

# St. Francis' School Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> February 2025



## Value of the month – Caring & Friendship

### Dear Parents and Carers

#### Lent Appeal

This year we will be supporting the charity the "Catholic Children's Society". They support disadvantaged children and families across London, Hertfordshire and the South East. They work with individuals of all faiths and none; the sole aim is to help those in greatest need. The focus is to provide support as early as possible. They help vulnerable children overcome the challenges they face so they can achieve their full potential and have hope of a brighter future. Please go to their website below for more details.

<https://www.cathchild.org.uk/lent/>



#### Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2025, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'.

Help for parents is readily available through sites such as:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

#### International Day of women and girls in science

This day is an opportunity to promote equal access to science for women and girls.

International Day of Women and Girls in Science is on February 11th each year. This date was chosen to honor the birthday of Marie Curie, a pioneering physicist and chemist who made groundbreaking contributions to the fields of radioactivity and nuclear physics. The theme this year is Unpacking STEM Careers: Her Voice in Science. Find out more information at: <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/2025-international-day-women-and-girls-science>

#### School Dinners

Please make sure that if your child has school dinners they are paid for in advance. Please also remember that if you wish to change your child from packed lunches to school dinners or vice versa, you need to let the school office know on the Friday before you wish the change to take place for the following week.

#### Parents Evenings

Appointments will be available to book early next week.

Best wishes,

Mrs McGrath and Staff

## Absence Procedures

In August 2024 the DFE published new guidance with regard to attendance in schools, 'Working together to improve school attendance'. The Children's Commissioner for England has put together a document outlining why attending school regularly is so important for children and parents' responsibilities. If children are taken out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), Please see grid below.

Absence Category	0 - 21 Days	22 -28 Days	More than 28 Days
First Absence since 19 August 2024	£80	£160	Prosecution
Second Absence (within 3 years of first Penalty Issue date)	£160	£160	Prosecution
Third Absence (within 3 years of first Penalty Issue date)	N/A	N/A	Prosecution



### Legoland – INSET Day 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Who's up for a great day out a Legoland Windsor? The PTA have been offered discounted tickets to Legoland for the **14<sup>th</sup> March** INSET day. All are welcome. Please purchase your tickets by **3<sup>rd</sup> March** at the latest. It's set to be a great day out for family and friends.

Tickets are £20 including booking fees, compared with £29 for Legoland's online price.

Tickets can be booked on the PTA website here:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stfrancisschool/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=93794>

Thank you!


PTA

Last week's riddle answer: A promise

This week's riddle: What goes up but never comes down?

## Calendar Dates

11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day International Day of Women in Science.
14 <sup>th</sup> February	Inset Day – School Closed
17 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half Term
24 <sup>th</sup> February	School Reopens @ 9am
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evening- Details to Follow
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evening- Details to Follow
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Wednesday
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Inset Day
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Beginning Lenten Reflections <b>Reception / Year 1</b> - Palm Sunday Parents invited <b>9.10am</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>Year 2-</b> Jesus in the temple-Parents invited <b>9:10am</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Year 3-</b> Washing of the feet-Parents invited <b>9.10am</b> <b>Year 4-</b> The Last Supper-Parents invited <b>2:45pm</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>Year 5-</b> The betrayal and The last supper -Parents invited <b>9.10am</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>Year 6-</b> Station of the cross-Parents invited <b>9:10 am</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> April	School Finishes For The Easter Break <b>@1pm</b>



**NSPCC  
ROCKS**

**FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2025**  
7:30AM TO 7:30PM

**PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE!**

**1HR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON!**

**WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER STUDENT!**

**TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS**

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**Reigate Redhill & Festival**  
Celebrating Performance in Music and Drama

*"It was brilliant to get feedback from an expert."*

*"Lovely atmosphere. Everyone is friendly. Very relaxed."*

*"Fantastic recital classes. Musical performers with their own ideas."*

*"The shared poetry was very entertaining... the audience enjoyed it."*

**1st – 23rd May 2025**



Join us to celebrate the Centenary of Reigate and Redhill Festival: a fun and friendly festival with competitive and non-competitive classes in music, speech and drama.

With over 200 classes to choose from, there's something for everyone - whatever your age or talent!

Enter at [www.rrfestival.org](http://www.rrfestival.org) until 25th February 2025

Entries from £5

- Music classes for children and adult amateur musicians:
  - Brass, Choirs, Classical Guitar, Group Music, Harp & Clarsach, Piano & Organ, Strings, Vocal, Woodwind (inc. Recorders)
- Concerto class for musicians aged 19 and under
- Rock, Pop and Urban for soloists and groups, aged 10 to 19
- Speech and Drama classes for Reception to Year 13



Registered charity no 1209178

[www.rrfestival.org](http://www.rrfestival.org)