

# St. Francis' School Newsletter

4<sup>th</sup> October 2019



## Value of the month – Responsibility

Dear Parents

Today we held our **St Francis' Feast Day and Harvest Liturgies**. The Juniors went along to Church for Mass with Father Seán and the Infants celebrated the day here in school with Father Stephen. It was lovely to see so many parents join us. We wish everyone a very Happy St Francis Feast Day!

You may be interested to know that we receive a lovely card every year from Bishop Richard who sends us prayers and blessings. In return we keep him in our prayers.

Many thanks to all those families who donated goods for the Harvest Liturgy. The goods will be going to the Caterham Food Bank who really do appreciate your donations.

### **School Travel Plan Silver Award – well done St Francis' School.**

We heard this week that we have been awarded the **School Travel Plan (Modeshift Stars) Silver Award** – at present we are the only school in Surrey to hold the award! Well done to us all!

Many thanks to the Staff for helping me with our work on the travel plan through PSHE lessons and events such as Road Safety Week and Walk to School and Golden Boot Weeks etc. Also thanks to our Governors who support and work in the background on travel planning and parking and last but not least, to all our St Francis' children and families who make great efforts to support us with these activities, by walking, cycling and scooting to school, by car sharing, and by those who make great efforts to drive carefully and park sensibly for the safety of all children. Keep up the good work!

**Reception Class Welcome Disco.** We look forward to seeing our new Parents and children at the Reception Classes Welcome Disco next week. Scroll down for further details.

### **Kitchen - Vegetable Competition.**

Don't forget to send in your designs. The pictures are currently displayed in the kitchen. Caroline and her staff are loving seeing them all. Closing date is 14<sup>th</sup> October Scroll down for details.

Wishing everyone a happy weekend.

Mrs Wheeler



### **Payments**

Please ensure that **all** payments sent to school office are put in an envelope, clearly marked with your child's name and what the money is for. Thank you

### **Aldi Schools Competition**

Thank you to all families who are collecting the stickers – we have had a great response! We have filled up one poster and now need to fill the second. Please do keep sending them in! If we win, the money will be put towards building a new multi-use games (MUGA) area outside.

### DfE Multiplication Tables Check

The DfE on-screen multiplication tables check for children in Y4 becomes mandatory in June of 2020.

Please note it is vitally important for **all children in all year groups** to work on their times tables, so that they are secure in them and know them out of order, up to 12x12, by June of Year 4.

The Year 4 teachers will be preparing the children in class, however, it is vital that they do practise frequently at home. Please encourage the children to use our 'Timestables Rockstars' programme regularly over the course of the year in preparation for the test.

The new on-screen check lasts no longer than five minutes and is similar to the checks many schools use already. It enables teachers to monitor a child's progress in a consistent and reliable way and has been carefully designed to avoid causing additional stress for children and teachers.

### Appreciating our Staff

#### National Teaching Assistants Day, World Teachers Day and Administrative Professionals Day

We have already celebrated National Teaching Assistants Day in school this term and tomorrow 5<sup>th</sup> October we shall be wishing all our hardworking teachers a very happy World Teachers Day!

We celebrate these events by having tea and cakes in the staffroom at morning break, so Monday will be for the teachers! In April next year it will be the turn of our Administrative Professionals and wider Staff.

### Diary Dates

8th	October	Grandparents day – EYFS & KS1 at 9:10am / KS2 at 1:45pm
11th	October	Welcome Disco for reception children and parents only
18th	October	Open morning 9:15am. Prospective parents September 2020
19th	October	Junior choir singing at St Mary's - letter to follow
21 <sup>st</sup>	October	Parents Evening
22 <sup>nd</sup>	October	Parents Evening
25th	October	Year 3 Payment deadline for Science Museum trip 3.30pm – School closes for half term.
4th	November	9:00am, School re-opens for 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of autumn term Individual school photographs
11 <sup>th</sup>	November	Year 2 St Luke's Church
14 <sup>th</sup>	November	Year 3 Science Museum Open afternoon 1.30pm. prospective parents September 2020
18 <sup>th</sup>	November	Road Safety week
22 <sup>nd</sup>	November	PTA film night years 1-6
29 <sup>th</sup>	November	Inset day

#### Polite Reminders:

**Haircuts:** Please remember that children should not have extreme fashion haircuts while at school – try and save these for the longer holidays so the children may enjoy them and grow out enough in time for school terms.

**Smart Watches/Wearable Technology:** these must not be worn at school for e-safety and safeguarding reasons.

**Jewellery - no jewellery should be worn in school.** It is County and school policy that children are not permitted to take part in any form of Physical Education if wearing jewellery. This includes earrings, even if they are covered up with tape.

### Reminder for Year 6 Parents: Permission to leave the site at the end of the day

If they have permission to walk home, or to walk and meet you off site please can you remind your children of the following:

1. They should walk straight home quickly and sensibly – do not delay or go via shops etc.
2. If they normally meet you off site and you are delayed they should know that **at 4pm**, if you have not turned up, to walk quickly back to the school and go to the office. Someone is always around and we will keep the children here and phone to check on parents' whereabouts.
3. On the way home they are in school uniform and as such are representing the school. They should behave sensibly and politely at all times on the journey home.
4. If they are worried at all on the journey, they can always return to school and go to the office.

### School Fund/ Governors Fund Letter

Please can all parents return the response slips attached to our Chair of Governors letter sent out recently, regarding School Fund & the Governors Fund.

A reply is required by all families and we do not want to have to chase you. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

### Open Mornings and School Tours for next year's Reception Parents

There will be the following events for prospective parents:

- **Open Morning & Tours** - 9:15am – 10:15am  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019
- **Open Afternoon & Tours** 1:30pm - 2:30pm  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019

The Headteacher will address parents at the start of both events.

**Please could any prospective parents who wish to attend contact the school office to book place.**

### Sacred Heart Christmas Fair

Do you have any unwanted Barbie dolls? We are able to use them to make items for our Arts & Craft stall at the Christmas Fair. There is a box in the church porch, so please bring any that you do not need to Mass on Sunday.

Many thanks.

Moyra Brohier, Christmas Fair Organiser.

### Lunch Money

A reminder that lunch money is now due for the new term. The cost is now £2.35 per day, making the totals as follows:

Weekly - £11.75  
First half term - £86.35  
Second half term - £77.55  
Whole term - £163.90

Cheques should be made payable to **Surrey County Council**.

Alternatively, payment can be made online – if you would like instructions, please ask at the School Office.

Meals are ordered on a weekly basis; you **cannot** alter midweek. Anyone wishing to change from Packed Lunch to School Dinners or vice versa, must let the school office know by the Friday of the previous week. You will be charged for dinners if you have not informed us.

Thank you.

### Lunch: Use of Cutlery

Please can we ask families to help us out by encouraging the children to use cutlery when eating. At lunch, many children are just using forks (or fingers!) and not using their knife. Please can you help them to practise at home. Thank you again for your support and cooperation with this.

### **E-Safety 'Acceptable Use Agreements'.**

Following a recent review of our E-Safety policy, we now have new 'Acceptable Use Agreements' for using technology in school. Over the next two weeks, all children from Y1 to Y6 will be discussing the agreements with their teachers and be bringing them home to discuss with parents and carers. There is also an agreement for parents / carers to read and sign too.

**Please return these agreements to school as soon as possible.**

### **End of school day collections**

Please inform your child's teacher in writing if your child is being collected by someone other than a parent at the end of the school day.

**Alternatively, please contact the school office by telephone or email where possible before 1pm.**

If your child is collected on regular basis by several different people, please confirm in writing the names of the people you give permission to pick up on your behalf and send this in via the school office. Thank you.

### **School office hours**

Please be reminded that the school office is open to parents from 8:45am until 4pm, Monday to Friday only. Outside these hours, the gate buzzer and telephone are not supervised.

If you need to arrange for your child to be collected early from an internally run club, please make sure that you let the school office know as early as possible, preferably before 1pm. If they attend an externally run club, please contact the provider direct to arrange early pickup. Thank you.

### **Absence Procedures**

Please remember to use [absence@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk) to report that your child is ill or will be in late or leaving early for an appointment. Please do not use office email.

Notification should be made by 9.30am on the first day of absence. You need to notify the school on **each** continuing day of absence, even if you expect your child to be off school for a few days. Where possible, all other appointments should be made outside school hours.

Thank you.

### **School Uniform**

The children came back to school looking very smart in their uniforms. Please encourage them to keep this up and to understand the importance of taking pride in their appearance. Shirts should be tucked in, jumpers/cardigans worn (or in their bag), long hair tied back with a blue/white/black hair accessory and black school shoes worn. Should they have misplaced their shoes, they **MUST** wear plimsolls inside the school and trainers outside. Earrings are not allowed for Health & Safety reasons. Coats are now necessary every day, as the days are getting colder and wetter and we do take them out on occasions for the fresh air if it is only light rain or drizzle. Thank you.

## **School Association**

### **Welcome Disco - 11th October.**

Reception parents and children are welcome to join us in the school hall from 6-8pm for an opportunity to have fun and get to know each other. There will be a DJ, tuck shop and refreshments. Tickets are available - <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stfrancisschoolassociation/301500>

**Christmas Themed Movie Night - 22nd November.** This is a chance for children in years 1-6 to get into the spirit of Christmas with a film and Christmas themed treats. There will be a limited number of tickets available due to space in the hall. Tickets available mid October via ticket tailor.

**Second hand uniform sales** - Thank you to Rachael Kay for organising this and to Sinead Mullholland for helping on the day. The sale raised £50 and was a great opportunity to buy some good quality pre-loved uniform. Second hand uniform will be available to buy at parent's evenings in October.

**Cinderella Pantomime at Fairfield Halls.** The PTA have secured tickets for the pantomime, Cinderella at the newly refurbished Fairfield Halls on Wednesday 18th December at 7pm. Tickets are £21 each (originally £43!). Please use the link to purchase tickets - <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stfrancisschoolassociation>. Payment is due by the end of September so don't delay!

### **Save the date**

Mufti Day - 6th December - please bring in a bottle for the bottle tombola

Christmas Fayre - 8th December

Spring Ball - 7th March 2020

Circus - 25th June 2020 (evening)



# **Apple and Cherry Fancy Dress WELCOME PARTY**

**Date:** Friday 11th October 2019

**Time:** 6.00pm until 8.00pm

**Venue:** St Francis' School Hall

**£4 per ticket, includes hot dog.**

**All children need a paying adult with them.**

**(Please let us know of any dietary requirements)**

Prize for best fancy dress. Bar, tuck shop & glow sticks on sale,  
Any queries please see Helen Byrne or Rachael Wood (yr 1 mums).

**Tickets can be bought online via TicketTailor:**

[www.tickettailor.com/events/stfrancisschoolassociation/301500](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/stfrancisschoolassociation/301500)

## **Come and join the fun!**



**St Francis' School  
Association**





# BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

ALL WELCOME  
BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

**Friday**  
**8 November 2019** *Night* from 5.30pm

**TICKETS £10 Adults • £5 children**

Tickets can be purchased in advance or on the night

Food must be pre-purchased when booking tickets.  
Food will not be available to buy on the night.

5.30PM : GATES OPEN

6.15PM : JUDGING OF THE GUY MAKING COMPETITION

6.30PM : BONFIRE • 7.15PM : FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO MUSIC

MULLED WINE, BBQ, BAR AND MORE

Book tickets online at  
**[tickets.wpsa.co](https://tickets.wpsa.co)**

**wpsa**

**W**  
WOLDINGHAM  
SCHOOL





Do you have a favourite vegetable? Make it a cute cartoon character that excites everyone and spreads the word: Eating vegetables is good for your body, good for the Earth! Grab your brush/pencils and some creative time, give your drawing to your catering team by 14th October! The catering team in your school will select a winner, who will be entered into the overall final where it will compete with other school's entries.

The top 3 winners will get a vegetable hamper with recipes, together with a chef's hat and apron.

In addition, the first prize will have their winning entry turned into an amazing soft toy character.

We can't wait to give you your prizes.

Top 3 winners will be announced on 8th November.

Ready, Steady, Go Get Drawing!!!!!!!!!!

