearms to children as young as five. An inappropriate comment had bypassed the platform's algorithm and moderation team.

BE WARAY OF ADVERTISING
The app's regular YouTube ads, which feature popular cartoon characters, are designed to be fun and engaging. However, they are also designed to be targeted advertising. A recent report found that YouTube Kids collects information about children's viewing habits to inform targeted content and advertisements.

DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE
YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the use of autoplay, make it easy for children to watch videos for long periods of time. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to sleep problems, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED
YouTube Kids offers both to parental controls, allowing you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view. However, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing them to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION
There is a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and even harmful advice using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading, scientific videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

DATA COLLECTION RISK
While there are limits to the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content preferences and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PARENTAL CONTROLS
YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

SET TIME LIMITS
The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disallows the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

CHECK WATCH HISTORY
YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Watch history' icon at the top of the app, you can see a list of all the videos they've been watching, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while logged into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

WATCH TOGETHER
It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

Meet Our Expert
Cathy Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior technology reporter at TechCrunch, Cathy is now a freelance journalist, editor and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechCrunch, The Register, The Mirror, iD Tech, and more.

Source: See full reference list on [wake.up.wednesday.com/what-you-need-to-know-about-youtube-kids](https://www.nationalcollege.com/what-you-need-to-know-about-youtube-kids)

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.08.2025

School Nurse Visit

The school nurse comes into school once a half term and can help support parents with the following issues.

- Constipation/toileting concerns
- Day and night time wetting
- Hearing and vision concerns
- Dietary advice/weight management/body image
- Development/puberty advice
- Personal hygiene/oral health
- Sleep
- Emotional wellbeing

School Nurse Charlotte will be in 25/06/25 AM , 15 minute appointments are available to book with her.

Please contact the office if you would like to make an appointment to see her.

Class Photo Codes

Year R ~ sjp6fX95

Year 1 ~ Sj6c2ad6

Year 2 ~ 97GH9cgZ

Year 3 ~ k4VftNX7

Year 4 ~ 6WtdWp7k

Year 5 ~ 4whp3F79

Year 6 ~ 7256w792



Your school photos are now ready to order!

Please order before the deadline date below
to get free back to school delivery:

Thursday 26th June 2025

After this date you can still order
but with direct home postage only.

Cardwell & Simons
The School Photography Specialists



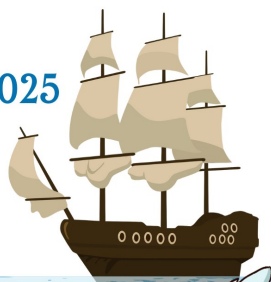
VENTNOR SUMMER FESTIVAL



SUNDAY 6TH JULY 2025

12-4PM

VENTNOR PARK



Stalls - Crafts
Food - Ice cream
Sports to try
Music - Entertainment
Children's activities

Other Ventnor events over the weekend:

- Bonchurch Open Gardens Saturday and Sunday 1-5pm
- Ventnor Day Saturday festivities around town and beach

Information from the Local Authority

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be **£80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days**. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.

Ice Pop Friday !

After the success of 'Ice Pop Friday' last year, we will be selling ice pops every Friday after school outside the office.

Donations of Ice Pops will be gratefully received.



Next Years Term Dates 2025-2026

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025
M 1 8 15 22 29	M 5 12 19 26	M 3 10 17 24
T 2 9 16 23 30	T 6 13 20 27	T 4 11 18 25
W 3 10 17 24	W 7 14 21 28	W 5 12 19 26
T 4 11 18 25	T 8 15 22 29	T 6 13 20 27
F 5 12 19 26	F 9 16 23 30	F 7 14 21 28
S 6 13 20 27	S 10 17 24 31	S 1 8 15 22 29
S 7 14 21 28	S 11 18 25	S 2 9 16 23 30
DECEMBER 2025	JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026
M 1 8 15 22 29	M 5 12 19 26	M 2 9 16 23 30
T 2 9 16 23 30	T 6 13 20 27	T 3 10 17 24
W 3 10 17 24 31	W 7 14 21 28	W 4 11 18 25
T 4 11 18 25	T 8 15 22 29	T 5 12 19 26
F 5 12 19 26	F 9 16 23 30	F 6 13 20 27
S 6 13 20 27	S 10 17 24 31	S 7 14 21 28
S 7 14 21 28	S 11 18 25	S 1 8 15 22 29
MARCH 2026	APRIL 2026	MAY 2026
M 2 9 16 23 30	M 6 13 20 27	M 4 11 18 25
T 3 10 17 24 31	T 7 14 21 28	T 5 12 19 26
W 4 11 18 25	W 8 15 22 29	W 6 13 20 27
T 5 12 19 26	T 9 16 23 30	T 7 14 21 28
F 6 13 20 27	F 10 17 24 31	F 1 8 15 22 29
S 7 14 21 28	S 11 18 25	S 2 9 16 23 30
S 1 8 15 22 29	S 12 19 26	S 3 10 17 24 31
JUNE 2026	JULY 2026	AUGUST 2026
M 1 8 15 22 29	M 6 13 20 27	M 3 10 17 24 31
T 2 9 16 23 30	T 7 14 21 28	T 4 11 18 25
W 3 10 17 24	W 8 15 22 29	W 5 12 19 26
T 4 11 18 25	T 9 16 23 30	T 6 13 20 27
F 5 12 19 26	F 10 17 24 31	F 7 14 21 28
S 6 13 20 27	S 11 18 25	S 1 8 15 22 29
S 7 14 21 28	S 12 19 26	S 2 9 16 23 30

Development Day (no children) Holiday Bank Holiday * first day after break # last day before break

Bank and Public Holidays 2025/2026		
Christmas Day 25 December 2025	Easter Monday 26 December 2025	6 April 2026
Boxing Day 26 December 2025	May Day Holiday 1 May 2026	4 May 2026
New Year's Day Holiday 1 January 2026	Spring Bank Holiday 3 April 2026	25 May 2026
Good Friday 3 April 2026	Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2026

Packed lunches are now available to book on Relish.

Packed lunches consist of a wrap with the choice of Ham, Cheese or Tuna filling, Baked tortillas chips and salsa, crunchy vegetables and a flapjack.



Theme Day menu changes

There are a couple of changes to the menu, if you have booked a meal on the dates below please can you log into Relish and change the choice of meal. Thank you.

Friday 4th July—American Independence Day Theme.

Friday 18th July— National Ice Cream day.



Spring/Summer Menu

Packed lunches are now available to book on Relish.

WEEK 3					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
STEP 1 Choose from...					
Main	French Bread Pizza to go with Corn on the Cob, Cucumber	Pork & Sage Sausage Roll to go with Sweetcorn, Homemade Potato Wedges	Roast Gammon to go with Mixed Veg, Roast Potatoes, Gravy	Meatballs with Tomato Sauce to go with Homemade Tomato & Herb Bread, Spaghetti	Cod in Batter to go with Baked Beans, Chips, Peas
Vegetarian	Macaroni Cheese to go with Corn on the Cob	Cheese & Tomato Pinwheels to go with Sweetcorn, Homemade Potato Wedges	Quorn Roast to go with Mixed Veg, Roast Potatoes, Gravy	Veggie Balls to go with Spaghetti, Homemade Tomato & Basil Bread	Homemade Crispy Vegetable Nuggets to go with Baked Beans, Chips
Combo	Jacket Potato with choice of fillings Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping	Jacket Potato with choice of fillings Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping	Jacket Potato with choice of fillings Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping	Jacket Potato with choice of fillings Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping	Jacket Potato with choice of fillings Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping
	Pasta with choice of fillings Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce, Grated Cheese, No Topping	Wrap with choice of fillings Grated Cheese, Ham Salad, Tuna Mayo	Pasta with choice of fillings Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce, Grated Cheese, No Topping	Wrap with choice of fillings Ham, Tuna, Grated Cheese	Pasta with choice of fillings Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce, Grated Cheese, No Topping
	Apple Sponge	Cherry Muffins	Oat Cookies	Plum & Pineapple Upside Down Cake	Choc Ice
STEP 2 ...and to finish!	Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Cheese and Biscuits, Jelly	Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Jelly	Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Cheese and Biscuits, Jelly	Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Jelly	Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Cheese and Biscuits, Jelly
Bread and Salad will be available at Lunch Times					
Please speak to a member of the Catering Team or view relishschoolfood.co.uk for Allergen Information					

School Uniform

The uniform at St Francis is:

- Grey trousers/ shorts/skirt/pinafore/ Blue & white gingham dresses for the summer
- White Polo (with logo if possible) Years R, 1, 2
- White button through shirt/blouse and tie Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
- School Sweatshirt/Cardigan with logo
- Grey socks/tights
- Black School Shoes (not trainers or boots)

PE Kit is:

- White Logo T Shirt
- Navy PE shorts
- Plimsolls / Trainers

Hair longer than shoulder length should be tied up at all times this applies to both boys and girls and hair accessories should be subtle (no big bows/ ribbons please)

For safety reasons children should not wear any jewellery in school. However if your child has pierced ears, small studs may be worn. These will need to be removed for P.E lessons and if your child goes swimming.

We are proud of our school and its uniform, please help us to keep looking smart.

PE Days:

Monday - Year 5

Tuesday - Reception

Wednesday - Year 3

Thursday - Years 1 & 2

Friday - Year 4

**Please remember PE kit
MUST be worn to school
on your child's PE day.**

**PE kits should be brought
in for all after school sports**

School Information

School starts at 8.30am and finishes at 3.00pm. Please ensure your child is dropped off in plenty of time for the start of the day and that you collect your child promptly at the end of the day or after their club.

Attendance

If your child is absent from school please ensure you contact the school office promptly in the morning, you can leave a message on 857449.

Break and lunch boxes

A reminder that children should bring a healthy snack for break (no chocolate) and a healthy balanced lunchbox, thank you.

Join the PTA!



PTA News

Join the PTA!



The PTA are busy planning some exciting events for the children this year, below are some events for the children to look forward to.

Tuesday 8th July - End of term Disco with AJ,
£5.00 per child, to include sweets
and drinks.



Friday 11th July - Sports day - Ice cream for the children
after the races. £1.00 per child



September - PTA Coffee Morning for new and existing parents.



October - 'Light Rave' to tie in with Diwali
and possibly a Colour run.



November - Christmas Craft Workshops



December - Christmas Fayre

December 18th - Whole School Surprise Christmas Treat



If you would like to join the PTA please contact the office.