

St. Francis' School Newsletter

25th February 2022



Value of the month – Friendship

Dear Parents and Carers

Goodbye to Mrs Baker

Today we have said a fond farewell to Mrs Baker who has been a TA at St Francis' for the last 14 years. We thank her for all her hard work and many years of dedicated service. We wish her luck in her new job working alongside her husband in his business. She will be back to help us out with reading in the future, so we will all be seeing her again.



Our Parish Priests

Thank you to Father Sean and Father Stephen who have been visiting once again and talking to the children in classes about their RE topics. It is lovely to have them back in school.

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday afternoon next week we shall be having our Ash Wednesday Service and Father Stephen is joining us to distribute the Ashes.

Message from the Pope

Please read the Appeal message below from the Pope and pray for peace.

Jazz Festival

The children in Years 5 and Year 6 had an amazing time on Wednesday this week watching a Jazz performance and taking part in a Jazz workshop. They played a variety of Jazz instruments and created their own performances, which were fabulous to listen to.



Head Girl Photography Competition

Please **scroll down** to see the details and rules for the **Head Girl's Photograph competition**. Miss Morris has been off this week, but is back again on Wednesday, so we shall extend the competition deadline until Wednesday 2nd March next week. Please make sure all entries are in by Wednesday.

Best wishes, for a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Wheeler and Staff

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those certificate winners this Week and to Red House for winning the House Points Cup





APPEAL

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

Franciscus

If you are struggling to know how to pray for today's situation in Ukraine, we invite you to pray this prayer:

Heavenly Father,

Your will for your people is peace, not war.

Pour out on our world, especially in Eastern Europe, your Spirit of compassion and solidarity.

Grant all those who believe in you the strength to be close to those who suffer

and the courage to resolve their differences and conflicts in truth and without resort to arms.

Be with the widow, the orphan, the refugee and the peacemaker.

Bind us all into the peace of your Kingdom.

Through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

By Fr Damian Howard SJ,

Calendar Dates

1 st March	Cross Country, Whyteleafe, Years 3-6
2 nd March	Ash Wednesday, Father Stephen in School
3 rd March	World Book day- PJ theme, please refer to letter sent out
10 th March	Year 5 to Woldingham Science Day
14 th March	Science week – Shows and workshops
15 th March	Cross Country, Warlingham, Years 3-6
22 nd March	Lenten Reconciliation Service in School TBC
23 rd March	PTA Meeting in School 7pm
24 th March	Lenten Reconciliation Service in School TBC
28 th March	Easter Liturgy Week- Details to Follow
29 th & 30 th March	Parents Evening -Details to Follow
29 th & 30 th March	YR Height, Weight & Eye Health Screening
1 st April	School Finishes 1pm for Easter Break
19 th April	School Reopens @ 9am
25 th April	Bikeability Week- Year 6
26 th April	Football Fixture @ St Johns- Year 6 TBC Netball Fixture @ Hamsey Green -Year 6 TBC
27 th April	Year 6 Kingswood & SATS Meeting
3 rd May	Year 4 to High Ashurst
4 th May	Year 3 to Fryland Woods
9 th May	Year 6 SATS Week
16 th May	Walk to School Week
20 th May	Year 5 to Blackland Farm / School Sleepover
23 rd May	Jubilee Celebration Week
23 rd May	Viking Visit in School -Year 4
24 th May	Year 1 to Wakehurst Place
30 th May—3 rd June	Half term
6 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
7 th June	Reception to Bocketts Farm
13 th June	Year 6 Kingswood Residential Trip
20 th June	Other Faith Week (Islam)
23 rd June	Inset Day –SDP (School Development Plan)
24 th June	School Closed in Lieu of Jubilee Day
28 th June	Year 4 to Science Observatory Trip
4 th July	District Sports at Hamsey Green -Details to Follow
6 th July	Beech Class to British Wildlife Centre
7 th July	Larch Class to British Wildlife Centre District Sports at St Johns- Details to Follow
8 th July	Whole school Sports Day PTA Summer Fayre
13 th & 14 th July	Year 6 School Play- 6.30-7.30pm
22 nd July	School Finishes 1pm

Holiday Club Update

Thank you to everyone who took part in the recent questionnaire about holiday club provision at St Francis. Your responses were incredibly helpful. We have decided to employ an external company to provide a holiday club throughout the Easter and Summer holidays, as well as the three half terms. This will help working parents, as well as providing options for parents who would like to use the holiday club on an occasional basis. We are currently meeting with suppliers. As each individual site by each provider requires their own Ofsted registration, a process which can take over eight weeks, it will not be possible to get this provision in place for this Easter holiday starting Monday 4th April 2022. We are sorry about this, but want to ensure that we choose the correct provider and that everything is in place before the club is launched. We are hopeful that this new provision will be in place for May half term. We will provide a further update in early March. This new holiday provision will not impact Treetops, which will still operate during term-time as it does currently.

Head Girl's Photograph Competition!

Children from across the school are invited to take part in a photography competition. The theme is nature and we are looking for wonderful pictures from the outside, maybe in the local park and you see some ducks, maybe you go on a walk on Box Hill and you take a picture of the view- anything to do with the outside.

There are a few rules:

- In all pictures there should be no faces, house numbers, or number plates- we need to keep everyone safe
- No harm should come to anything through your picture taking
- Please do not draw on your pictures or add special effects
- Try to take your picture by yourself

When you enter your picture, you will need:

- full name and class on the back
- It should be handed into Miss Morris

When do you need to bring your picture in by?

- All entries need to be in by Friday 25th February
- There will be 1st , 2nd and 3rd place announced for Infants and Juniors separately
- Winners will be announced in Celebration Assembly on March 4th.

Happy photo taking and good luck!

From Your Head Girl