St. Francis
Church of England Primary School

Joy from faith, joy of learning, joy in the journey

Week ending: 18.09.2026

'I have told you this so my joy may be in you' John 15:11

Upcoming dates – also see the dates list below

Wednesday 23rd September

Year 1 at Cherry Tree Library – 2.45pm until home time. Parents/carers please pick your child up from the library at the end of the day if possible.

Friday 25th September

Y2 class host their annual MacMillan Morning. Parents/carers welcome from 9:00am

Wednesday 30th September

Year 1 at Cherry Tree Library – same details as above.

Wednesday 7th October

Year 1 at Cherry Tree Library – same details as above.

Thursday 8th October

Year 3 Harvest Worship at 9.10am. Parents/carers of Y3 children welcome to join us.

As we move through this term, I have been thinking about the values that are important here at St Francis CE Primary. This week, we have been focusing on respect and looking at what disrespect means in our school.

It has been really interesting to see the different ways that disrespect shows up. When we ignore people, when we shout or laugh at others, and when we do not look after our things, we create a place that is not good for learning and friendship. These things might seem small on their own, but together they affect how well children do in their learning and how they get along with each other. I have loved listening to the conversations children have had in their classrooms as they have worked out why this matters. This is how real learning happens, and I am sure it will help our children treat each other better.

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our Meet the Teacher session on Wednesday. These times are really important for families and staff to get to know each other, and thank you to everyone who came.

I also want to say a big thank you to all the families who came to the Community Sounds event last weekend. It was lovely to see so many of you there. These events help us remember that we are not just a school – we are a church family that enjoys spending time with each other as well as celebrating our talents!

Today has been a really exciting day. We held our Election Day, and every class from Year 1 upwards has voted for classmates to be on the school council, house teams, worship wardens, and mental health champions. This is an important part of our school life because it gives children a real say in how things work here. The children have shown amazing enthusiasm today, and I will tell you the results on Monday. These children will help make sure that the voices and values of all their friends are heard this year.

Parent Governor Vacancy – <u>deadline next week</u>

I would like to draw your attention to an important opportunity within our school community. We currently have a vacancy for a **Parent Governor**, and we are seeking someone who shares our passion for St Francis and our commitment to every child and family who attends here. If you are interested in having a strategic impact on our school and would like to find out more about this rewarding role, please contact our office before Friday 25th September. Mrs. Barton, our staff governor, is happy to answer any questions you may have.

Housepoints weekly totals

Our weekly celebration worship now includes our new housepoints totals. Children receive housepoints for excellent behaviour, super attitude to their learning or others or fantastic work. The house with the most points at the end of every term will receive a treat.

Autumn: 100 **Winter:** 97

Spring: 73 **Summer:** 119

Safeguarding



We will ensure that our statutory duty, to safeguard all children from harm and risk of harm, remains our top priority. We will ensure that all aspects of the document Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 is adhered to at all times and with all members of staff, visitors and volunteers. We will continue to work with outside agencies where additional support is deemed appropriate.

Curriculum and Teaching



We will be continuing to embed speaking and listening opportinities throughout our curriculum as part of our Oracy strategy.
We will be introducing a new writing scheme with the aim of improving standards of writing across school.
We will be reviewing our curriculum to ensure that it is still progressive and sequenced appropriately so that every child can learn earnestly.

Attendance and Behaviour



We are to introduce Behaviour Passports across school to acknowledge and celebrate positive behaviour choices from every child through the collection of housepoints.
We will continue to work with families closely to support every child to attend school as close to 100% as possible.

Leadership and Governance



We will be embedding our new leadership team and developing our subject leaders to ensure improved standards of teaching and learning across the whole curriculum.
We will be welcoming new governors onto our board as well as welcoming a new chair of governors.

Our aims for 2026-2027

At St. Francis CE Primary School we aim to inspire our church school family to learn earnestly, care deeply, grow boldly and find joy in the journey nourished by faith, friendship, aspiration and love.

Early Years



We will continue to ensure all aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage Staturoy Framework are in place, in order to provide the best possible start for our youngest children, and to ensure that children learn and develop well, and are kept healthy and safe.

Church School Distinctiveness



We will continue to work closely with St. Francis Church and its community, to ensure that our children learn through faith and about faith and know the joy that faith can bring.
We will ensure our Vision and Values continue to be at the heart of all we do and every decision we make.

Inclusion



We will be unveiling our new NEST provision for children with complex needs to access for specific interventions and provisions. We wil be moving to a 'class team' model of support whereby children with additional needs are taught mainly in class and supported where needed by the team of adults.

Achievement and Standards



We aim to improve outcomes for all children in our Reception class, with a larger percentage achieving a Good Level of Development by the end of EYFS. We also aim to increase the numbers of all children leaving each year group at age-related expectations and above. We want to make sure our pupils with SEND and those in challenging circumstances achieve in line with their peers.

Enrichment



We will be following the Department for Education's new Enrichment Framework, with the aim to build your child's confidence, wellbeing, and life skills by offering a steady mix of sports, arts, outdoor adventures, volunteering, and future skills like cooking or coding. We will hopefully gain reaccrediation for our OPAL provision.

PTA
SPOOKY BINGO

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER
4:30 – 5:30PM

£3 PER ADULT TICKET

£2 PER CHILD

INCLUDES UNLIMITED DRINKS

Paythrough ParentPay

HOTDOGS AND SNACKS ON SALE

'BEST SPOOKY COSTUME' COMPETITION

Non-uniform day
(NO spooky costumes on this day!)
Friday 16th October
to collect prizes for Bingo.
Y5 + Y6 - bring bottles
Y3 + Y4 - bring savoury snacks (no nuts)
EYFS, Y1, Y2 - bring sweet treats

Autumn Term dates

St Francis C.E. Primary School
Autumn Term Events

Autumn 1

Thursday 3rd September - School Re-opens Year 1 – Year 6
Monday 7th September – Welcome Reception Class Group 1
Tuesday 8th September - Welcome Reception Class Group 2
Friday 18th September – Voting day for class leadership roles
Wednesday 9th September - Welcome Reception Class Group 3
Thursday 10th September – All Reception class start
Thursday 10th Septemer - Anglo-Saxon visit in Year 5
Saturday 12th September - Community Church Event at St Francis School
Thursday 17th September – Family, class and individual pupil photos 8:30am start
Friday 18th September – Voting day for class leadership roles
Friday 25th September – Y2 MacMillan Coffee Morning
Wednesday 23rd September - Year 1 at Cherry Tree Library 14:45-15:25
Wednesday 30th September - Year 1 at Cherry Tree Library 14:45-15:25
Thursday 1st October – Autumn Census
Wednesday 7th October - Year 1 at Cherry Tree Library 14:45-15:
Thursday 8th October - Year 3 Harvest Worship 09:10 – 09:40 families welcome
Sunday 11th October - Harvest Service at St Francis Church 10:45am
Thursday 15th October - Messy Church – Creation 15:30 -16:30
Friday 16th October – PTA Non-uniform day
Thursday 22nd October PTA Spooky Family Bingo 16:30 – 17:30

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October - School closed for half-term

St Francis C.E. Primary School
Autumn Term Events

Autumn 2:

Monday 2nd November – School re-opens
Monday 2nd – Wednesday 4th November - Year 6 Robinwood residential
Thursday 5th November – Year 5 Remembrance service 09:10 – 09:40 families welcome
Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service at St Francis Church time tbc
Monday 9th November - Year 1 visit to North West Air Ambulance charity shop 09:00-11:00 families welcome
Tuesday 10th November – Year 6 Arithmetic Parent Workshop 09:10 – 10:00
Wednesday 11th November - Parent drop in 15:30 – 16:00 all year groups
Monday 16th – Friday 20th – Assessment week
Monday 16th November to Friday 20th November - Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 20th November – PTA non-uniform day donations for Christmas hamper
Wednesday 25th November – Reception 2027 Open Evening 17:00 – 19:00
Friday 27th November – Y5 BAE Stomp Rockets Workshop
Thursday 3rd December – PTA Family Christmas Craft Afternoon 13:30 – 15:25
Friday 4th December – Christmas Tree Service and PTA raffle 14:30 – 15:25
Thursday 10th December – Messy Church Christmas 15:30 -16:30
Sunday 13th December - Christingle Service at St Francis Church 4:00pm
Monday 14th December – Whole school Christmas dinner
Tuesday 15th December – Year 2 Nativity 14:30 – 15:25
Wednesday 16th December – Christmas party – non-uniform
Thursday 17th December – School Closes for Christmas 15:25

Friday 18th December 2026 – Friday 1st January 2027