

Newsletter - Key Stage One - Autumn Term

Welcome back after the summer holidays.



Please ensure all items are labelled regularly. School drawstring and school bags are better than the larger backpacks.

P.E. Days

The children need suitable P.E. kits for outdoor and indoor sessions. These should be plain navy or black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and a plain white top. Tracksuit/fleece jackets and trainers are needed for outdoor P.E. and plimsolls for indoor P.E.

Year 1 — Wednesdays doing multi-skills. Fridays with Mrs Mullis teaching dance.

Year 2 - Thursdays with Mrs Mullis teaching dance. Tuesdays doing multi-skills.

Mrs Hughes will be teaching Miss Brazier's class every Wednesday until taking over full time in October when Miss Brazier goes on maternity leave.

Subjects

Our topic this term is 'Battles of Britain' and will focus on the historical events around The Battle of Hastings in 1066, the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 and the Battle of Dunkirk in 1944. In Science, we are looking at materials and their uses. RE will be focusing on 'What it means to belong' in Year 2, and 'What Christians believe God is like' in Year 1. Then after half term, both year groups will look at Incarnation with Christmas. In Computing, we are learning new skills with text and graphics and using them to create projects linked to our topic work. Art is learning about the 'Aboriginal dreaming' paintings with lots of symbolism in the shapes and colours.



Visit to The Life Centre in Newcastle

We are excited to say we have planned a Key Stage One visit to the Life Centre to look at the materials displays and experiments in particular, but also enjoy the other exhibitions about robots and possibly constellations in space.

Year 1 visit will be: Thursday 18th October.

Year 2 visit will be: Friday 19th October.

More details to follow shortly.



Year 1 classes are always generating amazing areas for the children to use and learn in. We would much appreciate any donations of class resources that we regularly use, such as recyclable craft materials and in particular, any small world figures. A voluntary contribution of 50p per child weekly, would be greatly received to continue buying much needed resources for Year 1.

Thank you in advance. KS1 team.

Meet the Key Stage One Staff

Miss Dale. I'm currently the KS1 team leader, Maths leader, Art and Design leader and a member of the Senior Leadership Team. I have taught at St. Francis of Assisi for 16 years and am one of the original staff when the school opened in 2002. I am invested in continuing the growth and excellence of the teaching and learning of all children, teachers and staff. I love being creative in my teaching style, lessons and displays to keep all children motivated, interested and always learning.

Mrs Hughes. I have recently joined the teaching staff at St Francis and have worked in education for the last 5 years. I am really looking forward to taking over Miss Brazier's Year 1 class in October and am enjoying getting to know the children on a Wednesday in the run up to this. I am a Mum of 2 and therefore understand the value of home/school relationships.

Miss Brazier. I am currently one of the Year 1 teachers and the PE subject leader. I have taught at St Francis of Assisi for the past 10 years. I will be taking time out in October to start my maternity leave with my second child. As well as being a teacher, I am also a parent at St Francis and therefore have a vested interest in supporting learning both within school and at home. I enjoy making learning fun and you will often see me dressed up in various disguises.

Mrs Casey. I am currently the Teaching Assistant working across both Year 2 classes. I have worked at St Francis for 12 years. I love supporting the children in all areas of the curriculum and building relationships with them, in order to support the needs of each individual. I have a real interest in RE and support the RE Leader in school, with a focus on Collective Worship.

Miss Moffat. I am currently one of the Year 1 teachers and have worked at St Francis, since qualifying as a teacher 3 years ago. I am also a qualified gymnastics judge which takes up a lot of my spare time. I am passionate about teaching phonics and supporting parents with their understanding of this area of the curriculum. You will often hear about how forgetful I am from the children when they have had to help me with my maths or writing. Please rest assured this is just part of my teaching style!

Mrs Camsell. I am currently the Teaching Assistant across both Year 1 classes and have worked at St Francis since 2004. Both my children have attended the school and therefore the school holds a special place in my heart. I enjoy supporting the teachers in teaching all areas of the curriculum but love sharing my creativity with the children and you will quite often find me covered in flour, paint or glue.

Mr Taylor. I am currently one of the Year 2 teachers. This is my first year at St Francis after previously completing my NQT year at a school in Darlington. A lot of my spare time is taken up performing with Darlington Operatic Society and I am currently rehearsing for our next production "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang". Before teaching, I worked as a professional entertainer for 10 years and enjoy singing and acting. I like to bring performance into my teaching as I feel it develops confidence in children.

Mrs Mullis. I teach PE to all KS1 classes. I have been teaching at St Francis for 5 years and have enjoyed every minute of it. I previously taught secondary PE and was an outreach worker for sports colleges which took my work into primary schools. I love seeing children active and try to make lessons as fun and physical as possible. Both of my children attended this school so have had links with the school for a very long time. I am currently enjoying dance with Y1 and Y2. Y2 are doing street dance and they look super cool with their funky