



# St. Francis Church of England Primary School

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## School Newsletter

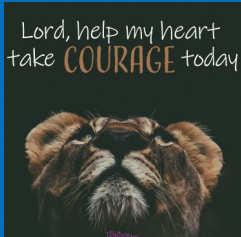
**School Vision:** Our aim at St. Francis Church of England Primary School is to guide our children to live fulfilling lives, rooted in the values taught by Jesus based on the gospel value of love for one another.

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

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

Date: 15.01.2021

### Worship Theme



We have been thinking about the values of: faithfulness, courage and truthfulness .

This week we focused on a biblical character who showed great courage by standing by his beliefs. He was asked to bow down and worship his superior but he would not because he only bowed to God. Can you guess who he is? It was a man called Mordecai.

We talked about the importance of sticking by what we believe.

### Speak to your child about...

What does courage mean?

What does it look like to show courage?

Can you think of a time you showed courage?

What beliefs do you have? What beliefs are important to you?

Can you stand by your beliefs when others around you think different?

Is there a time you should change your beliefs?

What are you thankful for?

What prayer could we say?



### British Values / Global Neighbours



### British Values

11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### Individual Liberty

The armed forces help us to exercise our rights and freedoms as citizens by protecting the UK.

They can also provide help in times of crisis, such as testing, supplying food and clothing or keeping our homes safe.



### Well done children and parents!

Get ticking off the countdown calendar to February half-term - that's another week complete! Well done...you have made it! We are so grateful to all the parents/carers at home supporting their children with remote learning. Thank you for all the work that is being submitted via Purple Mash. I am very impressed by the quality of work.

We continue to monitor attendance on all zoom lessons. We do take account of different narratives so please do let us know if your child is not going to be attending out of respect for the teaching team who are planning lessons for children in school and on zoom. We are continuing to follow the school's curriculum so please make every effort for your child to attend the zoom sessions and complete their set work. Please contact us if you require support.

Teaching staff will continue to contact you via email to alert you of timetables, zoom links and any other work associated. If you are not receiving the correct information, please ensure you emailed your year group teacher using your preferred email address.

### Diary Dates - Upcoming special events

Week beginning 1st February - Children's Mental Health Week

Week beginning 1st February - National Storytelling Week

Tuesday 9th February - Internet Safety Day



### Children's Mental Health Week 2021 - Express Yourself

From 1-7 February 2021 schools, youth groups, organisations and individuals across the UK will take part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is **Express Yourself**.

**Expressing yourself** is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good.

It's important to remember that being able to **express yourself** is not about being the best at something or putting on a performance for others. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself.

For Children's Mental Health Week 2021 we will be encouraging children (and adults) to explore the different ways we can **express ourselves**, and the creative ways that we can share our feelings, our thoughts and our ideas.

Around three children in every primary school class has a mental health problem, and many more struggle with challenges from bullying to bereavement. Whether you're **someone who works with children, a parent or carer, passionate about spreading the word, or keen to raise vital funds for Place2Be**, you can help us reach as many people as possible.

## Celebration Worship

If your child completes anything outside of school that they are proud about and would like to share during Celebration Worship, please email a picture of their achievement and I will add it to the presentation. Please send to <head@stfrancis.blackburn.sch.uk>.

Thank you to everyone who joined our virtual Celebration Worship today! It was a great way to end to the week!

## Five Top Tips - Dealing with loneliness and isolation

**Pray. Light a candle, if safe, and pray for hope, faith and strength to keep loving and caring for each other during this time of struggle.**

**Talk about how you feel.** This may be difficult if you are self-isolating, but do use the telephone, internet, and social media. If you need to contact a counsellor this can be arranged by your GP, or via local agencies, or privately. The Samaritans are there 24 hours a day, every day, and it's free to call them on 116 123.

**Focus on the things that you can change, not on the things you can't.**

**Look after yourself - physically, emotionally, spiritually.** Plan in things that you enjoy at regular intervals during the day – a TV programme, a phone call, a book, a favourite dish, a game.

**Look after others. Even if only in small ways, but do what you can:** a smile, a kind word, writing a letter or an email.

## Universal Infant Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive 'Universal Infant Free School Meals', meaning parents/carers are not required to pay for school dinners if their child has a school dinner.

'Universal Infant Free School Meals' is different to 'Free School Meals'

### Free School Meals

If you are eligible for 'Free School Meals', you MUST apply for this. The criteria and information on how to apply is below. If you are awarded this, you will not be required to pay for school dinners from Reception to Year 6 and the school will receive a small amount of money that can be used to support your child's provision.

Are you eligible for Free School Meals? \*\*\*\*PLEASE APPLY **EVEN IF** YOU SEND YOUR CHILD WITH A PACKED LUNCH **OR** YOUR CHILD GETS UNIVERSAL INFANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS AS THE SCHOOL WILL STILL RECEIVE A SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT CAN BE USED TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD\*\*\*\*

Children whose parents receive the following support payments are entitled to receive free school meals:

Income Support (IS)

Income Based Jobseekers Allowance

An income-related employment and support allowance

The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit (PCGC)

Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by Inland Revenue that does not exceed £16,190

Universal Credit and have an income, as assessed by the Inland Revenue that does not exceed £7,400.

**Please note:** if you receive Working Tax Credit you will not be entitled to free school meals.

Please go to: <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-meals> to apply for 'Free School Meals'.

If you have any questions or difficulties, please contact the school office on 01254 201419 or email [office@stfrancis.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:office@stfrancis.blackburn.sch.uk)

## School Facebook Page

If you have not done so already, please like our Facebook page.

@stfrancisprimary

Check for updated photographs from this week!

## Positive COVID Test or Symptoms of COVID?

If your child(ren) develop any COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive, please report this to school by emailing us at: <covid19@stfrancis.blackburn.sch.uk>.

Please report COVID-19 symptoms and positive tests even if your child is not in school provision.

The application process for key workers has closed and is not being viewed. If you need to discuss a place, please call the office. You will then be asked to complete the paperwork.

Thanks for all of your encouragement and positive comments. Stay safe.

Mr Kewley