St. Francis' School Newsletter

13th December 2019



Value of the month – Patience

Dear Parents,

The Christmas Fayre last Saturday was a great success and we send a special 'thank you' to the PTA and all who worked so hard to plan and organise stalls, gather in goods and make the day run so smoothly.

Our Choir sang at **Westminster Cathedral** as part of the Woldingham Girls School Christmas Service. The children sang beautifully. It was a busy and very long day with travelling, the rehearsals and the Carol Service itself, but the children embraced it and were exceptionally well behaved throughout the day. It is a real privilege to be invited to join Woldingham School and we send our thanks for the invitation. Our children are to be commended for representing the school so well.

After all the preparations and rehearsals, the Year 1 and Year 2 Nativities have been very entertaining. The children learned their lines very well and spoke clearly and with confidence. The singing was truly superb! My thanks go to the Teachers and TAs who helped rehearse and prepare all the children, and to all the parents who provided costumes and came in to help. We are now looking forward to next week when we have the Advent Reflections on Monday morning and the Junior Carol Concert.

The Junior Carol Concert will be held in Sacred Heart Church on Monday 16th December at 2pm. We hope that you will join us as we remember the true meaning of Christmas; do join us as we sing the heart-warming traditional carols! The children will sit together in classes in the main body of the Church and families are kindly asked to sit towards the back and at the sides. Afterwards, there will be refreshments provided by our thoughtful PTA in the Hall.

On Tuesday17th and Wednesday 18th December, it is **Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day**. Show off your best Christmas sweater, decorate your everyday jumper, or even tinsel up Granny's homemade knitwear!



Primary School Admissions for 2020

Please remember the deadline for **Reception 2020 applications** to School Admissions is the 15th January. Any applications received after this date are treated as late applications.

Best wishes, Mrs Wheeler & Staff

Food Bank and Support for Families in Need

Please can our families be aware that the school has access to some support networks for families in need. This might be particularly important as Christmas can be a difficult time of year 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.

ALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS HAVE NOW FINISHED

All outstanding dinner money needs to be paid by Tuesday 17th December. Thank you



Communicating with staff (first port of call should be via the class teacher)

1. School Planner- all general messages that are non-confidential.

2. For the attention of the class teacher, please email the school office. <u>office@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk</u>

3.Request for meetings should come via the school planner or office.

4. Confidential messages should be sent via the school office (email or hand-written) and should be marked for the attention of the staff member and marked confidential.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DINNER

The deadline for opting in for Christmas lunch has now passed!

	Tuesday 17 th Dec 2019	Wednesday 18 th Dec 2019
Junior children	Xmas Lunch	A festive buffet or packed lunch will be provided by the kitchen for those who normally have a school dinner on this day.
Infant Children	A festive buffet or packed lunch will be provided by the kitchen for those who normally have a school dinner on this day.	Xmas Lunch



Advent Reflection Liturgy

Dear Parents,

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On Monday 16th December 2019, we will have a "Reflection Liturgy" at school where we will think about the meaning of Christmas, and reflect upon our actions, especially during Advent.



The Infants will have theirs at 9:15; the Junior Reflection will be at 10:10. You are welcome to join us, if you wish.

If possible, perhaps your child/<u>ren</u> could bring in a silver coin. Our "Silver Collection" is donated to a local charity. Thank you.



Junior Carol Concert



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Dear Parents,

You are cordially invited to our Junior Carol Concert at <u>Sacred Heart Church</u> this <u>Monday the</u> <u>16th December 2019</u>. Your children have been very excited throughout Advent, preparing themselves for Christmas Day! The afternoon of Lessons and Carols will start at 2pm. It is a lovely opportunity to be part of

our children's celebration and to sing Christmas Carols with them.

The concert will start at 2pm and be followed by tea/coffee, squash and mince pies in the hall afterwards. It will be a wonderful way to end this term and to unwind before the holidays.

Have a lovely and peaceful Christmas!





Decem	oer	
16 th	December	Advent Reflections(am) and Junior Carol Concert(pm)
17 th	December	KS2 (only) Christmas lunch
18 th	December	KS1 (only) Christmas lunch
19 th	December	School Closes @ 1pm
20 th	December	Inset Day School Closed
6 th	January	School re-opens 9am
15 th	January	Deadline for Reception place applications
13 th	February	School closes for half term @3.30pm
14 th	February	Inset Day School Closed
4 th	March	Down House (Year 6)
9 th /10 th	March	Science Planetarium (both days)

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.

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 directly to arrange early pickup. Thank you.

E-Safety Update

E-Safety Update (3) This week's link is to the NSPCC website, and provides information on how to set parental controls to enable safe searching on the internet.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/

Payments

Please ensure that <u>all</u> 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

Absence Procedures

Please remember to use <u>absence@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk</u> 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.

Please provide details of why they are off, unwell is not sufficient. In the event of vomiting or diarrhea would you please keep your child at home until they have been free of all symptoms for at least 48 hours.

Coats

The days are now much colder and very changeable. We still have some children arriving in school without coats. Please ensure your child remembers to bring a coat to school. We are never quite sure what the weather will be like, but it is important for children to get plenty of fresh air, so they will still go out in light rain conditions and will need their coats. Thank you.

Reminder – Letters Home

Please can we remind parents of the importance of responding to school letters promptly. The school office is spending a vast amount of time, and money on texts, chasing outstanding payments and paperwork If you have any queries or difficulties with payment, please contact the school office. Thank you

School Association

Christmas Fayre - a massive thankyou goes to Nicky Leaker and Sarah Addeley and the year one parents/carers for organising this year's Fayre which was a great success. There were lots of volunteers involved both in the preparations, on the day and in the clearing up so thank you to each and every one of you. The event raised an amazing £5500 which is brilliant!

Please check to see if your employer can match fund and let us know if you can as this really helps to boost the fantastic amount already raised.

Merry Christmas

Winter Disco - 24th January Spring Ball - 7th March Quiz Night - 25th April Circus - 25th June

stfrancischristmasfayre@hotmail.com



CONTACT US

Drop in and speak to our Primary Mental Health Worker for a friendly, informal chat from 9 to 9:30 every Thursday.

> Phone consultations by appointment only

One to one meetings by appointment only

Call Mrs Dommett on: 01883 342005 Email lorna.dommett@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk

Useful Contact numbers:

Samaritans:	Free phone 116 123			
Parentline:	0808 800 2222			
Child line:	0800 1111			
NHS direct:	111 - non emergency helpline			
Family Information Service:				

new.surrevcc.gov.uk/people-andcommunity/family-information-service . .

Young Minds:	www.voungminds.org.uk
	0808 802 5444
Kooth:	kooth.com

Kooth:

What is a Primary Mental **Health Worker?**

We work with anyone aged 6 to 18 that is experiencing mild to moderate mental health difficulties.

Working on a short term basis to benefit young people around their struggles.

This could include things like:

- Anxiety
- Self-harm
- Suicidal thoughts (without attempting or making plans to commit suicide)
- Low moods
- Consistently angry
- Withdrawn from others
- Self Esteem / Body Image/ Self Worth
- Bullvina
- Help to minimise the impact of negative life experiences
- Bereavement/Loss

You can see our PMHW in school.

PMHW

Confidentiality

We believe you have a right to privacy so we offer а confidential service.

Everything you tell us can confidential. remain This means we won't talk about any details you tell us to anyone else unless there is a serious risk of harm to you or another person.

How are we doing?

We want to hear what you think about our service to help us offer the best service possible. Please let us know what we are doing well and how we could improve. You can do this by completing an evaluation form available from our Primary Mental Health Worker.

Primary Mental Health Worker (PMHW)



A service for children, parents and staff who would like to discuss mental health difficulties with a professional in school.



How to refer

If you would like to find out more or to be referred to our Primary Mental Health worker:

- Speak to our Inclusion Manager Mrs Dommett
- Speak to our ELSA Mrs Hamilton
- Come to a drop in session on Thursdays at 9am
- Call or email us (see over for details)

Ways our support is delivered

There are many different ways in which we can provide support, these include:

- Solution focused intervention
- Guided self help
- Group Work
- One to one





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Contact information: Text: 07557 351405 Email: flexiflics@gmail.com

Monday and Friday Morning Gymnastics Club At St Francis

A gymnastics club will be running in the hall on a Monday and Friday morning. Monday morning sessions are for year 1 and 2 and will run from 8:00 – 8:45am. Friday morning sessions are for run for year 3 – 6 and will run 8:00-8:45am. Children are dropped off at the school office, and will get changed ready for class at the end of the session.

If you wish to sign up, your child will learn different gymnastics moves and progress through the <u>Winstrada</u> award scheme, hopefully achieving a badge and certificate at the end of the term, which can be purchased for £3.50. In addition to this your child will develop their coordination, balance, confidence and general gymnastics skills, while being in a fun and safe environment.

> The course will run for 10 weeks this term. Monday class will run from 13th January – 23rd March Friday class will run from 10th January – 27th March. (excluding half term and inset days) The cost for this term is £50.00 (£5.00 a session)

To book a space at before school gymnastics club please contact Flick on 07557 351405 or email her at <u>flexiflics@gmail.com</u>.

A link and payment information will then be sent to you to register your child's place via our online booking system. Please complete the form and follow payment instructions.

Please note, new starters are allocated spaces, on a first come first served basis. If the class is full when you contact us we will let you know and you can be added to our waiting list in case a space becomes available. Spaces will not be held without payment, so please ensure you do both.

Please also note, all fees are non-refundable once your child has been received a space.

We hope To See You At Gymnastics The Flexi Flics Team

