



## Value of the month –Patience

### Dear Parents and Carers

Our Christmas Rehearsals are all well under way and it is lovely hearing the children singing their carols and Christmas songs around the school.

Our **Junior Advent Mass** at Sacred Heart was a wonderful start to the Christmas season. Father Sean gave a very engaging sermon on St Nicholas, as it was the Feast Day of St Nicholas. The children were very attentive and enthusiastic about answering Father's questions. The **Infant Advent Liturgy** on Thursday went beautifully and the children sang like angels!

A group of our **Year 6** children went carol singing this week down in the Valley at the Caterham Lodge Residential Home. It was a joyful occasion and the residents enjoyed listening to the carols and joining in too. Passers-by in the street were stopping, smiling and peering in the windows to see who was singing! At the end, the children took the opportunity to chat with the residents and it was lovely to see how confident and articulate they were, especially when they did not know anyone. Well done Year 6!

**Keeping our fingers crossed!** Mrs Hardy and the Choir are applying for Songs of Praise and this week a recording was made of them singing, to send off with the application form. Do keep your fingers crossed for them – it would be lovely to see our amazing choir on the television! Finally, our winning house this term is Anne Line. Well done to all the houses who have worked so diligently to earn House points. Pupils in Anne Line are to wear GREEN mufti on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017

We look forward to seeing many of you next week at our various Christmas events.

Best wishes,

Mrs M Wheeler  
Headteacher

### Pantomime Reminder

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, the whole school will have the opportunity to watch the pantomime 'Aladdin'. If you haven't already done so, please can you pay the requested contribution of £2.00 per child over the weekend, or send in to school on Monday, in an envelope, with your child's name and class. Thank you for your support.

### Diary Dates

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Choir to Westminster  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am Reception Christingle to parents  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – 4.30pm Year 1 Nativity  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Pantomime, whole school.  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am Year 2 Christmas performance  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Deeper Thinkers Trip to Wintershall Nativity  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December - 2.00pm Yr 1 Christmas performance  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – 7pm Junior Carol Concert at the Sacred Heart Church  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Dinner  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – 1pm School breaks up for the Christmas Holidays  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – 9.00am School re-opens for the Spring Term.

## Save the Date

“Growth Mindset” Talk for Parents and Governors on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 4pm.

The Great Learner Project St Francis’ School has been incredibly fortunate to be part of this great project this year. The aim of the GLP is to change the mindset of pupils in terms of their learning, so that they become more resilient and keen to take on challenges and to persevere – “great learners”! It is true “education” as opposed to mere “schooling”, and ultimately better prepares the child for life.

We would like to invite all parents, governors and staff to an exciting evening led by GLP expert Will Ord.

**Date: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**Time: 4pm – 6pm**

**Venue: Sunnydown School**

**Prepare to be incredibly motivated!**

If you are interested in attending to hear about the project please let the office know by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

## Christmas Jumper Day Mufti - In aid of Save the Children

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

Enjoy your Christmas lunch wearing a CHRISTMAS JUMPER and donate £1 to SAVE THE CHILDREN.

Show off your best Christmas sweater; decorate your everyday jumper, or even tinsel up Granny’s homemade knitwear.

## Caterham Cricket Club

Caterham Cricket Club will start the 2018 junior indoor Winter coaching on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2018** at **Caterham School Sports Hall.**

Sessions for years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will run from 12 noon to 1:20pm. Cost per session (to pay for venue hire and coaches) is £ 5.00 per child.

The sessions will be run by ECB qualified coaches with full CRB clearance and will consist of fun and games for the children - to both introduce them to the sport and build up any skills they may already have.

Both boys and girls are welcome, and there is a viewing gallery for proud parents to watch the sessions. No previous experience or equipment is required.

We look forward to seeing you there.

For further information please call

Colin Mico 07968 168884.





# Junior Carol Concert



Dear Parents,

You are cordially invited to come with your children to our Junior Carol Concert at Sacred Heart Church this Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Your children have been so excited throughout Advent, preparing themselves for Christmas Day!

Not only will you have the pleasure of listening to our wonderful choir, but each year group has also prepared a special carol to sing for you. We really do hope you will be able to join us.

The evening will start at 7pm and be followed by tea/coffee and mince pies in the hall afterwards. It will be a wonderful way to end this term and  to unwind before the holidays.

Have a lovely and peaceful Christmas!



Below are the Christmas Holiday closures dates. Therefore our last free delivery to school will be on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December and we will resume our free deliveries on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

During this period there will be no home deliveries.

WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS FROM FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER TO TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY NO DELIVERIES WILL BE MADE DURING THIS PERIOD.

The information above is posted on the webpages but it might be helpful to add this to a newsletter just in case.

In the meantime on behalf of all of us here may we thank you for your continued support during 2017 and wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

All the very best

Barbara

## School Fund

The suggested amount is £25 per family per term or £75 for the year. Payment can be made online via Tucasi. Alternatively, please send your voluntary contributions to the school office, with cheques payable to St Francis School Fund. Thank you.

## **School Association**

### **Thank you!**

A huge thank you goes to the organisers of the Christmas Fayre Sally Ogunremi, Charlotte Thompson and Sharon Evans. They put in a great deal of hard work and did an outstanding job.

### **Message from the Christmas Fayre Committee 2017**

We would like to thank all parents, teachers, staff and children who contributed to the success of the Christmas Fayre this year. We couldn't do it without you and it really is very much appreciated. We are awaiting confirmation of the final sum raised and will let you know next week how much was made. The money raised will go back into the school to purchase extra learning resources for the children.

Thank you for your continued support

### **Christmas Carol Concert**

Fran Wall is kindly organising tea, coffee and mince pies for after the school carol concert on the 18th December. If anyone is available to help it would be greatly appreciated. Please let Fran know or email [stfrancisschoolassociation@googlemail.com](mailto:stfrancisschoolassociation@googlemail.com). Thanks in advance.

### **Save the date**

Next PTA meeting to be held at 7:30pm in the school hall on 09/01/2018 - all welcome

KS1/KS2 Disco - 19/01/2018

Quiz Night - 10/03/2018

Summer BBQ - 25/05/2018