St. Francis' School Newsletter

5th March 2018



Value of the month – Forgiveness

Dear Parents and Carers

We are back up and running as normal. Thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding last week with the snow and the extremely difficult decisions we had to make around closing the school. These decisions, based on a wide number of factors, are not taken lightly and always made with the safety of children, parents and staff in mind. Decisions were made following consultation with our Chair of Governors. Hopefully, that was the last of the snow for the year.

Many thanks to the PTA reps who put up messages on the class pages to get the closure information out quickly on Wednesday. The website did not function correctly on Wednesday and at various points in the following days. This was a national issue with the host company, who have written to apologise and explain the difficulties. They had anticipated the extra demand, and increased capacity, but they then experienced unprecedented (7x the expected) use nationally. They took remedial actions to increase capacity and have assured all users that this will not happen again.

We have had to make a few adjustments to diary dates below:

Palmer Drama sessions will run later this week until 5:30 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. **Art Club** on Friday will run until 5:00 this week and next week.

Reception Class Mother's Day Assembly planned for Tuesday 6th has been postponed. We will confirm the new date shortly.

Purley & Coulsdon Choir Festival: We are awaiting to hear if a new date is being set.

Please also see the list of dates further down. Best wishes.

Mrs Wheeler

Teacher Training via our Paradigm Teaching School Alliance

If you or any family member are interested in Teacher Training via our Paradigm Teaching School Alliance, please speak to the Office and ask for the Flyer that gives the information on how to apply.

Time is spent training at St Mary's Catholic College in Twickenham and placements are always in one of our 7 Deanery Primary Schools and 1 Secondary School.

Mrs Wheeler is also happy to talk about the programme if you have queries.

Assemblies

Today CAFOD came in to give an assembly on our Lenten Appeal. They reminded us to live simpler lives and to help others to become more self-sufficient. Children can give money via the Cafod Pyramids boxes which have already been sent home.

Blog - Snow and Closing Schools

An interesting blog that helps to explain some of the questions we have to consider when making decisions to close schools.

https://oneheadsthoughts.wordpress.com/2018/03/01/to-close-or-not-to-close/

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.

Diary Dates March		
Saturday	3 rd	Purley & Coulsdon Music Festival – Infant & Junior choirs
Friday	9 th	Mothers' Day Fairtrade Sale 1:45
Tuesday	13 th	9:15 Y3 Egyptians Assembly for Parents
		9:30-12:00 Prospero Theatre Mindfulness
		After school: Cross Country Cup - Warlingham
Monday	19 th	World Book Day – Dress-up as a book character
		Travelling Book Sale – details to follow
Thursday	15 th	3:15 to 3:45 Science Week Showcase - Parents are invited to view the
		showcase.
Friday	16 th	Y4 Roman Workshop Day
Tuesday	20 th	Y4/5 Football Rally
Wednesday	21 st	Downs Syndrome Awareness Day: Head Boy's Choice for a Charity
		Collection.
		Children to wear odd socks and may come to school with their faces
		painted – Suggested donation £1, which will go to the charity.
Thursday	22 nd	2:20 Y4 Assembly to Parents
Friday	23 rd	Pilgrim's Progress by The Oddments Theatre – Yrs 4, 5 & 6
Monday	26th	Palm Liturgy Assembly
		YR to Y5 Parents Evenings
Tuesday	27 th	YR to Y5 Parents Evenings
Thursday	29 th	9:30 Liturgical Dance & Stations of the Cross.
		1pm School Closes

School Parents Association

Next Event!

Quiz Night - 10/03/18

Save the date

Summer BBQ - 25/05/18

Next PTA meeting - 7:30pm on **25/04/18** in the school hall. All welcome! Especially parents that may not have been before, but would like to come and see what we do and how we can help to raise essential funds for our children's school.