



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a start to the Spring Term! We are so sad that once again schools are closed to the majority of pupils, but understand that it is vitally important to support the 'Stay at Home' message from the Government as the whole country tries to protect the NHS from being overwhelmed.

I am so proud of the way in which the whole of our school community – children, parents and staff – have rallied and quickly adapted to a new way of school once more. It was just brilliant on Wednesday to see the success and engagement with our online lessons from the children, and I hope these sessions are proving valuable to you all in supporting the home learning. We are currently looking at additional resources we can purchase to further support you in home learning also.

Mrs Sutton has been gathering resources to support the children's mental health and wellbeing and these will be available on our website for you to access on our Learning at Home under Well-being. The resources have been organised into 3 key areas: managing emotions, mindful activities and stress and anxiety, and will be changed and updated each week. Looking after your mental health is just as important as the learning, so please take a look at these resources and make use of them.

Our core Christian Value for this half term is Thankfulness. And in a week, where there has been much sombre news, I have been trying to remain positive and reflect on the things that I am thankful for

Here are some of the things, I am thankful for this week:

- the entire staff team at St Francis who continue to blow me away with their dedication and 'can do' attitude
- our amazing children who are willing to engage and work hard despite the changes they have faced at such short notice this week
- your continuous support of the school
- the engagement with the home learning and for sending in photos to show the children's learning

These are just a few of things I remain thankful for – I could list more! I would love to create a Thankfulness display in school which includes contributions from the whole of our community – please send things that you and your child/ren are thankful for into school on the learning at home email and we will develop a display from these and share the outcome of this with you in a few weeks.

Remember, the key message from us here at St Francis is to be kind to yourself, and to remember that we are all just doing our best. We are here for you so please make contact if there is anything additional you feel we can support you with.

Take care

Hannah Stevens



## Important Notice

### **Critical Workers Update**

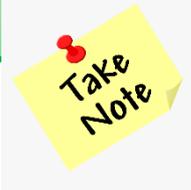
*In the new DFE Guidance for schools published late in the afternoon of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 it states that, whilst there is no limit to the number of pupils who can attend in school provision during this time if they fall into one of the categories identified by the Government, it also states that, 'The Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can'.*

*As stated in a previous email sent this week, we have experienced a very high demand for places at school and we are currently providing in-school provision for over 120 children throughout the week, with more requests coming in. This makes for much larger groups of children each day which of course, as you can imagine, is rather counter-productive to reducing potential transmission of any virus.*

*With this in mind, we are asking parents who fall into the criteria of being a critical worker, to be extremely mindful when asking for provision in school and, even more importantly, ensuring you let us know if you no longer require all the hours you initially requested. Also, now following on from the Government's updated guidance, if you able to keep your child at home please let us know at school so that we can update our registers.*

If your child is attending school under the Key-Worker provision and they are unable to attend due to illness, please ensure you phone the school to leave a message, or send an email to [stfrancis@kernowlearning.co.uk](mailto:stfrancis@kernowlearning.co.uk).

If anyone had booked and paid for a school lunch and or a wrap-around booking, these will start to be cancelled over next week. The money will show on the child's account on school money to use again



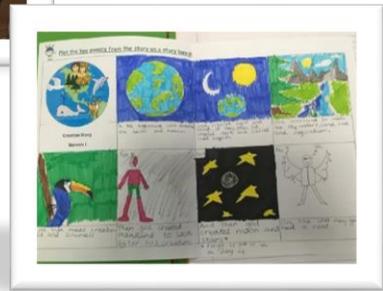
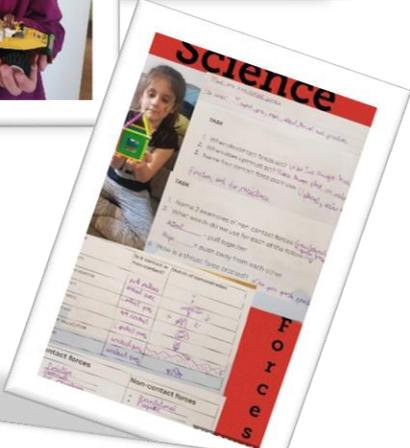
Take Note



### **Home Learning Update**

Learning grids and resources will be ready to view from the website on a Monday morning, using the following link <http://www.st-francis.cornwall.sch.uk/information-for-parents/learning-from-home/>. Not everything from the grid or all of the resources needs to be printed each week, but can be used as a guide for the home learning. We will have some printed packs available to collect, if you feel you need one. We will inform you via text message, as to when they are available for collection. Please keep sending in all the wonderful home learning photos and we will share some of these on the weekly newsletter and our Facebook page. They are to be emailed to **learningathome.stfrancis@kernowlearning.co.uk**. We can only share photos online, of those children whose parents have given consent. Teams sessions of times and the links to join have been emailed out to all parents and carers, but if you don't appear to have this information, please contact the school office by emailing [stfrancis@kernowlearning.co.uk](mailto:stfrancis@kernowlearning.co.uk). There is also a help guide with using Teams that can be viewed from the above website link on our website. We also have some learning books for the children that have yet to be collected, if you have not already collected a workbook, these can be collected from the school office Monday – Friday, between 8:30am and 3:30pm

Well done everyone on making such a great start with your learning this week. We are so very proud of you all



St Francis School where every person matters, every person helps, every person succeeds