



## Value of the month – Faith

### Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back for the Spring Term. The Staff, Governors and I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and I would like to take this opportunity to send my thanks, and that of the Staff, for all the lovely cards, messages and gifts you gave us at the end of term. We all wish you a Happy New Year and send our best wishes for 2018.

We began our week on Thursday with a short 'welcome back' assembly. We sang the carol The Twelve Days of Christmas and discussed the meanings behind the carol and thought about the Christmas Season Feast Days. We said a Hail Mary and lit the final white candle on our Advent Wreath to recall the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day.

Our Assembly today was a celebration of The Epiphany where we discussed the story of Three Kings. We had our annual Epiphany Blessing Liturgy for the school and prayed for God's Blessings for the new school year. Do ask the children all about it and get them to explain to you the meaning behind the numbers and letters:

**20 +C+M+B+ 18**

The Epiphany Blessing is a Christian Epiphany tradition that originated, it is believed, in Eastern Europe. The numbers and letters are written in chalk onto black paper and each class has one for their classrooms and we place one in the Office corridor.

We welcomed Miss Barnhurst, our new Year 3 teacher, who was pleasantly surprised to learn about the Epiphany Blessing. She told us all that she had stayed in Austria at a house with this above the door and no one she was with knew what it meant. She is going home today to tell her friends the meaning! Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Wheeler

### Diary Dates

#### January

Friday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Y3 Swimming Starts back for Spring term
Monday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Final date for applications for Reception Admission in September 2018
Friday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Yrs 1 & 2 – 5pm – 6.45pm                      Yrs 3,4,5 & 6 – 7.15pm – 9pm

#### February

Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup>	Chinese Dance Workshop – Yrs R, 1 & 2. See letter sent home today
Friday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for half term.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> School re-opens for the second half of the Spring Term**

Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Yrs 3 & 4 Gym Competition at de Stafford
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Football & Netball matches vs Marden Lodge
Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Cross Country Rally at Whyteleafe School

#### March

Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup>	World Book Day
Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pilgrim's Progress by The Oddments Theatre – Yrs 4, 5 & 6
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Purley & Coulsdon Music Festival

## Admissions – September 2018

This is to remind those parents who are applying for a Reception place for September 2018, that the final date for applications is the **15th January 2018**. You **must** complete a Surrey Form as well as our Supplementary Information Form. To find all the information you need, please visit [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions).

## Contact Details Reminder

Please remember to inform the Office if you, or your emergency contacts, have changed any telephone numbers or addresses. It is vital in case we have to contact you during the day and we will not know of changes unless you inform us.

## Calling All Past Coloma Pupils!

Does anyone currently have a career in Law? Would you be able to share your career experiences with a group of our Coloma students? It would be early evening, so not during the school day. Please do get in touch on here, or via email [esmith@coloma.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:esmith@coloma.croydon.sch.uk)

Please also get in touch if you are able to come in and talk about a career path other than Law or if you are not a former pupil but are happy to participate. We would love to hear from you!

Thank you,  
Careers Department, Coloma Convent Girls' School

## Lunch Money

The amounts due for the Spring Term are as follows:

Weekly - £11.25  
First half term - £60.75  
Second half term - £63.00  
Whole term - £123.75

Payment can be made online via Tucasi.

## Letters home this week

Ancient Egyptians	Yr 3
The Romans	Yr4
Winchester Planetarium	Yr 5
Pilgrim's Progress	Yrs 4, 5 7 6
Chinese Dance Workshop	Yrs R, 1 & 3

## Pupil Attendance

### Lateness

The demands of the curriculum continue to increase, therefore learning and teaching time is of the utmost importance to teachers and to pupils. The school begins at 9.00 am when the children are brought in from the playground by the teacher on duty.

Registration is a legal requirement of the school day and is done immediately children enter the classroom. A number of pupils continue to be regularly late for registration, which causes embarrassment to them, certainly disrupts the class and loses valuable time. A few minutes lost each day means hours lost each year.

All pupils should be in the playground before the bell at 9.00 am and be allowed to enter the school independently in order to start the day with minimal disruption to everyone.

### Absence

It is most important that your child attends school regularly for their educational development.

If your child is going to be off sick, please call or email the office in the morning and inform them of your child's reason for absence. You can leave a message on the answer phone as all messages are regularly checked.

When your child returns to school, please provide a note or email explaining why they were off sick from school. If parents do not provide a reason for the absence the absence remains unauthorised.

Unauthorised absences will be checked regularly by the Educational Welfare Officer. If a child has missed a substantial amount of time from school the Educational Welfare Officer will be contacted.

Thank you for your support.

## 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.



## Lost and found

These items can be collected from the school office.



## School Association

### Winter Disco

The **Winter Disco** on the 19th January is set to be a great night!

KS1 - years 1 & 2 - 5pm to 6:45pm.

KS2 - years 3,4,5,6 - 7:15pm to 9pm.

Thank you for all of the offers of help that we have already received.

### Save the Date

Next PTA meeting to be held at 7:30pm in the school hall on 09/12/17 - all welcome

KS1/KS2 Disco - 19/01/2018

Quiz night - 10/03/2018

Summer BBQ - 25/05/2018

St. Francis' School Association

St. Francis' Catholic Primary  
Caterham

# WINTER DISCO

## Friday 19th January 2018

Venue: St Francis' School Hall

**Years 1 & 2:**  
5pm – 6:45pm  
prompt

**Years 3, 4, 5 & 6**  
7:15pm – 9pm  
prompt

Tickets available from your class rep after completion of request form sent in book bags. £4 per ticket, includes hot dog & refreshments.

Glow sticks and sweetie bags etc. will be available to purchase on the night. Maximum suggested spending money £5.

**No mobiles or iPads allowed.**