

# St Francis Catholic Primary School Morley



Thursday 23rd October  
2025

Autumn Term 1, week 8  
Virtue: Thankfulness

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## Weekly News Headteacher's Welcome



To say we have only had a 4 school day week it has been a very busy week. On Monday pupils from Years 3&4 represented school in a dodgeball festival. On Tuesday we met our new School PCSO (Lucy), who gave a safety discussion around bonfire night and firework safety. On Wednesday our Year 5 Mini Vinnies began selling Poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Poppies will continue to be sold when we return back to school after half term. On Wednesday evening our digital leaders attended a special celebration event hosted by the NSPCC at Leeds Civic Hall. We look forward to presenting this national online safety campaign that we were selected to be a part of very soon!



A huge thank you to all the families who supported in the running and carving fun at our pumpkin patch on Sunday. Once again a huge thank you to our school community for supporting another wonderful family PTA event. Your generosity through the school fundraising goes straight back to provide opportunities and resources for your children.



Today we officially welcomed our Reception children in a heart warming special service led by Year 6. Well done Year 6 in making your buddies feel so welcome in their first year of Primary School so far!

Wishing you all a wonderful half term break.

See you on Monday 3rd November!  
Mrs Gibbons



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### Dates for your diary:

School reopens for Autumn 2 ~	3rd Nov 2025
Y3 class trip	5th Nov
Open day ~ EYFS '26, 10am & 2pm	6th Nov
Mp Mark Seward	7th Nov
Choir Winter voices trip	7th Nov
Celebration assembly - 3pm, all welcome	7th Nov
Anti - bullying week	10th—14th Nov
Odd Socks Day	10th Nov
PTA meeting, 6:10pm in School	10th Nov
Y2+3 attending mass @ church	6th Nov
Y5 leading Remembrance service ~ 10:45am	11th Nov
Flu immunization in school	14th Nov
Celebration assembly - 3pm, all welcome	14th Nov

## Late arrivals to school ~ 8:50am is the start of the school day!

There has been a growing number of children arriving late to school. On one day last week, where there were no traffic disruptions there were 18 children late, something we have never seen before! The beginning of the school day commences at **8:50am**. Children arriving after this time are then marked as officially late. A reminder that the school gates open from **8:40am** to allow for staggered arrival through the gate. From after half term, there will be a late gate register log to record repeated late attendance, resulting in an attendance panel meeting being called with parents and school.

Lateness = lost learning	
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)	
5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

# 500 Word challenge

There are two age categories: **5-7 and 8-11 year-olds** and spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - as has always been the case for 500 Words, it's all about our writers' brilliant creativity! There are **prizes** to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners will also win 500 books for their school library. 50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final at **Windsor Castle** in February 2026, which will once again be hosted by **Her Majesty Queen Camilla**. If that's not enough, each winner will also see their story be read aloud by a superstar celebrity on TV, which will be shown as part of a special 500 Words programme with **The One Show** in early March. Our official panel of celebrity judges, **Sir Lenny Henry, Malorie Blackman, Francesca Simon, Charlie Higson and Frank Cottrell-Boyce** will return to crown our next winners.



**Make sure you submit your stories before 9pm, Friday 7 November.**

To submit an entry please visit: [www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words](http://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words)

St Francis Catholic Primary School



## Christmas Shoe Box Gift Appeal



This time of year can be really difficult for many and there is always a small way we can help others but in a way that will make a big difference. You can help spread joy this Christmas to families whose children may not receive a gift.

### How can you help?

If you are able to donate items, place these into a small shoe box size. Items can include:

toys, toiletries, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, chocolates, biscuits, sweets, magazines, puzzle books, small stationary, small games, small craft items, books.

**Please label your box with boy / girl** so it can be gifted appropriately.

Please bring in your boxes by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November so we can then deliver them.

Thank you for your support and generosity,

St Francis Mini Vinnies



# Plea from our Mini Vinnies...

## Baby Bank Advent Calendar Appeal

Gianna Baby Bank  
Advent Calendar  
Add an item to a box each day, then on Christmas Eve donate the box to the Gianna Baby Bank



1	Cotton wool	2	Baby wash	3	Gift for mum	4	Baby toy	5	Toothpaste	6	Item of baby clothing
7	Baby hat	8	Toothbrush	9	Baby bubble bath	10	Shampoo for mum	11	Deodorant	12	Baby shampoo
13	Baby towel/muslin	14	Nappies	15	Baby wipes	16	Maternity towels	17	Nappy sacks	18	Shower gel
19	Baby lotion	20	Baby vest	21	Breast pads	22	Cotton wool	23	Mittens/socks	24	Gift for baby

Please bring in any baby items in a box or bag by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November so we can deliver them to the Gianna Baby Bank to support mothers and babies in need this Christmas.



Our Mini Vinnies are once again hosting several works of Mercy to support babies and children who may not be in receipt of much this Christmas. If you feel you may be able to donate any items, please send these into school 21st November.

Thank you as always for your generosity.

## Early Years

This week in Nursery, we have been learning all about Diwali! We have created our own lamps in our creative area, and we tried some foods that are eaten during Diwali. We spent some time listening to some music too whilst we have been in provision.



In Reception, we have been exploring the wonderful season of Autumn. We went to the playground to look at the colours of the leaves and spoke about why they have fallen off the trees. We then created some wonderful Autumn tree paintings whilst sharing our knowledge.

## Key Stage 1



This week in Year 1 we have followed instructions to make jam sandwiches in English and we started to learn to skip in PE! We worked really hard on this and by the end of the session we were successfully jumping over the skipping rope!



In Year 2 we have been adding across 10. We have evaluated our pinch pots in Art and Design. We have also learnt all about our class Saints- St Abigail and St Luke.



## Year 5 Space workshop!

This week Year 5 had a zoom call with Helen O'Brien, a space engineer working at the Imperial Collage London. We loved hearing all about her space projects and the rockets she has seen launch into space. We were lucky enough to ask lots of questions, and she was very impressed with our knowledge!



## Black History month

This year the theme for October's Black History month has been 'Standing firm with Power & Pride', which teachers have linked into the learning of the class inspirational person.



## Autumn family fun!

The Stewards of Creation and Gardening Club have joined forces to

support The Arrium and their mission to grow and plant more trees throughout Leeds. They are running an initiative until the end of October to encourage people to collect as many acorns, beech nuts and sweet chestnuts as possible from our local parks. Seed collection boxes are available in several parks throughout Leeds to drop off the Autumn treasures you find. The Arrium will then use the seeds collected to plant and grow new trees and donate the saplings to schools to grow on their grounds. We aim to create new habitats for birds and plants and help to support the effects of our carbon footprint on our common home. Please see the information below for more information.



## Academic Calendar 2025-26

Start of Autumn 2 Monday 3rd November

End of Autumn Term Friday 19th December

Start of Spring term Monday 5th January

End of half term Friday 13th February

Start of Spring 2 half term Monday 23rd February 2026

End of Spring term Thursday 2nd April

Start of Summer term Monday 20th April 2026

May Day bank holiday ~ Monday 4th May 2026  
**School closed**

End of half term Friday 22nd May

Start of Summer 2 half Monday 1st June

## School dinner menu - Autumn Term

Dinner menus are based on a 3-week cycle. Next week's menu (week 1) is listed below. If your child is in Nursery dinner costs £2.70 per day or if they are in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) dinners cost £3 per day.

### MIGHTY MEALS MENU 25/26

Great school lunches designed to help young people grow and thrive in everything they do! Seasonal vegetables are provided with all meals or children can opt out for our 'Pick Your Own' salad bar.

School: Morley St Francis Primary  
5 CHOICE STANDARD Week ONE



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Look out for why our MIGHTY MENUS are the best choice at lunchtime!</b>					
<b>TASTY!</b> Cook's special Our cooks have chosen meals they know children will eat and enjoy.	Margherita Pizza (V)(H) Baby Baked Potatoes Fresh Salad	Chicken Pie with Puff Pastry Crust, Mashed Potato, Broccoli, Carrots & Gravy	Beef Chilli Con Carne with Baked Nachos and Rice, Peas & Carrots	Roast Chicken, Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed or Roast Potatoes, Roasted Winter Vegetables, & Gravy	Fish Fingers, Chips & Baked Beans
<b>Meat Free</b> World wide Dishes from around the world to develop children's tastes.	Homemade Vegetarian Curry (VE)(H) Steamed Rice Cauliflower & Peas	Creamy Cajun Pasta Bake (V)(H) Fresh Salad	Vegetarian Sausage (VE)(H) Mashed Potato, Peas, Carrots & Gravy	Vegetarian Savoury Grill, (VE)(H) Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed or Roast Potatoes, Roasted Winter Vegetables, & Gravy	Vegetarian All Day Breakfast (V)(H) Hash Brown & Baked Beans
<b>Deli</b> Brain boosting Protein packed dishes to support learning.	Cheddar Cheese (V)(H) Baby Baked Potatoes PYO Salad Bar	Tuna Mayonnaise (H) Homemade Jacket Wedges PYO Salad Bar	Cheddar Cheese and Coleslaw (V)(H) Baby Baked Potatoes PYO Salad Bar	Roast Chicken or Vegetarian Sausage Bap (VE)(H) PYO Salad Bar	Tuna Mayonnaise (H) Hash Brown PYO Salad Bar
<b>Spud Station</b> High 5 Fresh fruit and veg to help your child reach the magic 5 portions a day.	Homemade Vegetarian Curry (VE)(H)	Cheddar Cheese (V)(H) or Tuna Crunch	Tuna Mayonnaise (H) or Beef Chilli Con Carne	<b>YUM!</b> Roast Dinner today!	Baked Beans (V)(H)
<b>Desserts</b> Planet power Vegetarian and vegan meals that are good for children and the planet.	Jam & Coconut Sponge with Creamy Custard	Melon Slices & Home Baked Shortbread	Flaky Apple & Cinnamon Swirls	Jelly & Ice Cream	Freshly Baked Chocolate Sprinkle Cookies Fresh Fruit Wedges
<b>Eat a rainbow</b> Desserts that contain a variety of fresh fruits.					

FIVE BIG CHOICES EVERY DAY!



(V) VEGETARIAN (VE) VEGAN (H) HALAL

Allergen information is available on request. Special diets catered for.

## Safeguarding

If you ever feel any child is at risk, please contact our Child Protection team:

**Mrs Gibbons**  
Headteacher / SENDCO

**Miss Grayston**  
Assistant Headteacher

**Miss Goodall**  
EYFS lead / Reception teacher

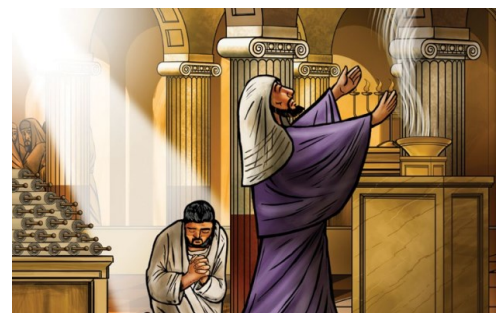
**Mrs Harrison**  
HLTA / Learning mentor

**Mrs Walker**  
Chair of Governors

Or ring Duty and Advice on: 0113376 0336

## 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

There were some people who thought they were better than everyone else. One day Jesus told them a story." Two men went into the Temple to pray. One of them was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, 'I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, dishonest, and unfaithful like other people, and particularly that I am not like this sinful tax collector here. I fast twice a week and always give money to the Temple.' The tax collector stood some distance away, not even daring to raise his eyes to heaven, but he bowed his head and said, 'God, have mercy on me, for I am a sinner.'" Then Jesus said, "It was the tax collector who was pleasing to God, not the Pharisee. Those who praise themselves and think they are better than others will be humbled, but if you humble yourself then you will be praised by God."



Saturday evening Mass time: 6:30pm

Sunday Mass times 9am

Weekday mass times:  
Tuesdays 7pm,  
Thursdays 10am

"When we live humbly, God takes our small efforts and creates great things."  
Pope Francis  
(Pope from 2013-