



## Value of the month – Peace

### Dear Parents and Carers,

In our constant daily rush, we often forget to thank the people who do so much for us, not because we don't value them, but rather because we just don't get around to it! As many of you will know, it was **Teacher Appreciation Day** earlier this week and our pupils were able to thank their teachers for all they do for them.

On this note, we would like to say thank you to all the parents and grandparents who come in diligently every week to help in the school, and especially this week to the Mums who helped walk our Juniors to and from **Ascension Mass** yesterday morning. We wouldn't be able to take the children to church if we did not have your help. It was a very peaceful Mass, and a lovely way to spend part of the morning. Upon leaving the church, Fr Sean and Moira gave us some beautiful plants for our garden. Some of the altar-servers carried these back to school and Adam, Benicio and Samuel have already started preparing the flower-beds for planting. Thank you to Mr Ogunremi for bringing in some much-needed compost this morning!

Our Year 1 classes, Oak and Elm, had a delightful time at **Gatton Park** yesterday where they learned about mini-beasts and pond-dipping. Ollie amazed everyone with his vast knowledge on mini-beasts! Thank you again to everyone involved in making this such a successful outing.

A busy week lies ahead of us: tomorrow, some of our pupils will celebrate their **First Holy Communion at Sacred Heart**, while others will be reciting poetry at the **Reigate & Redhill Poetry & Prose Festival**. The Festival runs all week. We wish them all well.

On Tuesday, our Reception pupils will be setting off for **Ladyland Farm** where they will ride on a tractor and spend the day learning about "Living and Growing". They are all looking forward to their outing.

On Friday, to celebrate the **Royal Wedding**, we would like to invite all pupils to come to school dressed in red, white and blue. They will learn about Prince Harry and his role in the Royal Family, and we will have bunting, balloons and (hopefully) a picnic on our lovely field!

While all this is going on, our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils will be doing their **SATs**. They have worked diligently with their teachers to prepare for these, and we ask you, as parents, to ensure they get enough sleep the night before and that they have a sensible breakfast before coming in so that each child is able to do his or her best.

We all wish **Mrs Wheeler, our Headteacher**, a speedy recovery: she was unexpectedly called in for a long-awaited day surgery shoulder operation. She is already back home and resting, and will be back soon. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact either myself, or Mrs Dommett.

I hope you have a restful weekend.

*Mrs N. Fawcett*

# Vacancy

## PART-TIME CLEANER

**10 hours per week x 52 weeks**

Working hours/ days during school holidays are arranged by negotiation and there is some flexibility.

(24 days paid leave to be taken during school holidays)

**Mon-Fri 3.45 – 5.45pm**

**£8.63 per hour**

**Please contact the school office for more details.**

*St Francis' Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Such posts will require an Enhanced DBS and Barred List check and references will be taken up prior to interview.*

### Thames Park Mighty Hike

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Miss Steward, the Cedar Class teacher and her mum, Jackie will be taking part in the Thames Park Mighty Hike which is a walking marathon. They are raising money to support MacMillan, a charity that is close to many people's hearts. If you would like to offer your support and make a donation, please visit

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/charlotte-steward>



### Diary Dates

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<b>May</b>		
Monday	14 <sup>th</sup>	SAT's week begins
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 visit to the Science Observatory Year R visit to Ladyland Farm
Thursday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 visit to the Hindu Temple, Crawley Year 5 visit to the Sikh Temple, Croydon
<b>June</b>		
Monday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Maths Week begins Class photographs
Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Year R health screening ( details to follow )
Wednesday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Year R health screening ( details to follow )
Monday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 residential trip to Kingswood
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Fairtrade Gift sale
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 visit to the Thames Barrier Year 5 visit to Wintershall Good Shepherd Mass, Worth
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 2 visit to Rural Life Year 6 visit to the Croydon Mosque
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	District Sports – Field events
Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup>	District Sports – Track events
<b>July</b>		
Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Bags2School MUFTI Day
Friday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day
Tuesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm, Year 6 Production
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm, Year 6 Production
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	7-9pm, Leavers Disco
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	2pm, Leavers Mass at the Sacred Heart Church. Year 6's & siblings
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am, Leavers Assembly 1pm, School closes for the Summer holidays.

### **Reminder to Parents**

The school office is spending a great deal of time chasing paperwork and money from parents. Please can we remind you to return any paperwork requested, to the office, as soon as possible, ensuring that you meet deadlines. Payments can be made online. If sending cash or cheques, please do so, in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with your child's name, class, and what the payment is for. Your support is appreciated.

### **School Association**

#### **Re: Summer Fun Day Friday 6th July 3.30 -5.30pm**

Thank you to all the class reps for taking on the stalls that they have been allocated. If you don't know what stall your class has for this year please see your class rep.

After some hard work behind the scenes we have been donated some amazing raffle prizes this year. Local businesses have been very generous. If you know of anyone that would be willing to donate a raffle prize to the school please let us know. It would be great to get some local restaurant vouchers if anyone knows anyone they can ask.

**Jolly Jars** - due to the success of the Jolly Jars at the Christmas Fair we have decided to have them again for the summer. Please can you get your children started with making some jolly jars, filling them with sweets, party bag fillers, hair bits etc. There will be a brilliant prize for the class that sends in the most. We will set a date closer to the time for these to be brought into school.

**Lucky Ticket stall** - Maple Class (Year 5) are running this stall. They will be receiving a number of the Raffle Prizes for their stall however they also rely on donations of fancy goods/unwanted gifts (they will be making up small hampers of gifts). Please help them if you have anything you can donate to them, Leila Merrett or Elena Tully are the class reps.

**First Aiders** - We will need to have some designated First Aider's on site between 3.30-5.30pm. Please let us know if you can help.

There will be a **MUFTI DAY** - Thursday 5th July. Children can wear their own clothes in exchange for bringing in a bottle on that day for the Tombola.

**Ice cream sales** - thanks to Amy O'Neill and the other parents that helped selling ice creams last week and for kicking this off for the summer term. For the first week we raised a brilliant £159 and sold out. We look forward to this end of week treat continuing.

**St Francis Family BBQ - 25/05/18** - Tickets are selling well for this family friendly evening. Please see your class reps to buy tickets before the 23rd May. If you can help please let Lucy Kolkman know or email [stfrancisschoolassociation@googlemail.com](mailto:stfrancisschoolassociation@googlemail.com). Thanks!



'Fortnite - Battle Royale', is a free to play section of the game 'Fortnite'. The game sees 100 players dropped on to an island from a 'battle bus' where they have to compete until one survivor remains. The last remaining player on the island wins the game. Players have to find items hidden around the island, such as weapons, to help them survive longer in the game. To make the game harder, there is an added twist called 'the storm', which reduces the size of the island from the start of gameplay, making the players closer together in proximity. The game is available on PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Mac and iOS.



# What parents need to know about

## MICROTRANSACTIONS

New featured items are released daily and are only available to purchase within 24 hours of their release. These are cosmetic items, called 'skins', 'gliders' and 'emotes', which change the look of the characters but do not improve the game play. Once purchased, the player has full use of these in the future. The designs are made admirable for players to purchase and even celebrities are endorsing them. Also available to purchase in the game is a 'Battle Pass'. When a new 'Battle Pass' is released, users can play a series of challenges to receive more rewards (cosmetics) by progressing through different tiers. Whatever rewards they achieve can then be used in the game.

## HACKER ATTACKS

News site Forbes said it had seen "dozens" of reports online by people who said their accounts had been compromised by hackers. Hackers gained access to users accounts in the game and spent hundreds of pounds in fraudulent charges.

## NO PROOF OF AGE REQUIRED

Signing up to the game is relatively simple. Users have the option to log in with their Facebook or Google accounts or their email address. When signing up with an email address, there is no proof of age required. If your child is under the age of 12, it is important to check if your child has the game downloaded.

## TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE

Interacting with other players in the game is part of the fun as players can communicate with their friends and other players in the game. Players will benefit from wearing headphones in the game to hear footsteps from other players trying to compromise their game. Wearing headphones makes it difficult for parents to hear what exactly is being said and children may be exposed to inappropriate language. Fortnite includes really good reporting features for players either cheating or misbehaving, and work towards having one of the best online gaming communities.

## SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

There are many accounts on Facebook and Twitter which claim to give away free money (known as 'V bucks') for games which will be transferred to their Xbox Live or PSN cards. Any giveaway promotion from Fortnite will be in game. It is important to check the authenticity of these accounts before giving away personal information in order to claim 'v bucks'. The websites or accounts may ask you to share your account name and password in order to claim the money; if these offers seem too good to be true, they usually are.

## IT CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Games can last around 20 minutes but this varies with each game. Children may feel angry if they lose the game and continue to play until they achieve the result they want. The competitive nature of the game may make it difficult for children to stop playing halfway through as it could affect their position in the game.

## WEAPONS AND VIOLENCE

PEGI has given the game a rating of 12+. Even though the game includes violence and weapons such as crossbows, grenade launchers, rifles, pistols, shotguns and more, PEGI say "more graphic and realistic looking violence towards fantasy characters is allowed. Any violence towards human characters must look unrealistic unless it consists of only minor or trivial injury such as a slap", making the game 'suitable' for children aged 12 and over.

## IT CAN BE PLAYED ON THE GO

The game was released on mobile in April 2018 meaning it can be played without a games console at home. Some schools have reported that the game is distracting their students whilst in the classroom. As the game is available outside of the home, parents may not be aware of how long their child is on the game.

## 'FREE' TO PLAY

The game IS free to play. However, if playing on Xbox, you will need an Xbox gold subscription to play the game which is chargeable.



# Top Tips for Parents



## #1 LIMIT GAME TIME

Parents can use parental controls on Xbox and PC to limit the time your child is playing games on the devices. Be aware that the game is available on iOS and will soon be available on all mobiles. With this in mind, it is worth having a conversation with your child to discuss and agree how long you would like them to spend on games. Even though the games last around 20 minutes, it may be hard to take them away from a game mid play. It may be worth using a limit of the amount of matches they play rather than a time limit.

## #2 RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

'Fortnite: Battle Royale' is a free to play game, but there are still options to make additional purchases. If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to limit spending, we suggest using a paysafecard, or a games console gift card. These can be purchased in specific amounts, which will allow you to limit how much your child spends and removes the need for a credit/debit card to be used with their account.

## #4 PREVENT THEM TALKING TO STRANGERS

There is an option to turn off the voice chat feature, which means they wouldn't be able to talk to anybody, including their friends. Your child will still be able to use the in-app chat and hear other people's conversations. To turn off voice chat, open the Settings menu in the top right of the main Fortnite page, then click on the cog icon. Open the Audio tab at the top of the screen. From there, you can turn off voice chat.

## #3 SHOW THEM HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

If your child believes a player is playing or talking inappropriately, you should advise them to report them. To report a player, you can use the in-game feedback tool located in the Main Menu of the game. Additionally, you can report a player in-game when spectating them.

## #5 LOOK OUT FOR VBUCK SCAMS

It is important that your children are aware of the scams that they may come across online in association with the game. Open up conversation with them about scams and how they should never share their username or password with people in order to gain anything for the game.

## #6 USE A STRONG PASSWORD

It may seem like a simple tip, but it is important that your child selects a strong password when creating an account, particularly if a credit/debit card is associated with the account. This will help reduce the risk of their account being hacked.

