

St. Francis' School Newsletter

2nd December 2022



Value of the month – Patience

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Christmas preparations are well underway and the corridors and doors are being decorated. The children all enjoyed the Pantomime today and we are looking forward to Our value for December is Patience and we shall endeavor to be like Mary, Mother of God, and look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus with patience, joy and hope – all important values.

PTA Christmas Fayre

With only a day to go until the Christmas Fayre the PTA have been working hard putting the final plans in place to deliver what we hope will be an enjoyable event for all children and parents. We have a number of games for the adults and children, shopping stalls, festive food, a bar, mulled wine and much much more (see Information below for further details). We hope to see as many of you as possible.

Christmas Carols at Sacred Heart

The Junior Carol Concert will be held in Sacred Heart Church on Friday 9th December @ 10:30am. This will be live streamed - please see the separate email sent out to Junior parents today. We hope that you will join us via the Sacred Heart livestream link as we remember the true meaning of Christmas and sing heart-warming traditional carols! The children will sit together in classes in the main body and sides of the Church. Junior Parents are welcome to attend, but please be aware that space will be limited and you may be required to stand.

Cedar Tree

Well done to all the children who sang so beautifully at the lighting of the Cedar Tree. Despite the rain, it was wonderful and it made for a beautiful and uplifting start to the Advent Season. Thank you to Mrs Hardy, who prepared the children, and thanks to the staff and our volunteer helpers who were there supporting and helping on the night.

Meeting For Parents – Introducing Knowledge Organisers

As part of our whole school curriculum development, we are aiming to secure the use of Knowledge Organisers within Science, History and Geography and to introduce them being used at home; therefore, we would like to invite all our parents and carers to join for an information meeting. The meeting will be for the subject leaders to share what Knowledge Organisers are, why they are important and how they can be used effectively, sharing useful hints and tips that can be used both at home and at school. We will be holding 2 meetings on **MONDAY 9TH JANUARY** - one at **9:15am** and one at **5:00pm** - in the school hall and we hope that as many of you will be able to attend as possible.

Christmas Rehearsals

Our Christmas Rehearsals are all well under way and it is lovely hearing the children singing their carols and Christmas songs around the school.

Pantomime

Dick Whittington, was hilarious and enjoyed by all the children in school today.



Donkey Visit

YR and Y1 were learning about the Advent story and Mary travelling along way to Bethlehem riding on a donkey. The children were fortunate to have Taffy and Bernie the donkeys visit on Wednesday. The weather was kind to us and so they even got to ride on them - to help them all imagine what it must have been like for Mary. Thank you to Miss Morris for organising such a wonderful visit.



Toy Sale in Support of PACT Operation Elf Appeal-

On Monday, the RE monitors held a toy and book sale at school. They were outstanding with their efforts organising, setting up and running the whole event, demonstrating exemplary discipleship. Incredibly, we raised £215 for PACT. We would like to say a massive thank you to you all. I would also like to add my gratitude for all of the generous donations we had leading up to the sale and for all of the money the children raised! A very big thank you to you all!



Primary School Admissions for 2023

Please remember the deadline for **Reception 2023 applications** to School Admissions is the 15th January. Any applications received after this date are treated as late applications.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Wheeler and Staff

All dinner money will be configured next week, any outstanding dinner money needs to be paid by Friday 9th December. Thank you

All Clubs Finish 9th December.

Calendar Dates

3 rd December	PTA Christmas Fayre 12-3pm
6 th December	Reception Christmas Performance - 9.30am
7 th December	Reception Christmas Performance – 2pm
	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance - 9.30am
8 th December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance – 9.30am
	Mass of the Feast of Immaculate Conception
9 th December	Christmas Carols @ Sacred Heart @10am (The livestream link can be found on the Sacred heart Church website.
12 th December	Roman Day- Year 4
12 th December	Woldingham Carol Concert
13 th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day KS1
14 th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day KS2
15 th December	Annual Advent Liturgy- Silver Coin In Aid of World Gifts (Date Change)
16 th December	School closes @ 1pm for Christmas Break
3 rd January 2023	School Reopens @ 9am
5 th January	NSPCC Workshop Years 5 & 6

FINAL CHRISTMAS FAIR PREPARATIONS! Sat 3rd Dec 12pm-3pm.



The PTA are pleased to announce the Christmas Fair is finally here and we very much look forward to welcoming all children, parents and carers on **Saturday at 12pm.**

Timing of FAIR EVENTS (subject to change)

12pm Fair opens
13:00 School Choir performance
13:30 Poetry performance
14:00 Raffle draw
15pm Fair closes

The Fair this year will be split between the school hall and the infants playground - weather forecasts suggest it will be cold - please wrap up warm. We will have a selection of hot drinks and hot food available in the hall! Cash or card accepted!

Entry to the Fair will be through the double gates. If you have already purchased your entry tickets (adults only) to the Fair please bring your email receipt with you as proof of purchase. Additional tickets will also be available to purchase on the gate.

All of the children's activities and products for sale will be cash free, so parents will need to purchase an activity ticket either online in advance of the Fair, or at the gate. Adult purchases including food and drink can be made using either cash or card.

Each Children's activity ticket costs £5 and includes 10 stamps which can be exchanged by the children as they visit different stalls. Children will be advised at each stall how many activity stamps are required. We have many items and activities priced at one stamp. If parents have purchased activity tickets in advance please bring your receipt with you and collect your tickets at the gate.

A number of areas around the school will be marked off with tape - these areas are out of bounds. The notable area is the infants and junior play equipment. Some areas of the school will also be closed off. We would ask all parents to ensure their children don't enter these areas!

REMINDER: Last Chance to buy Raffle tickets - Tickets for the Raffle are only available online and sales will close tonight. We have over £1,000 of prizes to be won in the draw alongside a £250 cash prize. Buy now to avoid missing out! Tickets for the Raffle, Fayre entry (adults only) and Activity tickets can all be purchased online using the link below;

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stfrancisschool>

We look forward to seeing you all tomorrow,

Thank you - the PTA