



Virtue of the month – Responsibility

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for all the support and help you've given us and your children as we reach the end of week 6. This term is flying by! While most half terms end at week 6, we still have another 2 weeks to go so if you can keep up the great habits around attendance, uniform and general positivity towards school, it will go really well for all of us. Parenting is hard work and your children are a great credit to you and all the hard work you've done. You may even get a thank you (although maybe not for another 20 years or so!). I'd like to give a shout out to our fabulous Y6 this week. They have really stepped up their attitude in class, and they've also done us proud with their sporting achievements. The girls narrowly lost 6-5 on Tuesday while the boys brought home an 8-0 win (4 goals by Felix!). Well done to both teams, and credit to them on the massive step up in effort they are making in class. Thank you for your support at home with this.

Attendance

We have a lot of interesting and enjoyable lessons and activities going on at school, and your child can only enjoy these if they are in! Please see the infographic below that shows the long-term impact of attendance habits. I also attach a separate letter that gives further details, including around penalty notices and that whole area of low attendance that none of us want to waste our time on. In short, unless your child is very unwell or has a contagious condition, please get them in. We will be giving recognition for high attendance by individuals and classes in our Awards Assemblies each Friday, so please do what you can to enable your child to win. Thank you.

World Mental Health Day

Today was a truly heart-warming sight as children came together to celebrate *World Mental Health Day*, proudly wearing yellow to show their support and raise awareness, symbolising hope, happiness, and the importance of mental wellbeing. We raised over £250, and thank you for your generosity. It was wonderful to see everyone sharing kind words, and acknowledging how vital it is to look after our mental health. The day was filled with moments that reminded us all how powerful it is to simply check in with one another. Their voices matter, and today they showed just how much they care, not just about themselves, but about each other too. We talked about our emotions and the zones of regulation, which we use across the school to help children recognise their feelings and about the tools we can use to help us when we are feeling all of the different emotions. Please see below about the zones of regulation we are using in school. It would be very helpful if you can support your children at home with this too.

Harvest Festival- Reminder

Thursday 16th October we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival we ask if families could donate any food for our local food bank. Please could this be brought in on week beginning **Monday 13th October**. Please see food bank leaflet below which states what is needed in donations.

Playground Equipment

Please keep your children with you when you come to collect them at the end of the day - they know that they are NOT to go on the equipment in the playgrounds as there are no staff on duty should an accident happen. It is your responsibility to keep younger children with you at all times and not allow them on the equipment. Thank you for your cooperation.

Communication with Class Teachers

We kindly remind parents and carers that emails sent directly to class teachers are **not monitored daily** and will be reviewed **periodically**. If your enquiry is **urgent** or requires a **timely response**, please contact the school office office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk where staff will be able to assist you promptly. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Secondary School Applications

If your child will reach the age of 11 between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026, they will be due to start secondary school in September 2026. You can apply for a secondary school place from 1 September 2025. The closing date for applications is **31 October 2025**. If you miss the deadline, you will reduce the chances of getting one of your preferred schools for your child. To help you prepare, click below to find out everything you need to know about the schools application process.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary/apply>

Open Mornings for next year's Reception Parents

It was lovely to see so many parents at our recent Open Morning. We received wonderful feedback, especially about how knowledgeable and informative the children were while leading the tours, a real credit to our school community. Our next Open Morning will be held on **11th November @9.15am**, and we look forward to welcoming even more families then. **We invite all prospective parents who wish to attend contact the school office to book place.**

Celebration Assembly

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

Have a lovely weekend,
Mr Doyle & Staff

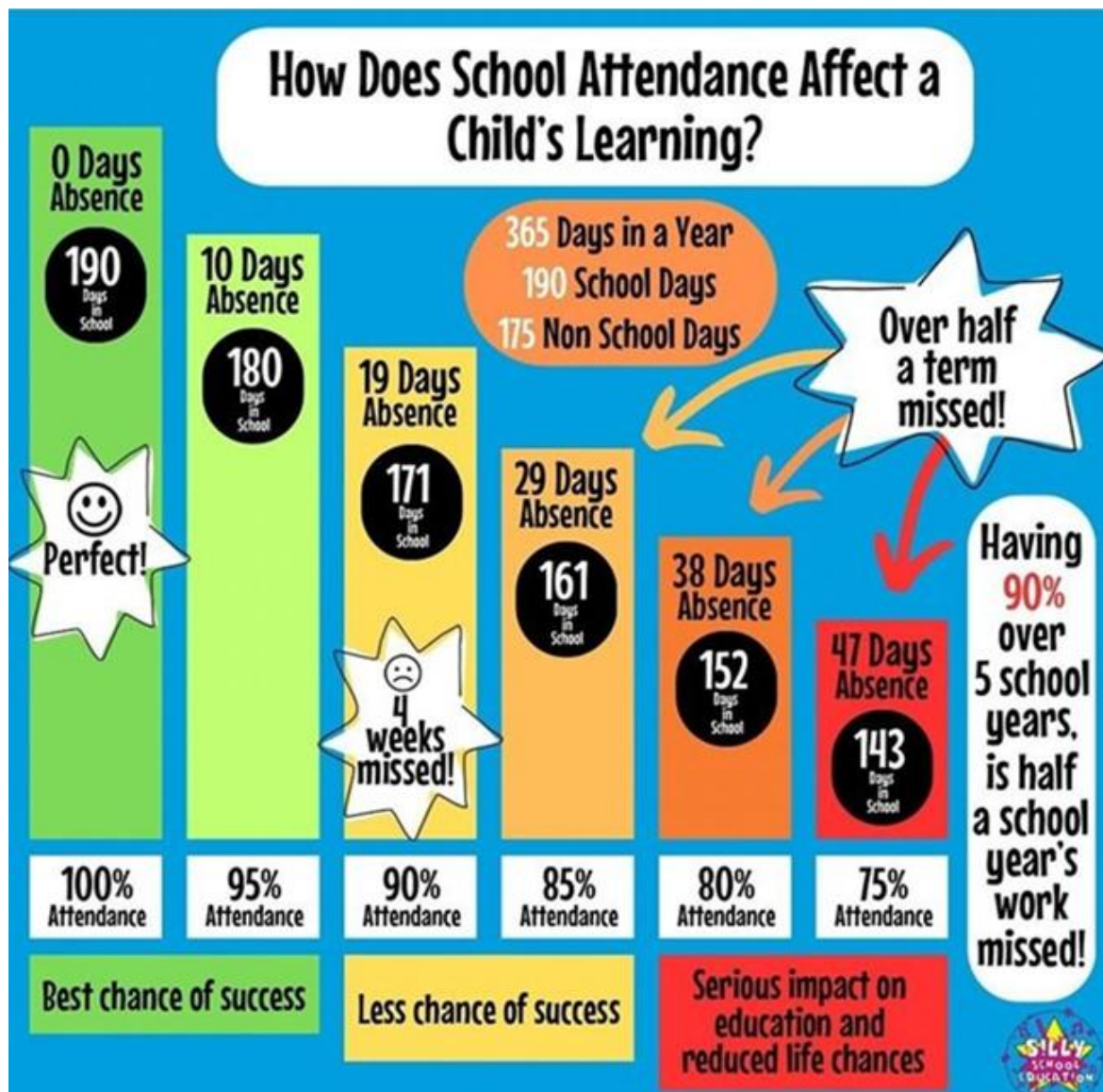


RE





Mental Health - while we see this as a growing issue in today's society, it is something which has always been there, just not always recognised. We look to the example of Jesus taking time away from people in the time of Lent, time to reflect and consider the ministry ahead of him. We look at John the Baptist who lived in the wilderness, taking himself away from the day-to-day issues or tasks which other people may have faced. Today we are often quick to want a one-stop-shop where doing one thing will make our lives different, better and easier. We live busy lives and this can take away from a peaceful existence. So how can we change? Why not take time to do something different; listen to a Bible app/podcast such as "Pray as you go" or set aside time for a "Bible in the Year" course through Spotify, or even taking time during the month of October to pray the Rosary. Time when you force yourself to stop doing "everything" and just take 5 minutes to sit and do "nothing". This often allows us to see how we can do things better, smarter, faster, but also allow us to talk to God and deepen our faith.



Calendar Dates	
14 th October	Larch Class Assembly to Parents @9.10am
14 th October	Choir Festival
16 th October	Harvest
17 th October	Phonics Meeting for Reception, Year1, Year 2 @9am
21 st October	Parents Evening
22 nd October	Parents Evening Details to Follow
23 rd October	Linden & Willow Class Assembly to Parents @9.10am
27 th October- 31 st October	Half Term
3 rd November	School Reopens @9am
7 th November	Individual Photographs
30 th November	Beginning of Advent
1 st December	Xavier Day School Closed
2 nd December	Westminster Carol Service- Details to Follow
4 th December	Whole School Panto Day
7 th December	Cedar Tree Carols and Switching on Christmas Lights 6.00pm
8 th December	Clubs Finish
10 th December	Year 4 Trip - Polka Dot Theatre
19 th December	Break up for Christmas Holidays @1pm
5 th January	School Reopens @9am
25 th February	Dorking Hall Festival -Details to Follow



The **ZONES** of Regulation®

			
<p>BLUE ZONE</p> <p>Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly</p>	<p>GREEN ZONE</p> <p>Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn</p>	<p>YELLOW ZONE</p> <p>Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control</p>	<p>RED ZONE</p> <p>Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control</p>



HARVEST COLLECTION

COLLECTION POINT HERE

SHOPPING LIST MOST NEEDED

Tinned meat and fish
Jams and spreads
Couscous and noodles
Sponge puddings or jellies
Tinned spaghetti or beans
Tinned soup
Soap and shampoo
Small jars of coffee
Large nappies (size 4 up)

DONATE NOW!

Help by donating an item or two from the list to support people facing hardship.

You can also donate money to help to cover the costs of storing and distributing emergency food as well as delivering additional support and advice.



Caterham Foodbank (covering north Tandridge)
caterham.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1155330)