



School Vision: Our aim at St. Francis Church of England Primary School is to guide our children to live fulfilling lives, rooted in the values taught by Jesus based on the gospel value of love for one another.

School Mission Statement: Love Faith. Love People. Love Learning.

School Values: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Date: 18.09.2020

Worship Theme

We continued to think about the value of kindness but we looked at this from a global perspective. A story was shared about Arianna. Arianna is five years old and lives with her Mum (Angela) and 15-year-old sister. They live in a village called Santa Rosa, in Nicaragua – South America. Arianna's Mum used to make a living by growing coffee beans, however, due to climate change, it has become much harder to grow coffee. To solve the problem, local farmers worked with 'Soppexcca' and 'Christian Aid' to swap their coffee beans for cocoa beans. Due to the fact, the community pulled together and showed kindness to each other, families like Arianna's are now able to make enough money to buy food, medicine and clothes.



Talk to your child(ren) about:

- Can we show kindness to people we don't know?
- How do we show kindness to people we don't know?
- What is climate change?
- How could you help with climate change?

Let us pray

Dear Lord,

We thank you for those people and charities who support communities around the world, to live happily in difficult and sometimes dangerous circumstances.

We ask you to help us to care for your world and show kindness to our neighbours around the globe.

Amen

Harvest – Blackburn Foodbank

The Year 2 charity is 'Blackburn Foodbank'. Harvest time will soon be upon us. Our Year 2 children will be leading a special Harvest Worship via zoom on the 9th October. We would love you to bring donations in for Blackburn Foodbank week beginning 5th October. We will have boxes at the gate for different year groups and your donations can be placed in these boxes. Donations will be left up to 72 hours before processing to ensure we are working within our COVID-19 safe risk assessment. Last year, we saw an enormous offering so please consider purchasing some items in your shop that could be donated. Year 2 will be advertising the different items that would be good to donate.

School Spider – Parent Communication

As explained in previous newsletters, we are changing the system we use to communicate with parents. We are moving to a company called 'School Spider'. Thank you to all parents/carers who have downloaded the app, registered, and signed into their account. I am aware there have been a couple of teething difficulties, however, we have identified the problem and from 7am tomorrow (Saturday 19th) these will be rectified.

If you have not downloaded the app, please do so and then use the following link to set up your account.

<https://parents.schoolspider.co.uk/password/forgot>

Please use Google Chrome if using a laptop or desktop to complete.

You need to input the email address you use for your school communication and select 'St Francis C of E Primary School' from the school list.

This will send you an email with a link to create your parent account. **This expires after 60 minutes.**

Please note, passwords need to include the following -

Uppercase Character

Lowercase Character

Number

Special Character

Please be aware that ParentMail will cease at the end of this month and all communication will take place through School Spider. It is really important that you download the app and register your account.

If you are having trouble sorting your account from Saturday 19th, then please contact the school office so we can ensure the details we hold for you are correct.

Our website will change over the next month and the calendar and newsletters will be available through School Spider app also. We really do hope that this will improve parent/carer communication.

COVID-19

A new Public Health England guide for Parents/Carers has been sent. This contains information on different scenarios that can arise. Please access this information on our school website at: <https://www.stfranciscep.co.uk/covid-19-information/>

Reminder: Reading Books – When will they be changed?

Due to COVID-19, your child's reading book will be processed differently. All children will need to bring their books into school every day, however, on Friday, your child's book will remain in school. On Monday, your child's book will be changed and then reissued. Please connect with the local libraries and sign up to the digital library which will give you access to hundreds of books and audio books.

GUIDE TO OUR APP FOR PARENTS & CARERS

School Spider allows you to receive and return information directly from the school. Receive instant messages, complete surveys and forms, book your parents evening and make online payments.

Select your school to get started!

LOGGING IN

See your schools recent website posts here but make sure you login to receive communication. Click parent login and enter your details if you have received them from the school. OR you can press forgot password to set your password.

You must have your email address linked to the school.

TAKE A LOOK AROUND

See all your action items on your dashboard

Click to respond or book for each child

Click the bell to see your recent messages

Click these 3 lines to:
- Switch between areas
- Edit your profile
- Logout

DOWNLOAD FOR FREE...

Get it on Google play | Available on the App Store

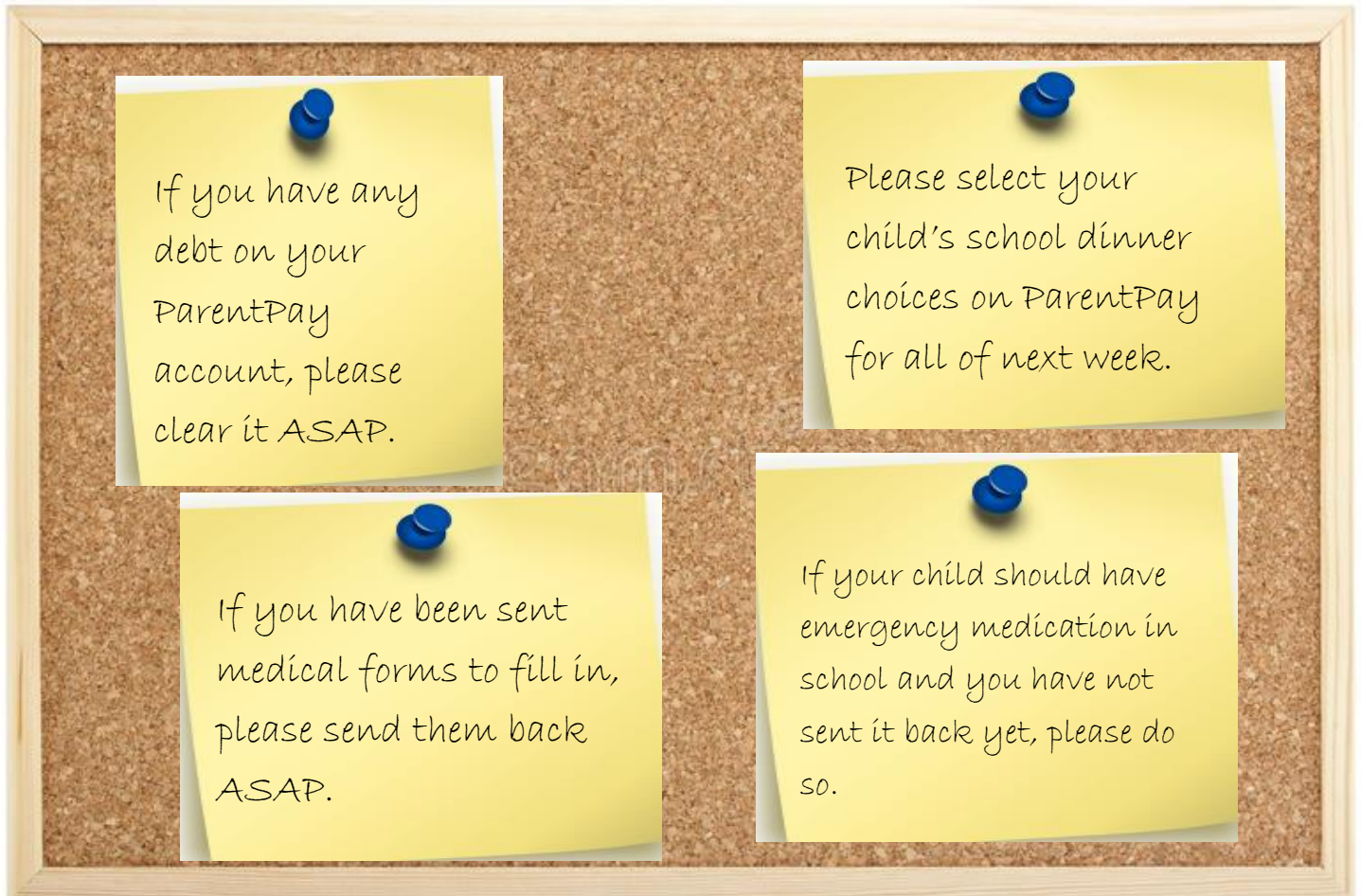
Welcome Meetings

If you have not watched your child's 'Welcome Meeting' video as yet, then please head to <https://www.stfranciscep.co.uk/welcome-meetings-september-2020/> where you will be able to access it. This video will give you vital information about your child's year group.

Purple Mash

Your child should now know their Purple Mash login. If your child does not have a Purple Mash login, then please contact your child's class teacher.

Quick Notes - To do...



Celebration Worship

If your child(ren) achieve any awards outside of school and they wish for them to be presented at Celebration Worship, please take a picture of the award/certificate and send it to head@stfrancis.blackburn.sch.uk with a bit of writing us informing what the award is for. This will then be included in our virtual Celebration Worship. Once we have got a little more confident with our virtual worship, we will be inviting parents/carers to join virtually.

Birthdays

Due to our COVID-19 risk assessment, please do not send any sweets into school to be shared with the class. If your child would like to share something with the class, please purchase a new book for the class library. This can then be shared and enjoyed as a class. The book will have to be left for up to 72 hours prior to sharing with the class.

Wellies and outdoor clothing

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather. Due to increased restrictions, we are trying to use the outside even more. We are looking at becoming a Forest School and would love to work towards each child having a pair of wellies at school. It seems a bit daft typing this whilst the sun is shining but we have had some cold winds this week!

Robinwood – Year 6 Residential

At the moment, the national guidance for school's is that UK residential visits are not allowed. This means that the booked November Year 6 residential is not going to happen. Year 6 parents/carers, please complete the questionnaire, using the link below, to support school's decision making process.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=N8ByAz5eqUmGyCh1EHabiNxdgRIb14VLvHBAddkNaltUOEpYnKQwNkNCSkZETUpCNUUQ1UFMzM0o5WC4u>

Reading Books – EYFS and KS1

All children have completed phonics assessments and reading benchmark assessments. This has determined the book that has been given. The assessments determine the level of home reading, instructional reading and which books are too easy and too difficult. The books identified for children to read at home are books they have achieved 95%+ on their assessment. This is for children to build further reading confidence, to increase their reading for pleasure and to ensure their comprehension skills improve on a book they do not need to focus on decoding. Please also note, that a particular book may be selected for your child to precisely match to a particular gap in their phonics assessments.

The curriculum side of our website is currently having new content designed so a book an information leaflet around phonics and early reading will be shared soon.

Picture News:



Please visit the following link to find a newspaper and further information to discuss with your child in regards to the above information. [School Website: Picture News at Home](#)

Staying Safe Online:

#WakeUpWednesday from National Online Safety. The **focus** this week is: **'What Parents Need to Know About Online Content: 10 Tips to Keep Your Children Safe Online'**.

The link to their website is <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/wake-up-wednesday/>

Net-Aware

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

This is an excellent website that supports your understanding of a variety of apps and social media platforms. By keeping yourself up-to-date, you will be able to better protect your child(ren).



Have a great weekend! Please check out our Facebook Page to see a little window into some of the learning children have been doing. As always, if you need to speak to one of the St. Francis team, please do get in touch! Mr Kewley