

St. Francis' School Newsletter

28th February 2025



Value of the month – Caring & Friendship

Dear Parents and Carers

RE Updates

This year we will again be supporting the charity the "Catholic Children's Society". They support families across London, the South East and Hertfordshire, providing help for families in crisis as soon as they possibility can. The children will be bringing home a "purple" box next week to donate money to this worthy cause that helps people locally. If you are able, please fill these boxes and return to school. We thank you for your support. This year's theme is Pilgrims of Hope, chosen to promote peacebuilding in a world threatened by climate change and ongoing wars.



Science Fair

This week, we had the exciting opportunity to showcase the incredible science projects from our KS2 students at the science fair. (pictures below) A big thank you to all the children who put in their time and effort to create such fantastic entries. We are so proud of our budding scientists – what an amazing group of young innovators we have at our school! Our sincere thanks also go to Mr. Couch, Science Lead from De Stafford School and Tom Holland, Science lead from the Xavier Trust, who kindly came to judge the entries. We appreciate their time and support!

Sports at St Francis

On the last Thursday before half term, our Year 6s played a football and netball match against Warlingham Village. The footballers put on a strong team performance winning 4-1, especially as all the players played a full game with no substitutes - it made for some very tired legs at the final whistle.

Despite a hard-fought 5-2 defeat, our netballers played exceptionally well, showcasing skill, determination and great sportsmanship while proudly representing our school. Both teams can look forward to their upcoming games over the next couple of weeks.

Kicking off the second half of this term, a team of 20 Y5 & Y6 pupils entered a KS2 Sport shall Athletics competition held at De Stafford School. The competition involved a series of indoor track & field events across a number of disciplines, including some that none of the children had tried before. The team performed extremely well, especially with the track events where they won 11 out of the 12 races they had entered. In the end, the team finished in 2nd place out of 6 schools and as a result, have qualified for the county finals at the start of April! Everyone should be immensely proud of their performances and were incredible representatives for the school. Bring on the finals!

Staff Goodbye and Thank you

Mrs Marlene McEleney leaves the St Francis team today having worked as our school business manager since September 2022. Mrs Lisa Liptrott leaves us having been employed as a Learning support assistant since June 2022. I would like to thank them both for their hard work and dedication to the school and wish them both the very best of luck in the future in their new roles.

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those certificate winners this week and to **Anne Line** for winning the house cup.

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

Calendar Dates

6 th March	Choir to Dorking Halls
7 th March	World Book Day – Details to Follow
10 th March	Science Week
14 th March	Inset Day School Closed to Pupils
28 th March	Beginning Lenten Reflections Reception / Year 1 - Palm Sunday Parents invited 9.10am
31 st March	Year 2- Jesus in the temple-Parents invited 9:10am
1 st April	Year 3- Washing of the feet-Parents invited 9.10am Year 4- The Last Supper-Parents invited 2:45pm
2 nd April	Year 5- The betrayal and The last supper -Parents invited 9.10am
3 rd April	Year 6- Station of the cross-Parents invited 9:10 am
4 th April	School Finishes For The Easter Break @1pm



Reigate Redhill & Festival
Centenary 2025
Celebrating Performance in Music and Drama

1st – 23rd May 2025

“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.”

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!