

St. Francis' School Newsletter

26th February 2019



Value of the month – Caring & Friendship

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Dear Parents,

The coming two weeks are busy ones in school, so the following is a diary update for your information:

Monday 25th February to Friday 8th March: Fairtrade Fortnight.

The Juniors had an Assembly about Fairtrade this morning, led by the Fairtrade Prefects. The Infants will have theirs on Thursday. Over the next two weeks, Fairtrade will be discussed in PSHCE lessons so that the children fully understand the benefits to global communities when we choose to buy Fairtrade produce. The Fairtrade Prefects, Mrs Fawcett and Miss Steward will be making gingerbread people purely from Fairtrade ingredients this Thursday afternoon, and these will be sold to children from Friday. Children may bring in 20p to purchase a biscuit. Thank you to Mrs Fawcett and Miss Steward for all their work in organising Fairtrade Fortnight.

Monday 4th March: Dressing Up Day – Come to school as a Book Character

Please note this is a change to our normal World Book Day routine.

Children should come dressed as their favourite book character next Monday. They may bring with them a copy of their favourite book, if they wish. Please make sure that if they do, the book is clearly labelled with their name. Our Assembly will have a focus on female authors to link with International Women's Day on Friday.

We will be swapping classes, sharing books and doing 'buddy reading' in classes in the afternoon.

Tuesday 5th March (Shrove Tuesday)

Y6 – Visit to Woldingham School to meet author Fleur Hitchcock. Remember to bring some money if you wish to purchase a book.

Y5 - Visit to Winchester Science Museum.

Y2 - Visit to the local Library.

Wednesday 6th March (Ash Wednesday)

Ash Wednesday Liturgies will be held at school in the afternoon. Father Stephen will be leading the Liturgies and the children will receive ashes. Over the next few days, children will be asked to reflect and to make a Lenten promise in preparation for Lent. The teachers will be explaining the meaning of the ashes in school, but please do support us by talking with your children at home about Ash Wednesday and Lent.

Thursday 7th March (World Book Day – Bible focus)

The focus will be on the Bible stories about Forgiveness (in line with our Value of the Month and Lent) and on Women in the Bible as it is International Women's Day on Friday 8th March. The children will be treated to an assembly and workshops by the Wintershall actors and actresses. We will be dressing up for World Book Day on Monday, of course, as Thursday will be a more reflective and spiritual day, and dressing as book characters would detract from the more reflective atmosphere of the day. Thank you to Mrs Bartlett who has planned and organised the day.

Friday 8th March (International Women's Day)

Today we are having the 'Science Boffins' in to deliver a science show to the whole school. They will then follow up with workshops for Y3-Y6. The show will be a wonderful starting point for the following week, which will be our Science Week. As it is also International Women's Day, we will be focusing, in PSHCE lessons over the coming week, on women who have had a great impact in a variety of fields.

Week of 11th March: Science Week

Thank you to Mrs Linehan (Science Leader), Mrs McCutcheon (Eco Leader) and the Staff who have all been busy planning a variety of activities for the annual Science Week. The classes will all be showcasing their investigations to one another on Thursday afternoon and parents are welcome to come into the Hall to see these after school.

Tuesday 12th March: Plant a Flower Day

As part of our focus on Science ('Growing') and being eco-friendly and taking care of our environment, every class will be planting bulbs and seeds today. We look forward to seeing them sprout, grow and blossom over the next few weeks.

Wednesday 13th March

Y6 - visit to Down House and be learning about Darwin.

Thursday 14th March: Science Showcase Afternoon

Parents are welcome to come along to the Hall after school to look at all the Science investigations.

Friday 15th March

Y4 – Roman Day. The Year 4s are looking forward to using the Roman swords and shields that they have been designing in this workshop day.

As you can tell, it is going to be a very exciting and educational fortnight. We hope that you will enjoy hearing about the learning from your children.

Best wishes,
Mrs Wheeler