

# St. Francis' School Newsletter

April 1<sup>st</sup> 2021



## Value of the month – Courage

Dear Parents and Carers

The staff and I  
Wish you all a  
Happy and  
Holy Easter



Our week ended with our annual **Stations of the Cross Liturgy**, which was very moving. Our Year 6 children impressed us with their drama portrayal of each Station, which helped us reflect on the Easter Story. Thank you to Mrs Bartlett & Miss Coggins for preparing the Liturgy, and the Year 6 staff teams for preparing the children and leading them through the day.

### Sunday Masses at our Parishes

It has been so sad that we have not easily been able to go to Mass for over a year now. However, the Parish Churches do stream the Easter Liturgies and Sunday Masses. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended, so if you are at all nervous about public gatherings, please remain at home, and if possible fulfil your Easter Mass attendance obligation through Mass online.

**Sacred Heart:** <https://www.churchservices.tv/caterham>

**All Saints:** [www.churchservices.tv/oxted](http://www.churchservices.tv/oxted)

Please try to do so, if possible. Not only is it part of who we are, but it further supports the children's learning. Thank you.

### Easter Bonnet Creations

Well done to all the children who joined in – there were some wonderful entries. Please see the pictures below for the prize winners.

### 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. Thank you.

### Covid Reporting

Covid Reporting until midnight on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Please remember, as advised in the letter home (see website), that any children receiving positive tests should be reported to [office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk).

We have a duty to support with track and trace until then.

**School re-opens** at 08:45 on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Best wishes and a very Happy Easter to you all,  
Mrs Wheeler and all the Staff

### Poetry by Heart

A huge thank you to Mrs. Shannon and a big well done to all our children who entered and those who won. We heard some of the children reciting their poems today via zoom at our assembly – they spoke clearly and with great expression. We are so proud of them. Well done to all.



# POETRY BY HEART

ST FRANCIS SCHOOL 2021 POETRY BY HEART WINNERS ARE ANNOUNCED

**WINNER OF THE CLASSIC KS2 TWO POEM RECITATION COMPETITION**  
**CHLOE (Year 4)**

**WINNERS OF THE KS2 CELEBRATION PAIR COMPETITION**  
**ISABELLA AND NITHALI (YEAR 5)**

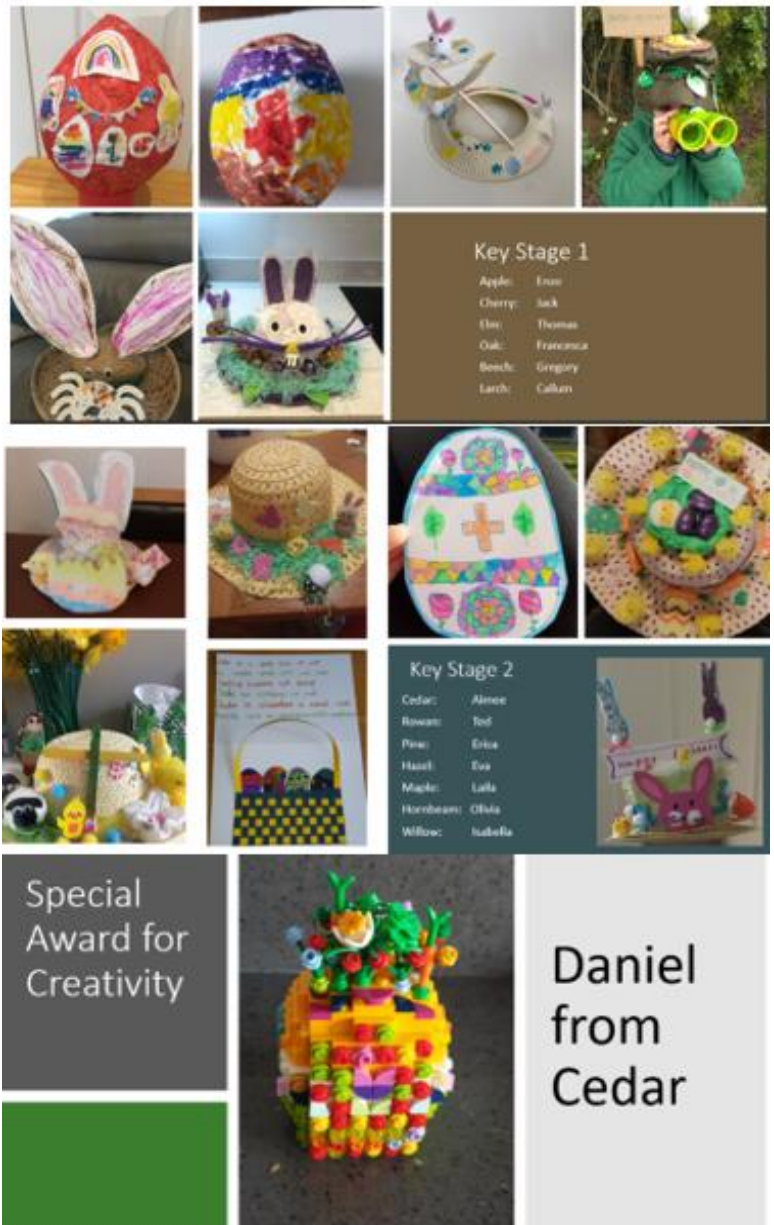
**WINNER OF THE KS2 CELEBRATION INDIVIDUAL AND SECOND PLACE IN TWO POEM COMPETITION**  
**ELOISE (YEAR 4)**

**The above pupils will be going through to the regional Poetry by Heart Heats**

**RUNNER UP OF KS2 TWO POEM AND CELEBRATION ONE POEM COMPETITION**  
**BEAU (YEAR 5)**

**WINNER OF THE KS1 SOLO POETRY COMPETITION**  
**FRANCESCA (YEAR 1)**

**RUNNER UP OF THE KS1 SOLO POETRY COMPETITION**  
**OLIVIA (RECEPTION)**



## 'Million Mindfulness Minutes' Project

After the Easter break, St. Francis school will be taking part in the Eco School's 'Million Mindfulness Minutes' project. The idea is that each class keeps a tally of how many minutes each child spends doing a mindfulness activity each day for four weeks. We then submit our total minutes as a school to contribute towards the million mindfulness minutes achieved in schools nationwide.

We have discussed various mindfulness options with the children and some will be completed in school over the 4 weeks. These range from art activities, spotting shapes in the clouds, observing wildlife or simply listening to your favourite music. Please find two links containing a multitude of ideas for you to dip into from Monday 19th April and we hope that you enjoy some mindful relaxation with your children!

<https://www.waterford.org/resources/mindfulness-activities-for-kids/>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/10-mindfulness-exercises-kids>

## Class Emails

Over the Easter period messages sent to class emails will not be responded to. If you have an urgent matter please email the school office and someone will respond as soon as possible.

[office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk)

### Food Bank and Support for Families in Need: Easter Holiday

Please can our families be aware that the school has access to some support networks for families in need. This might be particularly important during these difficult times for some families. If a family needs support, please contact Mrs Wheeler (Headteacher) or one of the Senior Leadership Team for details of help available. All enquires will be dealt with in utmost confidence. If help is needed during the holiday you can email [office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk) and we will endeavour to help.

## Calendar Dates

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	School Closes @1PM for Easter Break
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	School Re-Opens for Summer Term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Bikeability Week
19 <sup>th</sup> April to 26 <sup>th</sup> April	The Big Pedal: Details to follow
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Day of Hope, Sponsored Silence for Save the Children in Yemen
WC- Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Science Week RSD (Relationship Sex Education)
WC- Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	RSD (Relationship Sex Education)
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	New Parents Meeting - <b>To be confirmed</b>
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Bags2school
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Changeover Day - - <b>To be confirmed</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day - <b>To be confirmed</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day - <b>To be confirmed</b>

### The Big Pedal: 19-26<sup>th</sup> April

We shall be taking part in The Big Pedal at the start of next term. Children will be thinking about the environment and healthy living. They are all encouraged to cycle or scoot to school during these two weeks. Details will follow.





Dear Parents and Carers

The PTA would like to thank you all for your continued support during the Spring Term. It's been a challenging term for the children, initially with home schooling and upon their return, social distancing restrictions in school – they have all done so well and huge thank you goes out to all the staff.

The pandemic has certainly impacted how we the PTA have been able to support the school. Despite being restricted in terms of the events we have been able to offer we very much hope the children have all enjoyed participating in World Book Day, the St Patricks Day celebrations and most recently the Easter Bonnet competitions. Well done to all the competition winners.

As we move into the summer term, we very much hope that we are able to host more events allowing the children and families to come together. We will however need to be guided by the social distancing restrictions and safeguarding measures implemented by the school – so watch this space. The school are hopeful the children will be able to partake in some sports day activities during the summer term. Order your personalised T-Shirts and Caps. See full details below. <https://buytickets.at/stfrancisschoolassociation/502696>

In the meantime, we have some other fantastic fun ways for you to support the school. Having recently launched the School Lottery we are now only a few weeks away from the first draw on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021. If you haven't done so already buy a £1 ticket for your chance to WIN up to £25,000. See full details below.

<https://www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-francis-catholic-primary-school-caterham>

Furthermore, a really easy way for you to support the school is by linking your personal Amazon account to the St Francis School Association, Caterham charity at [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk). Each purchase you make will generate a donation to benefit the children at the school. Donations are made at NO cost to you. Setup is simple and can also be done within the Amazon mobile App. See full details below.

Lastly, a date for your diaries, we will be having a Bags2School collection on 28 June. Collection bags will be made available nearer the time, but we would be grateful if you could store unwanted items of clothing for the collection.

The PTA continue to work hard to support the school, but we can only do this with the help of parents and carers. The committee is urgently seeking the support of a secretary to help with the administration, organising meetings and minute taking. This role can be shared so if you are interested please get in touch.

Thank you all again for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you all again next term.

Kindest Regards, Lisa, PTA Chair

## SPORTS DAY T-SHIRTS 2021



Whilst it's unclear at this time if the PTA and the school will be able to host a full summer party, we very much hope the children will be able to have a sports day in school during the summer term.

Please use the link below to order your house colour personalised T-Shirts and Caps.

You can purchase the following items;

Personalised Childs T-Shirt - £6.50 each  
House Coloured Caps - £3 each  
Adults Personalised T-Shirt - £9 each

Thomas More – Red Margaret Clitheroe – Yellow  
John Fisher – Blue Anne Line – Green

Size, colour and personalisation is completed at the point of checkout. Please take care when selecting size & colour and with spellings for personalisation as no refunds can be made.

**Deadline: Please ensure you have placed your order by Friday 23 April. Late orders can't be fulfilled.**

Should there be any questions please email [sportsdaytshirts1@gmail.com](mailto:sportsdaytshirts1@gmail.com)

<https://buytickets.at/stfrancisschoolassociation/502696>



## SCHOOL LOTTERY LAUNCHED

The PTA have launched the St Francis School Association lottery in association with Your School Lottery. Buy a £1 ticket for your chance to WIN up to £25,000. Additional local cash prizes each week.

A donation from the lottery is paid directly to St Francis School so your children will benefit regardless of who wins.

To purchase tickets please click the link, register and pick your numbers.

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-francis-catholic-primary-school-caterham>

Please share with friends and family, best of luck to all.



St Francis' School Association

YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

- 1 JOIN OUR LOTTERY
- 2 BOOST SCHOOL FUNDS
- 3 WIN CASH PRIZES

**It's As Easy As**

- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- The easy way to help us raise funds
- Local cash prizes every week
- Chance to win the £25k jackpot

**Buy A Ticket**

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.