St. Francis' School Newsletter

8th February 2024



Value of the month – Caring & Friendship

Dear Parents and Carers

Sports at St Francis

Girls Football -On Wednesday 31st January, history was made at St Francis as we hosted our first ever girls football match! The girls played against Audley and won 1-0! The whole team played brilliantly, the atmosphere was incredible and they had a great time!

Girls Netball- Last week we had our first match against Audley, although we did not win, they played brilliantly.

Boys Football – The year 6 boys won their game against Audley beating them 2-0. Everyone played well and a special mention goes to Alex for getting player of the match. Well done to all.

Green Redeem

An extra 3 weeks has been added to this scheme so if anyone is looking for something fun to do over half term, and you haven't already, please register and donate your **100 FREE points** to our school. Don't forget family members in Surrey can also register. We are still riding at 4th place so all is crossed that we get enough to keep us there!! **Thanks so very much for your support** and remember to pass this on to Surrey dwellers!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jqQ-i60N JrUszEinYWKyqcavMy ITms/view?usp=sharing

RE Updates

We are about to enter one of our Faith's most important times of the year - Lent. Over half term (Wednesday 14th Feb) it is Ash Wednesday, as this falls during half term this year we will not be having our normal service in school - we hope that many of you will make it to Church.

This year as in previous years we will be collecting for the CCRS, the RE monitors will also be leading an appeal based around the charity PACT- more information to follow after half term.

During Lent our RE monitors will be leading weekly Lenten Reflections sessions for the children across the school during lunchtime. They will also be helping to write weekly reflections to go in our newsletter. We also hope to be able to offer reconciliation for our children in Years 5 and 6 again - Father Stephen visited us during Advent and we hope he will be able to again during Lent.

At the end of the season we will join together as a school community to remember Holy week. As in previous years each Year group /phase will lead a part of the story - we would love families to join us please check the newsletter / class emails for confirmations of times and days.

Inset Day Friday 9th

Please remember that tomorrow Friday 9th the school is closed to pupils as this is a staff training day.

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those certificate winners this week and to Anne Line for winning the house cup points

Have a lovely long weekend Mrs Wheeler and Staff



Calendar Dates	
19 th February	School reopens @ 9am Parents Evenings will be this week – details of dates to follow
29 th February	Science Show in school
1 st March	PTA Disco – Y1 & Y2 Details to Follow
7 th March	World Book Day – in school book focus. Dressing up/Costume Day
Friday 8 th March	PTA Disco – Y3 & Y4 & Y5 & Y6
Week of 11 th March	Science Week: Theme – Time and Connections RSPB Big Bird Watch – details to follow
Tuesday 12 th March	Choir – Prom Praise for Schools at The Royal Albert Hall. Details to be confirmed.
Friday 22 nd March	AM Reception & Y 1 Classes Easter Liturgy – Palm Sunday
Monday 25 th March	AM Y2 Easter Liturgy – Jesus in the Temple PM Y5 & Y6 Young Shakespeare Mid-Summer Nights Dream Performance
Tuesday 26 th March	AM Y3 Easter Liturgy – Washing of the Feet PM Y4 Easter Liturgy - The Last Supper
Wednesday 27 th March	AM Y5 Easter Liturgy - The Garden of Gethsemane
Thursday 28 th March	AM Y6 Easter Liturgy - Stations of the Cross Reflection School Finishes @ 1pm for the Easter Break – Note on this day Treetops will open for the morning session only. It will be closed for the afternoon.

ST FRANCIS SPEECH AND DRAMA LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ART EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

Congratulations to AMBER (Year 6) who has achieved **DISTINCTION** for Level 1 **Shakespeare**(Macbeth aka "The Scottish Play") taken at LAMDA in December. Amber, who commenced the speech and drama training programme in Reception, is a shining example of someone who commits herself to all she does 100 per cent. As well as building up her communication and performance portfolio through the Reigate and Redhill Music and Drama Festival year on year, since completing her Introductory exams Amber has taken part in Poetry by Heart and the International Oratory Festival with excellent results. She has also taken further performance and communication exams. all with Distinction and will now be working to a New

W LAME

Era Grade 3 Medal exam (as well as Poetry by Heart and Festival)

Congratulation also to Esme (Year 6) for achieving Distinction for Entry Level Reading for Performance taken just three weeks' ago. Esme only

started speech and drama late in year 5 on recommendation from a parent. Following receiving a Gold Award in the International Oratory Festival Esme took a Stage 3 Introductory Exam as a foundation for the graded exam portfolio also with Distinction. Again, Esme applies herself 100% and is now focusing on *Poetry by Heart* and *Festival work*.



For those who received a letter of invitation for their child to represent the school at Reigate and Redhill Festival in May 2024, please ensure you return your completed form to the school office or your child's class teacher, whether or not your child will be participating. Our voluntary speech and drama coach, Mrs Shannon will be in touch very shortly with those who have. If your child plays a musical instrument or sings, do speak to their instrumental teacher about participating in the relevant section for their standard and or age,

For those whose children are signed up to Speech and Drama please ensure you contact Mrs Shannon to make an appointment to discuss what your child is entering before entering them, taking the Festival and Photographic consent form with you. Both have to be signed and dated and are kept by the Head Teacher. Speech and drama training <u>is</u> inherently developmental and signing up implies commitment. All parents are sent a copy of the progression chart at the start. Participation in Poetry by Heart and the Festival is fundamental to the training including for exams. Support is given to anyone for whom festival and exam fees are an obstacle.

The Year's membership covers all events with £1.50 of each membership donated to the National Open Youth Orchestra the first disability led youth orchestra in the world. This year St Francis sent a cheque for £65.00 to NOYO on behalf of the club and last year also. This money assists young people with severe disability to have access to technologically based musical instruments they would otherwise be unable to access.



