

St Francis Roman Catholic Primary School

"With God, everything is within our reach"



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Headteacher: Mrs A. O'Dwyer
Parish Priest: Father K Murphy
Wednesday 11th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support. The children have worked incredibly hard, embraced new challenges, and shown the enthusiasm and kindness that make our school community so special. As we look ahead to the next term, I would also like to share some important updates with you.

Staffing Year 1

When we return after half term, Mrs Blake will take on the main teaching role in Year 1. Miss Ross will continue her work as SENDCO and will also provide classroom cover for staff as she prepares for her maternity leave later in the term. Mrs Blake continues to serve as our EYFS Lead and Early Reading Lead.

SENDCo

When Miss Ross begins her maternity leave at Easter, Miss Deighan will take on the role of SENDCO until Miss Ross return in the new year. In the weeks between half term and Easter, Miss Ross and Miss Deighan will be working closely together to ensure a smooth and well-supported transition for SEND provision. We will be inviting all parents and carers of children with SEND to an informal coffee morning, where both Miss Deighan and Miss Ross will be available to talk with you and answer any questions you may have. This will take place on Wednesday 11th March at 9am; invitations will be sent out closer to the date.

Staff Updates

We are delighted to welcome Mr M. Cleary to the St Francis teaching team on a temporary basis. He will be joining us later in the Spring Term to support teaching and learning in Year 6, working alongside Miss Deighan and Miss O'Brien. Mr Cleary brings a wealth of experience in Year 6 teaching, having worked in several local Catholic primary schools in recent years.

Miss Opara will be joining our teaching support team after half term, working with our younger children. We are delighted to have her expertise and enthusiasm supporting our pupils.

We are also pleased to welcome Miss Tennant, who will be joining us after half term as our new Office Manager. She brings extensive experience in the smooth running of a primary school office, having worked in a similar role for several years.

I am sure you will join me in welcoming our new staff members and in wishing them every success as they begin their roles here at St Francis.

Sadly, we also say goodbye to Miss Jawed, who has been a valued member of our lunchtime team. We thank her for her hard work and commitment, and we wish her every success in her new role.

Kind regards,

Mrs A. O'Dwyer
Headteacher
St Francis RC Primary School