



St. Francis

Church of England Primary School

Love Faith. Love People. Love Learning.

Week ending: 04.04.25

Upcoming dates

Tuesday 22nd April:

School reopens for the summer term

Thursday 24th April:

EYFS and Y1 class trips

Friday 25th April:

Spring Term data reports sent home

Monday 28th April:

Cross-Country event for Y5/6

Tuesday 6th May:

Blackburn with Darwen Schools' Netball Tournament

Thursday 8th May:

VE Day party – information below

Monday 12th May – 15th May:

Y6 SATS week

Tuesday 13th May:

Y3 trip to Brockholes

Sunday 11th May:

Church Parade

Friday 16th May:

Y6 Charity Day event

OPAL Stay and Play

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May:

Half-term holiday

As we draw the curtains on another vibrant Spring Term, I'm delighted to share with you the wonderful happenings that have brought our school to life these past days.

Our week began with our worship led by Reverend Bryn, focusing on the profound journey of Holy Week. Our pupils explored the rich symbolism associated with Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, deepening their understanding of this significant time in the Christian calendar.

The spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship was on full display as our Year 6 footballers participated in the Festival of Football on Tuesday evening. Under Mr Carter's guidance, our young athletes showcased remarkable skill and determination, winning an impressive 6 out of 7 matches without conceding a single goal. Thank you to Mr Carter for his dedication in supporting our pupils.

Our Year 4 pupils took centre stage, offering a unique perspective on Palm Sunday through the eyes of a donkey. Their performance, delivered to a packed hall, was a testament to their creativity and hard work.

Today, the school was abuzz with Easter-themed activities. Pupils from every class engaged in crafting Easter cards and creating beautiful Easter-inspired artworks. In a touching display of unity, each child also crafted a 'heart tile', contributing to the redecoration of the cross in our corridor – a visual reminder of our shared values and community spirit.

As we bid farewell to the term, our wonderful PTA treated us to a tuck shop, adding a sweet note to our celebrations. Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated.

The achievements and activities of this term reflect the vibrant, caring community that is St. Francis CE Primary School. As we pause for the Easter holiday, I encourage you all to take time to rest, reflect, and enjoy the company of loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back for what promises to be an exciting Summer Term.

Mrs. Foster



Year 6 Award Winners



Year 5 Award Winners



Year 4 Award Winners



Y3 Award winners



Y2 Award winner



Y1 Award winners and special mentions



Reception Class Award winner



Well done to our award winners and special mentions this week! Remember, if your child isn't on one of these photographs, reassure him/her that that doesn't mean they haven't been noticed!

Our staff celebrate achievements – great and small – every day in class, whether it's through praise, a postcard home, a sticker or a thumbs up.

Payments needed

EYFS/Y1 trip: There are still outstanding payments for the upcoming trip on Thursday 24th April. Please pay these as soon as possible.

Y3 trip to Brockholes: Payment information and consent requests are now live on ParentPay.

Y6 Robinwood Trip – November 2025: Could parents please ensure payments towards this are up-to-date.

Breakfast Club and Lunches: Parents and carers are reminded to clear any outstanding debts as soon as possible. School cannot fund these services from its own budget, as money is already allocated towards learning resources and materials.

Sporting Events

Cross-country 'Race Two'

Monday 28th April. We will hopefully be taking part in Race Two of the Cross-Country event. Details will be sent out at the start of next term.

Year 5 and Year 6 Netball Tournament

Tuesday 6th May. Coach Caitlin has been practising with the team in readiness for the tournament. Their netball skills are improving all the time!



Uniform Decision for September 2025

Thanks to everyone who took part in the survey and shared their views.

There are clear and valid differences of opinion across all stakeholders, but the final decision is that from September 2025, there will be only one uniform. PE kit will be changed into at school on PE days.

The uniform will be:

- Grey trousers/school shirts or checked skirt/pinafore dress
- Pale blue polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper/cardigan
- Grey/white socks/tights
- Black school shoes

None of these items need to include our school logo, although Greys and Whitakers will stock the official logoed jumpers and polo shirts.

The PE kit will need to be brought into school and kept on the child's coat peg. For now, children can wear their current 'active uniform' (navy joggers. Purple/green/yellow T-Shirt and blue hoody) until they grow out of these.

Going forward, and for our new Reception children, the official PE kit will be a purple T-shirt and navy shorts/joggers.

Start of the school day – from the summer term

As promised, we have planned for the school gates to be opened for all parents/carers before the start of the school day from next term.

The school gates will be opened at approximately 8.40am, when children and their parents/carers can walk to wait outside their classrooms until the staff have opened the classroom doors to begin the school day at 8.45am.

In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, the following points must be adhered to:

- Children (including pre-schoolers) are not to play on the field at any point before the school day.
- Parents/carers are not to follow their children into the school building.
- As soon as their child has gone inside their classroom, the parent/carer should leave.
- Parents/carers need to leave the premises at 8.50am.

Rock and pop band lessons with Rocksteady - starting Friday 25th April.

Did you know, we partner with Rocksteady Music School to deliver fun and inclusive rock and pop band lessons, right here at St. Francis CE Primary School! These weekly music lessons take place in school and are led by professional musicians who make learning music fun.

It's the perfect way for children to learn new musical skills, make friends and have a great time – all at school!

Rocksteady lessons are also shown to amplify confidence, wellbeing and social skills.

Here's what else you need to know:

- There's no experience necessary and all instruments for lessons are provided.
- Watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing just how far they have come.
- Children learn up to 300 instrument, band, and performance skills, whilst playing songs they love.
- Children can achieve an Ofqual-regulated Music qualification, accredited by Trinity College London, without having to take a single exam.
- You'll receive regular progress updates, including photos and videos.

There's a money-back guarantee for the first month and you can cancel at any time. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis.

Sign your child up for band lessons online at rocksteadymusicschool.com/parents

If you have any questions about Rocksteady, call **0330 113 0330** (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate) or email info@rocksteadymusicschool.com



Persistent Absenteeism

Children who miss 19 days in the school year (38 sessions) are classed by the Government as a persistent absentee. Children who are persistently absent from school generally don't do as well as their peers in national tests. They may also find it harder to form friendship groups.

School closely monitors every child's attendance, and will work closely with families whose children are on track to be a persistent absentee. Help and support is offered, and we ask that parents, in line with the Government's expectations, engage with school to ensure that their child doesn't miss out on their education.

From the summer term, we will be raising the profile of aiming for 100% for all our families.

Please help us with this by ensuring your child is in school on time, every day.

COME AND
JOIN US FOR

Messy Easter!

Monday 14th April

2-4pm @ St. Francis Church Hall

AN AFTERNOON OF FUN EASTER THEMED
ACTIVITIES FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN



CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE - TO BOOK PLEASE CALL
07729 671076 OR SCAN THIS QR CODE BY 11TH APRIL



VE DAY 80

Thursday 8th May

Celebrate with us at

**St Francis
Primary School,
Cherry Tree Lane,
Blackburn.**

**From 10:30 am to 3pm.
Free entry for all.**

*Join us for games, activities,
music, food, stalls, dancing
and lots of fun!*

*Traditional 1940's costumes or
red, white and blue clothing optional.*

*Payments for food, games and
activities will be cash only.*



FUNDA Multi-Sports Clubs

Please make sure your child attends the Multi-Sports Club if they have been booked on. Unfortunately, some of our children are missing out on this hour of fun due to the clubs being booked up, when there are spaces due to children not always attending.

If your child cannot attend a booked club for whatever reason, please do let us know so we can offer the place to someone else.

Join us this Easter

**AT IMMANUEL FENISCOWLES
AND ST. FRANCIS FENISCLIFFE**

Palm Sunday – 13th April

- **9.15am @ Immanuel Church** - All-age Palm Sunday service, starting with a procession with a donkey from Pleasington Golf Club at 8.50am.
- **10.45am @ St. Francis Church** - All-age Palm Sunday service.

Monday 14th April

- **2-4pm @ St. Francis Church Hall** - Messy Easter! An afternoon of Easter themed activities for primary aged children. Book a place before 11th April by calling 07729 671076 or scanning the QR code.



Maundy Thursday – 17th April

- **7.30pm @ Immanuel Church Hall** - Join us for a meal as we remember the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples. To let us know you're coming call 07807 938932 or scan the QR code.



Good Friday – 18th April

- **2pm @ Immanuel Church** - Stations of the Cross. A reflective service helping us to think about what Jesus did for us on the cross.

Easter Sunday – 20th April

- **9.15am @ Immanuel Church** - Easter Holy Communion service
- **10.45am @ St. Francis Church** - Easter Holy Communion service

Parents on school premises

This is a polite reminder that, once the school gates are open for parents/carers at the start of each school day, there must be no vaping or smoking. Mobile phones should also not be used. This is in line with our safeguarding policies.

Please also kindly ensure appropriate language is used when talking with children and other adults within the school vicinity.