



Value of the month – Appreciation

Dear Parents,

This week has been a lovely positive one to end the term! Our **Parent & School Partnership Evening** on Monday was a great success, greatly appreciated by all the parents who attended. Our Year 5 pupils have this week been presenting themselves as candidates for the **House Captain positions**; the Juniors have voted for them, and we are very pleased to announce the winners : **Ella W & Oliver L(Thomas More)**, **Zofia & Nicholas(John Fisher)**, **Evie & Daniel S(Margaret Clitherow)** and **Isabella M & Danny M(Anne Line)**.

On Tuesday evening, we held our **Year 6 Disco**. The pupils looked fabulous and had loads of fun!

The **Leavers' Mass** celebrated by Fr Stephen yesterday at Sacred Heart was very meaningful: our readers and altar servers were superb, and the children sang beautifully. Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend.

This morning, we were able to welcome the Year 6 parents to our **Leavers' Assembly**. It is always very sad when our children move on to secondary schools, but this particular Year 6 cohort has been quite wonderful, and we will all miss them. The memories they shared with us at the Assembly were very moving. Prizes were presented for excellence in various areas, and the pupils were congratulated warmly:

Poetry & Prose: Anjali(1st), Grace G(2nd), Evie L & Lily G(3rd)

Fr John Maths Award: Harrison H & Adam Ogunremi

Singing : Katie & Grace G

Sportsmanship: Luke & Hannah

Drama: Emma O

The Hamilton Award presented to the pupils who most embody the ethos of our school went to Grace G and Joseph.

Well done to all our pupils throughout the school for doing very well this year, and to the **staff** who work with them and encourage them ceaselessly. We are very lucky to have such a dedicated staff. It is with sadness, though, that we say goodbye to Miss Rogers, Miss McGregor and Mrs Parker; they have been a great part of St Francis', and will be sorely missed. On a more positive note, though, we were able to wish Ms Barton "Good Luck" for her wedding next month.

I'd like to say **thank you to ALL the staff** who make us the great school we are: the teachers, the LSAs, the Admin Staff, the Kitchen Staff, our Caretaker Mr Colyer, and our cleaners, who ensure that the school is ready for us every day when we come in.

Have a wonderful and peaceful Summer.

Mrs Wheeler

Parent & School Partnership Evening

Thank you to all those parents (110 attendees), teachers, governors and the PTA who attended and supported the **Home & School Partnership Evening**. The feedback was very positive. Parents were very interested to learn about the projects we have undertaken in school, and how we are planning to continue these: Growth Mindset, Girl/Boy Gender Maths Research and our details of our forthcoming School Development Plan Objective on Reading to Improve Writing. Parents then went to classes to meet the teachers and hear about the curriculum for the new year group. The class notes and PowerPoints will be shared on the website Class Pages.

If you would like copies of the **Reading Lists** we handed out for Year 1 (including Reception) to year 6, please ask the Class Teacher for a hard copy, or the lists can be found here:

www.explorelearning.co.uk/blog/recommended-reading-lists/

The '**Home Reading Prompt Questions**' Sheet can be obtained via the Class Teacher. The questions mirror the type and style of questions that the children are expected to be able to answer in test situations, so the more they can do this verbally, the easier they will find it to complete in written form.

St Francis' Holiday Reading Challenge

In School, we are having a Holiday Reading Challenge Photograph Competition. The children have been asked to bring in a photo in September when we return of them reading in 'adventurous' (but safe!) places (eg. planes, trains, beaches, famous places/buildings etc.)

The **Caterham Librarian** visited on Monday to tell the children about the **Surrey Summer Reading Challenge**. The pupils are very excited about it. Please see the link:

www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/library-services-for-children-and-teens/libraries-for-5-to-12-year-olds/surrey-reads The challenge is going on across all Surrey schools and all local libraries.

Thank you to the PTA for all their support this year. They work tirelessly in the background planning and organising events that support our school in many ways, from social events to fundraising events. The new social event, the 'Family BBQ', was a particular success and we hope to run this again next year. Thank you once again for a fantastic Summer Fun Day and an amazing £5300 raised!



End of Year Newsletter

It is the end of another academic year and we would like to update you on what your PTA has achieved for 2017/2018.

Firstly, we would like to offer a huge thanks to all those who have helped over the year, from organising events, working on stalls, helping with the drop off rota and all the other jobs that may seem small but for which we are very grateful for your help. We would also like to thank everyone for supporting events by coming along and enjoying yourselves.

Thank you to all those that donated second hand uniform throughout the year. Second hand uniform sales raised over £100 this year and we have purchased new rails to make the sales a little easier to organise. Thank you to Leila Merrett for offering to take the lead with this for the coming year.

The Welcome Disco in October to celebrate the new reception children starting school was well attended and raised £485. Another successful event and fantastic way to welcome our new children and parents. Thank you to Fran Wall and team for organising it this year.

The Design your own Christmas card was a great success again this year. Thank you to Mel Flaherty for organising this again, a profit of £711.40 was raised. Next year will be Mel's last organising this and it would be brilliant if someone could volunteer to take over this. Mel is happy for someone to shadow her this year to find out what's involved so if you would like to help with this please let us know.

The Christmas Fayre was a lovely festive event thanks to the organisation of Sharon Evans, Sally Ogunremi, Charlotte Thompson and team. This event raised £5000.

Due to popular demand in January we held a whole school Winter Disco which raised £1300 and was a huge success as always. Thanks to Lucy Kolkman, Claire Nash, Nina Marro, Julia Wadsworth and Tracy Johnson for organising this and all those parents who helped out on the night.

March saw the return of the popular Quiz Night. Much fun was had by all as always thanks to the brilliant Jacqui Mullins, Andrea Bellot and Dave Callaghan. The event raised £686. This was sadly the last year for Jacqui, Andrea and Dave so we are hoping to have some equally talented volunteers come forward to help with this next year.

This April we had a PTA Movie Night for years 1, 2 and 3 which was great fun and raised £455. We will be holding regular Movie Nights from now on and the next one is set for years 4, 5 and 6 In September. Thanks to Helen Byrne, Fiona Lavender and all those who helped on the evening.

This year we had our first St Francis Family BBQ which was a relaxed evening with food, music and great weather! Thank-you to Lucy Kolkman for organising this and all those who helped on the evening especially Claire Nash. This event raised £1100 and we look forward to it becoming a regular PTA event.

The Summer Fun Day this year was a scorcher and there was a great turn out as always. Amanda Davies and Emma Gawn organised it brilliantly and raised a whopping £5300! Thanks goes to Wendy Thomas and Fran Wall for organising the personalised T-shirts and caps this year.

The final event of the year was the Leavers Disco for year six. Thank you to all those parents who helped to organise this. We hope the children enjoyed it and we wish them the best of luck in their new schools. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the year six parents on behalf of the PTA for their support over their time in the school.

The PTA has also continued to arrange the morning drop off rota thanks to Audrey Dunne who has been fantastic at organising this. A core team of parents have helped with this come rain or shine. We extend our thanks to them and hope this will continue in the new academic year. As always we are appealing for more volunteers to replace those that are leaving the rota so please help us to keep this going!

Thanks to Mel Flaherty for continuing to arrange the Bags 2 School. The February collection raised £180. The July collection figure is yet to be advised.

The sale of ice creams continued this summer thanks to Amy O'Neill, Nina Marro and other parents. A brilliant £820 was raised.

The class reps have been great as always and do an essential job keeping parents up to date with all the activities taking place at the school and organising volunteers for events.
Thank you!

Thank you once again to Laura Locke at Daisy Chain for designing all of the PTA promotional material over the year. Her eye catching designs have set us apart from other schools.

We would like to thank Mrs Mills for her wonderful support over the past year as the teacher representative.

We would also like to thank Mrs Brown, Mrs McEvoy and Mrs Soares in the office, Brad our Premises Manager and Caroline and her team in the kitchen for their continued support.

This has been our first year as the Executive Committee and we are very grateful to all those who have helped us finding our feet.

We are proud to say that this academic year the PTA has funded -

- 16 IPADS
- Microbits
- 1 interactive white board
- over £4250 worth of books
- contributed over £3000 to the year one outdoor area
- purchased £1000 worth of outdoor play equipment for reception
- Christmas crackers
- Ice pops for Sports Day
- tea and coffee for new parents and Carol Concert
- Wine and snacks for parent teacher partnership evening
- £150 towards each class
- contributed to Leavers Disco and gifts

We are starting to think about the next academic year which is set to be busy and fun packed with lots of our usual events plus some new ones. As always if you have an idea for an event, fundraising or match funding then please get in touch by contacting stfrancisschoolassociation@googlemail.com.

Have a lovely summer and once again thank you for all your support!

Your PTA team

Lucy, Sharon, Charlotte, Helen and Stacey



WHAT WE OFFER



St Francis: After School Clubs September 2018

Monday: Boxercise: 3.30-4.30

Boxercise is designed to initially get children more active and improve hand eye co-ordination, stamina, strength and speed. The activity is designed to be fun, release stress and tension, develop children's concentration, confidence and social skills while working as a team.

Wednesday: Bushcraft: 3.30-4.30

During Bushcraft we will be bringing out our Inner Bear Grills! Building dens, rafts, and working as a team to work our way through the big outdoors and learning other key survival skills. We will build fires to keep warm and to "cook" on. Work out how to get across rivers and away from wolf packs to survive. But most of all we will all have fun in a safe learning environment.

To book your child in to either after school activity please go to our website to register your child, book and pay.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE GO TO

 WWW.QACADEMY.CO.UK OR

 CALL US ON 07900 325 538



Free Family Activity Days

Come along to our jam-packed free activity days for 0-19 year olds.

11am to 3pm

Tuesday 7 August at Centenary Hall, Smallfield

Tuesday 14 August at Holland and Hurst Green Children's Centre

Tuesday 21 August at The Arc, Caterham on the Hill

Experience a range of activities for all ages including arts, crafts, sport activities, face painting, graffiti art, petting zoo, bouncy castles, green screen, scale the climbing wall and take part in our active kids programme to get the blood pumping.

For more information contact

Tandridge Family Service on 01737 733939

**Sure Start
Children's Centres**



YMCA