

NEWSLETTER

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Paris Trip Is
Filled With Magical
Moments



ST FRANCIS
XAVIER SCHOOL

Welcome from the Head of School



We have already experienced a busy half-term and it has been fantastic that so many pupils have thrown themselves into the wide range of activities available to them, both within school and on visits further afield.

As we move through the year we will continue to grow the array of enrichment activities on offer both at lunchtimes and after school. We hope you will continue to encourage your children to take part as fully as possible.

Thanks to the Year 11 parents and carers who attended our study skills evening and to those members of the community who came to the Macmillan Coffee Morning. Please keep an eye on the calendar and social media for upcoming events.

I look forward to seeing you in school at some point over the year.

Jackie Prime

Head of School Message



Paris trip is filled with magical moments

A party of 53 Year 9 pupils and 6 teachers travelled to Paris where we made wonderful memories that will stay with them forever.

We boarded the all new electric ferry and crossed the Channel to Calais. The party arrived around 3pm at the residential centre on the outskirts of Paris and we did *La Trouvaille* – a treasure hunt around the grounds.

The next day we had the excitement of the first person to spot the Eiffel Tower. We boarded a *bateau mouche* for a trip down the Seine, past the Louvre around the Île de la Cite and Notre Dame Cathedral.

It was then a short journey to the Arc de Triomphe, where we climbed more than 250 steps to the top to view all the avenues leading from there, including the Champs-Élysées.

There was no time to pause, as we had to board the coach and travel to the north of Paris to be whisked to the 59th floor of the Montparnasse building, the tallest in the city.

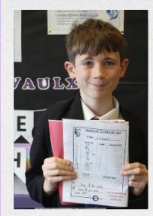
The next day we were off to Sacré Cœur and a visit to Montmartre for crêpes and caricatures.

In the afternoon came a highlight of the trip, a chance to see the magnificent Stade de France and sit in the same chair as soccer superstar Kylian Mbappé.

We visited the dressing rooms recently occupied by the South African and Irish Rugby World Cup teams before lining up in the tunnel. The music started, the crowd cheered and the two SFX teams marched out almost onto the field. We say almost, as anyone touching the hallowed turf was whisked off to the stadium cells!

It was then back to our accommodation for an evening meal and early to bed because the next day we were off to Disneyland Paris. There we enjoyed a magical day with rides galore and an amazing evening meal at Billy Bobs, followed by the Magical Kingdom firework display.

Thanks to all the pupils for their impeccable behaviour, staff who supported the trip and especially to our wonderful driver, Chris.



WONDERFUL WORK WEDNESDAY
Celebrating Year 7



Shining brightly at Wonderful Work Wednesday

It's been fantastic to see pupils in Years 7 and 8 queuing up to show us the work they are most proud of this half term.

Pupils have brought work from all subjects during their Wednesday break, including both class and homework tasks.

Every pupil who has come along to showcase their work at Wonderful Work Wednesday received a raffle ticket for a prize draw of a Friday lunchtime queue jump ticket.



GEOGRAPHERS INVESTIGATE RIVER ON FIELD TRIP

Year 8 pupils met Yorkshire Dales National Park rangers and volunteers and explored the River Swale as part of their field work.

Groups explored three sites to investigate how the river's characteristics change as it flows downstream.

The pupils measured river velocity and width. They then analysed their data back in class and further investigated the flood risk in the valley.

It was a lovely way to spend an autumnal day in the Dales. A huge thank you to the Yorkshire Dales National Park leaders who supported the trip.



PUPILS GET INTO THE SWIM OF THINGS

Our 11 entrants put in exceptional performances as they took part in this year's Swimming Gala.

Mia, who is a North East Regional swimmer, won her race. Gracie, who is also a North East Regional swimmer, Eva, Millie and Emily all finished second

in their races, while Izzy finished third.

It was a superb effort by all involved – well done! Pupils can see Mrs Carlin if they would like their times.



OPEN EVENING REFLECTS OUR STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY

We warmly welcomed potential pupils and their families to our Year 6 open evening.

Our guests toured classrooms and visited areas throughout the school, where pupils showcased their respective subjects.

More than 130 pupils guided families, giving our visitors a sense of the school's strong sense of community, which is rooted in our ethos of "Love of God, love of neighbour".

A big thank you once again to our exceptional pupil helpers for their contribution to a remarkable evening.

GET IN TOUCH



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SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS FOR MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Our main hall was filled with delicious cakes and treats baked or bought by Year 10 and 11 pupils, who were eager to sell them to their schoolmates.

The occasion was the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, which has grown rapidly and raised £290m for the cancer charity since it was first held in 1990.

The support from pupils, staff, parents and carers was heartwarming, making the event a delightful success and raising over £380.

Thank you for being a part of this magnificent achievement.



PUPILS OFFERED TOOLKIT OF REVISION TECHNIQUES

We were delighted to host a study skills evening for Year 11 pupils and their parents and carers.

Teachers showcased a range of effective revision techniques, offering pupils a toolkit of techniques to prepare for their upcoming mock examinations.

Parents and carers also gained valuable insights into how to support their children during these times.

Thank you to all who attended.

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