

St Francis Roman Catholic Primary School

"With God, everything is within our reach"



Ellenbrook Close
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www.stfrancismanchester.com

Headteacher: Mrs A. O'Dwyer
Parish Priest: Father K Murphy
Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another successful school year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the many achievements and share a few notices with you.

Fond Farewells and Warm Welcomes

We are very sad that Miss Johnstone is leaving us today for a very well-deserved rest. She has looked after our children during lunchtimes, helping to keep them safe. We also say goodbye to Miss Gibson, who is embarking on an exciting new adventure teaching abroad. Miss Gibson joined us this term while Miss Ross has been on maternity leave and has made a wonderful contribution to school life.

We thank both Miss Johnstone and Miss Gibson for everything they have done for our school community and wish them every happiness and success in their future endeavours.

At the same time, we are delighted to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Stockdale, who will be joining our team in September. Mrs Stockdale brings with her a wealth of experience teaching in Year 3 and will be teaching our Year 3 class each Friday. We are excited to have her on board and know that she will be a fantastic addition to our school family.

Year 6

Over the past few weeks, we have enjoyed sharing many special and memorable moments with our wonderful Year 6 children, including the Leavers' Mass, their fantastic performance of 'Cinderella Rockerfella', and their heartfelt Leavers' Assembly. These occasions have given us the opportunity to celebrate their achievements, reflect on their journey, and recognise the unique contribution each child has made to our school community.

Year 6 have brought so much joy, laughter and enthusiasm to St Francis, and they will always hold a special place in our hearts as cherished members of our school family. As they prepare to embark on the next chapter of their education, we thank them and you, their families, for the many happy memories created over the years. We wish them every success, happiness and blessing for the exciting adventures that lie ahead and look forward to hearing about all they achieve in the future.

Dates and Times

Our first day of term for the children in Reception to Year 6 will be **Thursday 3rd September 2026**.

Nursery children, please refer to the Welcome Pack from the Parent Meeting for your starting dates with times.

Morning Drop Off:

Gates between 8:40am – 8:50am.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children enter school via the 'bungalow entrance'.

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 enter school via the 'Main entrance'.

Please note that this is a **new routine for our current Year 2 children who will be Year 3** in September 2026.

Home-time Pick Up:

3:20pm

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and **Year 3** are collected via the 'Bungalow Entrance'.

Year 4, 5 and 6 are dismissed from the main entrance.

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New Academic Year

Each class will hold a Welcome Meeting in the first couple of weeks in September, after school, where teachers will talk to you about the year ahead. Dates will be sent out at the beginning of the new term.

Breakfast Club

The new charge for Breakfast Club will be £2.50 from September, and bookings and payment need to be made via the Arbor app.

Opening times for Breakfast Club for Reception to Year 6: 8:00am – 8:15am.

School Dinners

Payments of £2.77 per day, £13.85 per child per week can be made via the Arbor app. From September, we will be introducing a new online meal ordering system called School Grid. Parents and carers will be asked to pre-order their child's school lunches in advance. During the summer holidays, you will receive a welcome email from School Grid with instructions on how to set up your account and place orders. If you require any support with this, please speak with the school office.

Summer Holidays

There are lots of free and exciting events happening in Manchester this summer to keep your children entertained:

[What's on for Kids this Summer Holiday](#)

School Uniform

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all parents and carers for the tremendous effort you've made in ensuring your children have adhered to the school uniform policy throughout the year. Your support has helped foster a strong sense of pride and belonging across the school. As we look ahead to the new academic year in September, we kindly ask for your continued support in making sure children return looking smart and ready to learn. A neat and consistent appearance makes a big difference in setting the tone for all the exciting learning ahead. Please refer to guidance emailed. Please refer to the Uniform Guidance document sent home for full details of our school uniform requirements.

Thank You

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our wonderful staff team, Father Kevin, Minna and our dedicated Governors for their unwavering commitment, support and contribution throughout the year. Their care, hard work and dedication help make St Francis such a special place for our children to learn and grow.

Finally, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all our families for your continued support and partnership throughout the year; it is truly appreciated. Thank you for entrusting us with your incredible children each day; their enthusiasm, kindness and unique talents are what make St Francis such a vibrant, special and joyful school community. We are incredibly proud of them all and feel truly privileged to be part of their journey.

I wish you all a wonderful break and very much look forward to welcoming you back in September.

With very best wishes,

Mrs A O'Dwyer
Headteacher