



# Newsletter

St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School

February 2025

Welcome back. We hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term. Please see the following items for your attention. This half-term, we prepare to journey through Lent towards the celebration of Easter, striving to grow closer to God each week.

## Dates for the Diary

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** – Ash Wednesday

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Y4/5 Trip to Austerfield

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** – School finishes for the Easter Holidays

## Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30am Fr Darren will be coming into school to distribute ashes to pupils and staff to mark the beginning of Lent. Parents, carers and Parishioners are welcome to join us for our Ash Wednesday service and to receive their ashes.



## Uniform

May we remind parents that Jewellery is not permitted at school. Children may wear stud ear rings but no hoops or ear rings which risk getting caught. Pupils are also permitted to wear a watch (no smart watches).

Furthermore, pupils are not permitted to wear over-elaborate hair accessories including bows and beads – all hair accessories must be practical and functional.

If your child attends school with missing or incorrect uniform, you will be sent a letter by your child's class teacher.

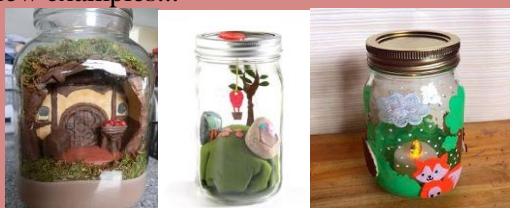
## Pilgrims of Hope

This term, we are focusing on Pope Francis' call to become pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee year by spreading Love in our school and community.



## World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

To celebrate World book day, we will be holding a non-uniform day where children can choose to dress as a character from their favourite book. Also to celebrate world book day, we are running a competition called 'A Story in a Jar'. Children can use a jar and fill it or decorate it to show a favourite book or story. Please bring your finished jars to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February after half term. Here are a few examples...



## Breakfast Club

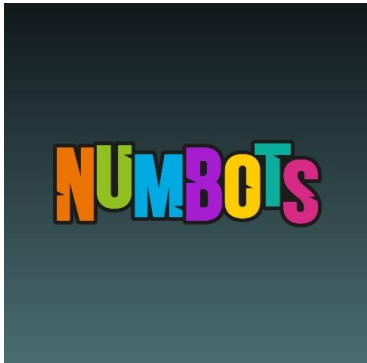
We run a school breakfast club from 7:30am every day. The cost of Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day. There is a range of breakfast options available including toast, cereal, waffles and fruit. At breakfast club the children are supervised by teachers and members of school staff and have the opportunity to take part in a range of learning and fun activities with their friends. Breakfast club places do not need to be booked in advance, you can simply turn up anytime from 7:30am-8:20am at the entrance to the school hall.



## Maths at Home!

At St Francis, we subscribe to a number of online learning platforms so that your child can continue learning maths at home by completing online learning tasks set by and monitored by their class teacher. Those pupils who access these programs regularly at home make significantly accelerated progress in their learning and attainment. Your child's log in details can be found in their reading records. Each program can be accessed through a web browser or by downloading the app for free. It has been a joy to see so many children engaging with these programs at home this term engaging in hours of extra learning, keep up the good work everyone.

**NUMBOTS – Foundational  
maths skills for Reception & Y1**



**Times Tables Rockstars –  
Times tables practice for Y2-6**



**Mathletics – Advanced maths  
practice for Y4-6**



### Bird Watching with our Eco Warriors

Miss Langston took our Eco Warriors Bird Watching to see how many different Species of birds they could spot. The children had a great time.



### School Facebook & Instagram Page

For weekly updates about all that is going on in our school, please follow our school's Facebook and Instagram page at:



SFx\_Balby



### Friendship Stop

Thank you to our School Council for promoting our Friendship stop. Ensuring everyone has a friend to play with each playtime.



### Postcards this month...

Congratulations to the following pupils who have received postcards for outstanding behaviour, attitudes and work:

Anna, Xavier O, Guirise, Brodie, Oskar

