

St. Francis' School Newsletter

5th November 2020



Value of the month – Respect

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that everyone had a lovely break and are all ready for the new term. There is lots of information this week, please do read the whole newsletter.



Covid: We coped extremely well last half term and only had an increasing number of cases (pupils and staff) in that final week. The staff and I would like to thank everyone for their vigilance in testing and keeping us informed – parents use of a common sense approach certainly helped keep us all as safe as possible. The holiday has given us a good 'circuit break', but we now need to manage the Christmas season, so we can try and keep our planned events (eg: Christmas Nativities, Carols and the Fayre etc.) going!

If your child has Covid symptoms, please keep them off school and book a PCR test via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test) or by calling 119

Vomiting and diarrhoea: Children with vomiting and diarrhoea should, as usual, remain off school for 48 hours after the final bout of illness. Please be mindful that, although not 'official' Covid symptoms, tummy aches, sickness and diarrhoea do appear to be prevalent in children with Covid.

Please keep using your common sense approaches to this difficult situation. Do speak to the Office staff if you have any concerns – they are very experienced in helping parents with the variety of situations we encounter. We very much appreciate your support.

Discos

The Reception and Year 1 'Welcome' Discos were great fun at the end of the half term. Our thanks to the whole PTA team for all the organisation and support that went into making the evening such a success. It was lovely to see the children having such a good time and Parents being able to socialise in school once again.



Kenley Terror Mini Monster Fun Run

Well done to all those St Francis' children who did the Kenley Mini Monster Mile fun run. The run was in aid of the Kenley RAFA



Open Morning Sessions for Prospective Reception Classes Parents & Admissions for 2022-2023 Friday 12th November 9.30am & Wednesday 17th November 4pm

Please note the following dates for the Prospective Reception Parents Open Morning/Afternoon Details on how to apply for places can be found below (scroll down) and on our website under the Admissions section.

Remembrance Day – Uniformed groups reminder

If your child is a member of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows, Guides or similar uniformed groups, they may come to school on **Thursday 11th November** in their club uniform. Any children who are not members of these groups should come to school in their school uniform as usual.

Well done and Congratulations

To Robyn in Apple Class for taking part in a recent advert Curry's.
Do look out for it on the television.



Also, to Dillon in Linden Class who was the winner of a competition in The Family Grapevine Magazine. He wrote a winning diary entry which will be published in the November edition of the magazine <https://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/>
His efforts won a wonderful Horrible Histories Terrible Thames cruise for him and his family!! Well done Dillon.

Lmada Exams

Well done to the girls who achieved distinctions in their recent Lamda exams – we are very proud of you all.



PTA – Class Reps Request:

The PTA urgently need Class reps for the following classes: Larch, Hazel and Pine. If you or a couple of parents think they can help please contact Lisa Donohue PTA Chair on: stfrancisschoolassociation@googlemail.com

Wishing everyone a happy and safe weekend.
Mrs Wheeler and Staff



Calling Any Electricians

Now the clocks have moved back and it's getting dark earlier, we're looking at lighting options for the playground so the children can enjoy the outdoor space throughout their sessions at Treetops. Ideally we'd like lighting triggered by motion, but we are open to suggestions and recommendations. Could any electricians please get in touch with Tamzin Marsh at info@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk if they can help.

Calendar Dates

November 12 th	New Parents Open Morning 9.30am
November 16 th	Road Safety Week: Theme is Road Safety Heroes KS1&YR Road Safety Magic Show
November 17 th	New parent Open Afternoon 4pm
November 24 th	Year 6 Trip -Tower of London
December 2 nd	Whole school Pantomime - Aladdin
December 6 th	Woldingham Carol Concert -Details to Follow
December 12 th Sunday	Christmas Fayre/Market – details to follow

Communicating with School Reminder

Please remember that the best contact for the Head, Senior Leaders and Teachers is office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk.

As you can imagine we receive a huge number of messages, letters and emails into school each day. The school's Microsoft filtering system does mean that it can, on occasions, filter your correspondence into 'Other or Junk'. Whilst we do monitor these, communications can slip through the net. So we can deal with any communications from you as promptly as possible, please remember to follow the school protocol:

- Emails for the Head, Senior Leaders and Teachers and should be sent to office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk This email address is monitored throughout the school day and your query will be passed on to the relevant person.
- The individual Class emails: will only be checked on a weekly basis If a message is urgent please contact the office by email or phone.
- You can give non-urgent messages to your child's class teacher by putting a note in your child's planner, or speak to your child's teacher at the end of the day. Infant children Planners are looked at daily by school staff. Junior children need to make the Teacher or TA aware that there is a message in the planner and hand it to the staff member in class. If in doubt, email or phone the office.
- **Urgent messages should always come in via the school office.**

If you do not get an acknowledgement (within 3 days) that we have received your correspondence, please check with the office that we have received it. If replies are not received, then these can be checked via the office too.

- A member of the Senior Leadership Team, our ELSAs and TAs are almost always available on the school gates too for quick chats, though it is better to email or phone in with messages.

Open Sessions for Prospective Reception Classes Parents & Admissions for 2022-2023 Friday 12th November 9.30am & Wednesday 17th November 4pm

For the Parishes of Caterham, Whyteleafe, Oxted and Warlingham

2021-22 Catholic applications – for Reception places for St Francis' Catholic Primary School

For those needing a [Reception place in 2021-22](#), there is a [Virtual Tour of the School](#) on the Admissions page of the website. Please do remember to read and follow the Admissions instructions below If you need any help or advice on Admissions, do contact the school Office

Extraordinarily for this year, due to the COVID situation and to best protect Fr Seán and Fr Stephen, they will not be meeting parents in person to sign the SIF forms.

The general process for applications remains the same. Before the closing date for applications:

- Parent/Carers complete their Local Authority Common Application Form online.
- Parent/Carers must also complete the **SIF** and return it **to the school**.
- The school will formally log receipt of each SIF form from each Catholic applicant.
- The school will then take all the Catholic applicants' SIFs to the priest in one go for the priests to complete the relevant section for each applicant and return to the school.

If you have questions or queries please telephone the school office.



www.caterham.foodbank.org.uk

Newsletter

Issue No 16. October 2021

News!

We're really pleased that our foodbank is now back to operating a full service. Since the Covid restrictions lifted in July we've been able to sit with clients and have a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Most importantly we've been able to signpost them on to further services if required, as the foodbank is so much more than just giving food. We're continuing to see higher levels of foodbank use than before the pandemic, and 2021 looks like the level of need could be higher than in 2020.

Increasing numbers for us is not an achievement! We're working with The Trussell Trust to bring change so that everyone has enough money for the essentials and doesn't need to rely on a charity to provide for them.

In June we opened our new Order and Collect Service at King's church in Oxted. Although Caterham Foodbank was set up by Caterham churches and so its name, we've always supported clients in the whole of Tandridge. As you're probably aware there are very poor public transport links south of Caterham so the new service at King's church provides a location closer to South Tandridge residents.

King's church have also recently opened Connect Oxted Debt Service, to help Tandridge clients struggling with debt. Some of the foodbank volunteers will soon complete their training to be Money Mentors for this service, to enable us to directly help people referred to the foodbank. This will be a great service to be able to offer our clients.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the foodbank.

If you're struggling to feed yourself or family, or you know someone who is, please get in touch we'd love to help



We're currently receiving very generous harvest donations from the local community, thank you so much! Your support is much appreciated. Thank you too for the many financial donations we receive, both food and finances are so important to us, to enable us to continue helping those in need in our local communities.

If you'd like to know what items we need, we regularly update our website www.caterham.foodbank.org.uk

See overleaf for places where you can donate

INFORMATION

Opening times

Monday 12 noon to 2pm @ Oakhall Church, 181 Chaldon Road. CR3 5PL

Wednesday 12 noon to 2pm @ King's church, Oxted RH8 0PW
FOR ORDERS PLACED IN ADVANCE

Thursday 12 noon to 2pm @ Caterham Baptist Church, Beechwood Road. CR3 6NA



Caterham Foodbank provides 3 days worth of emergency food to local people in crisis.

The foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust, an organisation based on Christian principles.

Chairman's chosen charity

Simon Morrow the chairman of Tandridge Council has chosen Caterham Foodbank as one of his chosen charities for the year.

Tandridge
District Council

Caterham Foodbank Permanent Collection Points can be found in the following supermarkets.

TESCO

Caterham

Waitrose

Caterham

Morrisons
Since 1899

Caterham

co op

Caterham on the hill & Warlingham Green

Sainsbury's Local

Oxted



spareable

Online app

The Tesco National food collection will be held 18th, 19th and 20th November in store at Caterham Tesco. Please pop along and say hello to our lovely volunteers and if you can donate an item or two 😊



Caterham Foodbank

4 Beechwood Road
Caterham
CR3 6NA

Registered Charity No. 1155330
Registered in England & Wales

07523 983122

info@caterham.foodbank.org.uk

www.caterham.foodbank.org.uk



TIME FOR FUN

For fun, friendship and
activities that get you
thinking as well
as doing.

6 and 7 year old boys and girls
Tuesday evenings 6-7pm
3rd Caterham Scout Group
105 Godstone Road
Caterham
CR3 6RF

scouts.org.uk/get-involved
Call Diane on 01883348629 or TXT Jonathan on
07912696283



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