



School to Parish Newsletter



Autumn 2024

It has been a very successful first term of the year at St Francis and we have been delighted to welcome new children, families and staff into our school and parish community. As always, our Catholic faith is at the very heart of life in our school. We wish you all a blessed Advent as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus this Christmas. Please see the following items for your attention.

Thank you Fr Henry

This term, our school and parish community were sad to say goodbye to Fr Henry. On behalf of all at St Francis, we thank Fr Henry for his hard work at the school over the past two years and wish him all the best for his work with his new parish, St Marie's in Sheffield.



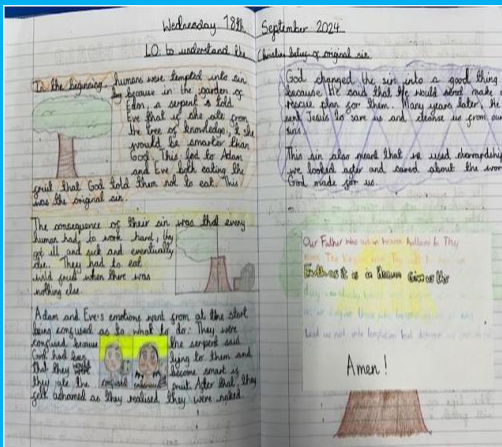
Nine lessons & Nine Carols

On Tuesday 17th December at 2:00pm, our Y5 & Y6 pupils will lead a special 'Nine lessons & Nine Carols' carol service at St Peter's focused upon the key events of the nativity story. We would like to invite all of our parish community to join us for the special celebration.



New RE Curriculum

This term at St Francis we have implemented a new RE curriculum in line with the new Religious Education Directory. In all year groups the children have produced some wonderful work in our topics of 'Creation & Covenant' and 'Prophecy & Promise'.



Sacred Scripture

This November, Mr Hoyes led staff from across our school's partnership in an opportunity to reflect upon the fundamental role that sacred scripture plays in our RE curriculum and how we can effectively teach the Word of God to our children.

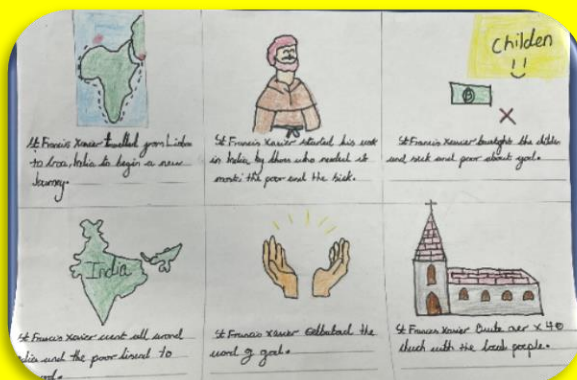


Nursery and Reception Places 2025-26

We are now accepting applications for Nursery and Reception places for the academic year 2025-26. For further information on applications or to arrange a visit to the school please see our school website or contact the school office on: 01302 344678 <https://www.xavier.doncaster.sch.uk/>

The Feast of St Francis Xavier

On the 3rd December, we celebrate the feast day of our school's Patron Saint, St Francis Xavier. In preparation for this special celebration all of our classes have been learning about the life of St Francis and the example his life sets for all of us in how we can spread the word of God. **At 2:00pm on the 3rd December**, Fr Darren will lead a special celebration Mass, all in our school and parish community are welcome – please confirm your place by contacting the school office.



Welcome Mass

In September, Fr Henry led us in a beautiful Mass to begin our school year.



Harvest Festival

This autumn, our Chaplaincy team led a whole school charity project collecting donations for St John's food bank.



Chaplaincy Team

Congratulations to those children selected this year's Chaplaincy team. Our Chaplaincy team have a very important mission in our school:

The Chaplaincy Team Mission

- To be **role models** showing how to live out the Gospel values.
- To **lead** prayer and liturgy in our school.
- To **help** those in our community and world by leading fundraising.
- To **represent the pupil's voice** developing ideas on how we pray, worship and learn about our faith.

Remembrance Day

On Remembrance Day this year our school paused at 11:00am to remember those who gave their lives in the service of others. Our Chaplaincy team led readings and prayers as the whole school assembled in the playground.



Dates for the Diary

Parishioners are welcome to attend key school events and liturgies. All events take place in school unless otherwise stated – please contact the school office in advance if you wish to attend.

- Friday 29th November 1:00pm – Advent Wreath making
- Tuesday 3rd December 2:00pm – Mass for the feast of St Francis Xavier
- Tuesday 17th December 2:00pm – 'Nine Lessons & Nice Carols' (At St Peter's)
- Friday 20th December 1:00pm – Carols Around the Crib