



*St Francis of Assisi Voluntary Aided
Church of England Primary School*

“Live, love and learn together in the light of Christ.”

Final Letter of the School Year

Friday 20th July, 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

In addition to the newsletter that I sent home this week, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support during this academic year. We have had a busy year and hope that the pupils have enjoyed their time in school and that you have enjoyed being part of the life of the school; joining in with celebrations, seeing pupils' work and achievements and communicating with the staff and members of the school community.

We return to school on Tuesday 4th September as we have a training day for staff on Monday 3rd September. In a change to current practice, doors will be open each morning from 8.50 a.m. for pupils to come into school so that all pupils have arrived and are in their classrooms ready to learn by 8.55 a.m. at the latest. On Tuesday 4th, the staff will meet pupils from 8.50 a.m. so that parents/carers know which doors their pupils should go in through. We would like to request that parents/carers do not enter the school building with their children, and a member of staff will be on each door to support with any questions or discussions needed.

This academic year, parents of pupils at St Francis of Assisi school have taken pupils out of school for a leave of absence, mainly for a family holiday, which has impacted on their attendance. The table below provides a breakdown of the absences into sessions, days and percentages. The only holidays that have been authorised are those that were requested prior to the start of this last academic year and the changes had been made to the attendance policy.

Leave of Absence	Sessions	Days	%
Authorised – H code	30	15	0.025
Unauthorised – G code	1450	725	1.197
Total	1480	740	1.222

It is good practice for applications for leave of absence in term-time to be submitted to school at least four weeks prior to the leave being taken. Please note that, although illness is authorised, it still adds to a child's absence percentage which is why you may have received a letter this term stating that your child has an attendance below 90%.

Over the summer holidays, we are hoping to develop an area of the playground into a tyre play area. The Friends of St Francis will be raising funds over the next academic year to support the school in paying for this. We are also in the process of logging all email addresses so that the new online payment system can be set up. Details will follow via email.

We hope that you have a fantastic holiday and look forward to seeing you in September.

Louise Probeta
(Head Teacher)

Lowfields Avenue, Ingleby Barwick, Stockton on Tees, TS17 5GA

Tel: 01642 769942

Email: stfrancis.school@stockton.gov.uk

