



Newsletter

May
2025

Dear Parents,

This has been a short but very busy half term, marked by several Bank Holidays. The children have enjoyed some warmer weather and made great use of the school grounds, taking some of their learning outdoors. A number of our Year 4 and 5 pupils have completed 'Playleader Training' and are now on a rota to help organise and oversee games during break and lunchtime.

A big well done to Year 6, who completed their SATs this half term. They have worked diligently all year in preparation, and we are incredibly proud of the mature and positive approach they brought to the tests. Their next exciting challenge is to work together on their end-of-year production of 'Robin and The Sherwood Hoodies', with ticket sales going towards the school fund.

In recent weeks, we have reflected on the legacy of Pope Francis and collected donations for the Maldon Food Pantry in his honour. The children also enjoyed learning about the Conclave process, and we were excited to welcome a new Pope - Pope Leo XIV - to the Catholic Church.

On Thursday 8th May, the whole school came together to celebrate the 80th anniversary of V.E. Day with a shared picnic lunch in the playground and fun activities with their buddies.

This afternoon the school were entertained by acts competing in 'St Francis' Has Talent'. Well done to all involved!

Today we say a fond farewell to Mrs Leech, who, although far too young, is retiring to enjoy new adventures with her family. She's been a warm, daily presence at breakfast club and a valued support to our Year 6 pupils and staff. We'll miss her greatly and wish her every happiness for the future.

We look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 2nd June when the photographer will be in to take class photos - full summer uniform, including blazers should be worn, please.

SCHOOL DIARY

Please [click here](#) to view.



Catering News

Summer Menu Week 1

Please [click here](#) to view.



[Please click on the links for more information](#)

[Independent Learning
Dates](#)

[St Francis Parent
Letters](#)

[News Listings](#)

[Class Trips/Workshops
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Newsletter](#)

[Parent Lunch Dates](#)

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[Class Assembly Dates](#)

[Academic Term Dates](#)



Catholic Life of the School



Month of May

The month of May is dedicated to our Blessed Lady and it is the occasion for a tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. The children have devoted time to saying the Rosary, the Magnificat and Memorare.

The Memorare

Remember,
O most gracious Virgin Mary,
That never was it known,
That anyone,
Who fled to your protection
Implored your help,
Or sought your intercession,
was left unaided,
Inspired with this confidence,
I fly to you,
O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother,
To you I come
Before you I stand
Sinful and sorrowful.
O mother of the word incarnate,
Do not reject my petitions,
But graciously hear and answer.

AMEN



The Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord,
My spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
Henceforth all ages will call me blessed.
The Almighty works marvel for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
On those who fear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength and
scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raised the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things,
Sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
Remembering his mercy,
The mercy promised to our fathers,
To Abraham and his sons for ever.

AMEN



Procession for Our Lady

On Monday 19th May we held our whole school procession for Mary. This tradition honours Mary as the Mother of God.

During the service the children recited the Rosary and our Head Girl crowned the statue of Mary, which was surrounded by beautiful plants and flowers. Thank you to everyone who brought one in.





Catholic Life of the School



A Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Emma and Molly went on a pilgrimage to Lourdes, south-western France and visited the Grotto of Massabielle (Grotto of the Apparitions) where, in 1858, the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to a local woman.



Whilst there, they participated in Mass and prayed for our school community. What an experience!

Click on the photographs to read more about their pilgrimage.

Collection in honour of Pope Francis

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone in our school community for your kind and generous donations in memory of Pope Francis.

Your contributions to the Maldon Food Pantry are greatly appreciated and will go a long way in supporting families in need within our community.

Your generosity truly embodies the spirit of compassion and service, and we are so grateful for your continued support.

Thank you for making a difference.



Wednesday Word [click here for links to 'The Wednesday Word Gospel'](#)



Please continue to pray for all those in our school community in need of our prayers.

Click [HERE](#) for the Ten:Ten 'Prayers for Home' newsletter





Congratulations!



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children

Reception	All Reception children
Year 1	All Year 1 children
Year 2	Colby Lockwood
Year 3	Lily Brown
Year 4	Seth Pettitt
Year 5	Minnie Kingsford
Year 6	Tommie-Shai Tilney



ATTENDANCE

Class	% Attendance
Year 5	98.18
Year 3	97.14
Year 1	94.67
Reception	91.03
Year 4	89.69
Year 6	86.67
Year 2	85.86
Whole School	91.60

PUNCTUALITY

The class with the best punctuality each week will be awarded the 'Punctuality Pup'.

This week's winners are:



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ Year 5 ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Reader of the Week

is awarded to

Lucas Parnham in Year 1
&
Eliza Kingsford in Year 3



Pen Licences



Congratulations to:



Oscar Ross ~ Tommie -Shai Tilney
Ethan Tychus ~ Harrysson Rogers
Wyatt Dines ~ Teddy Taylor
Harriet Barke ~ Jessica Budd
Orla Phillips

who have gained their Pen Licences
this half term.

Hot Chocolate Friday

It was my pleasure to share a
hot chocolate today with the
following pupils:



William Guthrie

Maisie Pilgrim

Ruben Rayner

Grace Tychus

Devon Nutt

Amelia Russell

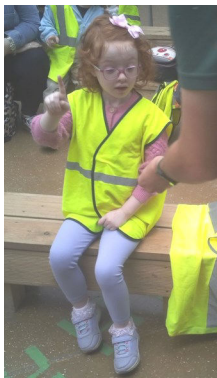
Esmai Cooch

Florence Lee

They were nominated by their teachers for
consistently going 'above and beyond' what is
expected in school. Well done!



Class News



Reception

Reception Class were very excited to take a trip to 'Call of the Wild Zoo' as part of their minibeasts topic.



Year 1

This half term children have been learning about the Ascension of Jesus and created some wonderful pieces of artwork.



Year 2

Year 2 have enjoyed exploring the rich and vibrant country of Kenya through their exciting topic: '*Sensational Safari*'. It has been a term full of discovery, creativity and imagination as they journeyed through the plains of the African savannah!



Year 3

The children in Year 3 have been working hard in their Design & Technology lessons to design and make their own set of juggling balls!



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *

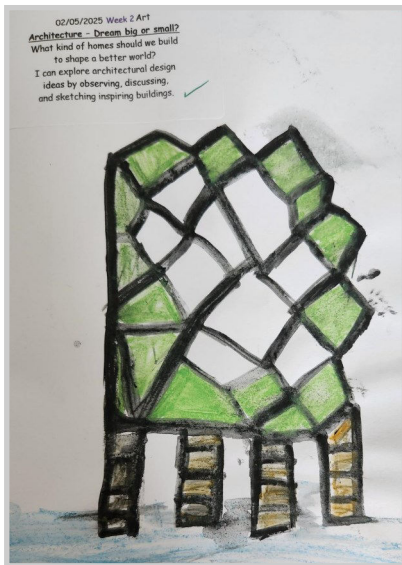


Class News



Year 4

This half term, Year 4 have had fun exploring many different forms and styles of sculpture in their Art lessons!



Year 5

In their Design & Technology lessons, Year 5 have been learning about seasonal foods in the UK. In Science they have been very busy investigating the properties and changes of materials and in Art lessons they enjoyed exploring architecture and have been particularly inspired by striking ecological designs!



Year 6

This half term, Year 6 have continued their topic on 'The Ancient Maya Civilization,' exploring the lives and rituals of the Ancient Mayas. They also enjoyed creating ceremonial masks during their Art lessons.



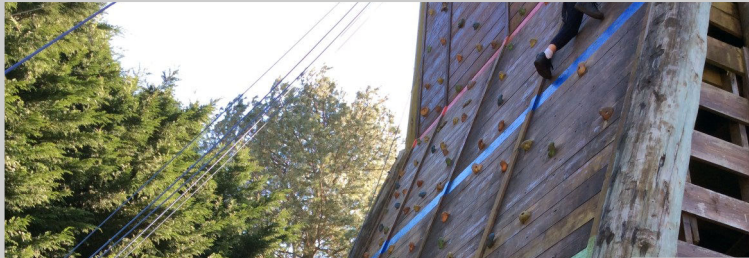
* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



Hilltop Adventures!



Just before Easter, our Year 6 children had an amazing time on their residential trip to Hilltop in Norfolk, participating in activities such as: wall climbing, cycling, zip-line and a campfire!



* Please **CLICK** on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



Hilltop Adventures!



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



Sports



Girls' Football Tournament

See how the girls got on at their recent football tournament which was kindly hosted by Heybridge Primary School.



Date for the Diary... **SPORTS DAY** Wednesday 25th June 2025.

All races for KS1 and KS2 will take place during the morning, followed by a whole school shared lunch on the field. Please note that all children will be expected to return to school for the afternoon.

Please see a copy of the letter with more details by clicking [HERE](#).



Choir



Southminster Competitive Festival of Music

We were all so incredibly proud of our school choir who took part in the Southminster Competitive Festival of Music on 26th April. They sang 'Above All' and a medley from 'Matilda' securing a third place win! Congratulations to all involved.

Click the photo to find out more!

Brilliant at Brewster House!

On Wednesday, 21st May, the choir walked to a local care home in Heybridge to entertain some of the residents. They sang popular favourites, including songs by ABBA, and performed poetry - making us all incredibly proud!



* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



VE Day 80th Celebrations!



VE DAY®

80TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 MAY 2025



* Please **CLICK** on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *



St Francis Has Talent!



Our school talent show was a fantastic event, filled with fun and an incredible display of talent from our pupils. From music and dance to gymnastics and drama there was a wonderful variety of acts that kept everyone entertained throughout the afternoon.

A huge well done to all who took part — you made us proud!

Click on a photo to find out the winner!

* Please CLICK on the photographs and open the hyperlinks to find out more! *

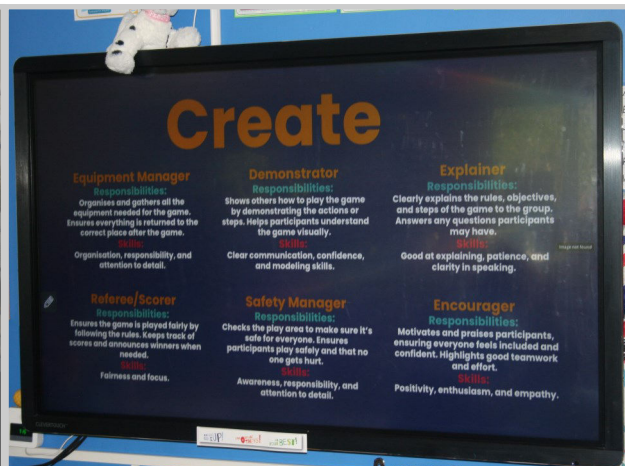


Around the School



Play Leader Training

On Wednesday 30th April, children from Year 4 and Year 5 took part in an exciting Playleader Training session. The day was designed to help pupils develop the key skills needed to become effective play leaders, such as communication, participation and cooperation. Read all about how the children got on!



Please support our school by clicking [HERE](#) to sign up and shop.



Coming Soon...



Bank Holiday Monday

26 Half Term Holiday Tuesday 27th - Friday 30th May



Back to school

2 Class Photographs—Full summer uniform
Year 4 Multiplication Checks
Year 6 - Dance

3 Year 4 Walk around Maldon and Promenade park

5 Year 2 Parent Lunch 12:00pm

6 Year 5 Walk around Maldon

9 Year 1 and Year 2 Phonics re-sits
Year 6 - Dance

10 Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle

12 Year 2 Trip to Sealife Centre
Year 3 Parent Lunch 12:00pm

13 Reception Class Assembly 9:10am

16 Year 6 - Dance

17 Year 1 trip to Abberton Reservoir

18 Reception - Teddy Bear Picnic

19 Year 4 Parent Lunch 12:00pm

23 Year 6 - Dance

25 Sports Day (Reserve day - 2nd July)

27 Year 6 World War II Workshop

30 Year 6 - Dance



2 Reserve Sports Day date

3 Year 5 Parent Lunch 12:00pm

7 Year 6 Dance

8 Year 6 Parent Lunch 12:00pm

9 Year 6 Leavers' Mass

14 Dress rehearsal for Year 6 show - 9:30am

16 Year 6 show - 7:00pm

17 French Day
Year 6 show - 7:00pm

Year 6 Class Leavers' Assembly - parents to attend.

22 END OF TERM
EYFS/KS1 - 1:50pm
KS2 - 2:00pm

**HAVE A GREAT
HALF TERM!**



Please see the following links to our Facebook and Instagram accounts:

[St. Francis Facebook](#)

[St. Francis Instagram](#)





PTA UPDATE

FRIDAY FLYER

St Francis RC Primary School PTA
Presents..

A Royal Day Out

Sponsored by



Celebrating the King's Birthday

SATURDAY 21ST JUNE

St Francis RC Primary School, London Rd
12 - 4PM

Everyone Welcome!



**RAFFLE - STALLS
GAMES - CRAFTS
BBQ - DRINKS**



Additional Sponsors



Summer Fete - A Royal Day Out

We look forward to seeing many of you at the summer fete on Saturday 21st June.

For events like this to run at the school for our community to enjoy, as well as raise funds for the school, we rely on volunteers. If you are able to volunteer an hour of your time in either the set up from 10:00, through the event 12noon until 4 pm, or in the tidying away afterwards, it would be very much appreciated. Please let Alixe know what you are able to do, her contact details below.

Books and Puzzles NEEDED

We will be having a books and puzzles stall at the fete, so if you are due a clear out then please do donate any books and puzzles for adults or children to school at drop off and pick up on Monday 9th June and Tuesday 10th June. A member of the PTA will be outside the school gates to collect these items. Thank you very much.



Sow a Seed - Mental Health Awareness Month

Your child would have come home yesterday with a decorated pot, with soil and seeds to plant up. This can then be given to a loved one or for them to keep themselves. If you have not had a chance to give a donation for this, please [click here](#) to donate via our Just Giving page. This will also mean that we can claim GiftAid on your doantion if you are eliglible.

PTA Contact Details:

Click for socials -



Alixe - alixe@stfrancispta.co.uk
07513284607

Gemma - gemma@stfrancispta.co.uk

EasyFunding Alert!



Tesco have joined EasyFunding until 31st May. Every time you shop online with Tesco they donate 2% of your spending to the school. It also puts us in with a chance to win £1000 every time someone shops.

[Click here to sign up today!](#)