



**ST FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I am delighted to be able to write to you at the start of this new year as Principal of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, Oldbury.

A very warm welcome to our new families who have children joining us in Nursery, Reception or elsewhere across the school. Likewise, to our returning families, I wish you a very warm “Welcome back!” and I hope that you have all managed to enjoy a period of rest and recuperation with your families and friends over the summer months.

Many of you, I know, have had a long association with our school. As parents, my wife and I chose this school as the starting point for our three sons’ learning journeys until they departed for secondary school, and as a local Head Teacher, I am proud to have worked with various staff alumni over the past two decades. I know that the parish and local community have always held the school in high regard as a place where a firm foundation for future learning is laid and where the Gospel values are lived out in full.

Following the school’s inspection in March, I know that many parents have shared the inspectors’ concerns that St. Francis Xavier school requires improvement to guarantee the children receive a good education, and I have been charged by the Board of Directors of the Emmaus Multi-Academy Company, to work with the teaching team to ensure rapid improvements are made.

I very much look forward to getting to know the children and yourselves over the days, weeks and months to come.

Our new look newsletter will come out next Wednesday, once all the children in Reception class have returned fully to school. It will come out to you as an email attachment. Please look out for it and let us know if you do not receive it.

**MEET THE TEACHER sessions: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September from 3:30 p.m.**

Please do come along to meet your child’s teacher to find out how you can best support your child with their learning at home this year. Each teacher will lead three, short 15 minute sessions in their classrooms, starting at 3:30 p.m., 3:55 p.m. and 4:20 p.m. to give those parents with more than one child to get round to see all of the teachers.

**Continued overleaf....**

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[www.stfrancis.sch.life](http://www.stfrancis.sch.life)  
Principal: Mr G Linford

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Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status with the Archdiocese of Birmingham  
Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154





**P.E. Days**

Please ensure that the children wear their P.E. kits to school on these days:

Reception	Thursday
Year 1	Monday & Friday
Year 2	Monday & Friday
Year 3	Tuesday & Friday
Year 4	Monday & Friday
Year 5	Tuesday – Swimming on Thursdays
Year 6	Tuesday & Friday

**MEET THE PRINCIPAL sessions**

I would very much like to offer you the opportunity of coming into school to meet me over the coming weeks. I will offer three times, one in the morning after drop-off, one in the afternoon before collection time, and one in the evening to allow any working parents to get into school, too. Look out for the dates on next week’s newsletter.

**SCHOOL and PARISH Masses**

We would welcome parents, grandparents, etc. to join with us as a school community at Masses over the course of the term. Again, look out for the dates in next week’s newsletter.

**START OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

Please ensure that you give yourselves plenty of time to get to school so that children arrive by **8:40 a.m. at the latest**. We understand that parking close to school can be difficult, but I always urge parents to set out 10 minutes earlier so that you can park further away and walk the last part of the way to get the heart pumping a bit and ease traffic congestion. Morning tasks are set out for the children as they arrive; if your child doesn’t arrive till 8:45, they miss 25 minutes of learning time across the week.

**EDUCATION SUNDAY: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

This coming Sunday is designated as Education Sunday. Please keep all teachers of St. Francis Xavier school, both past and present, in your prayers who we thank for following their vocation of service and dedication to children. Here’s a link to a useful website and resources on the same theme: [Prayer Card \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://cbcew.org.uk)

Have a good weekend, everyone, and God bless you.

**Mr. G. J. Linford**  
Interim Principal