St. Francis' School Newsletter

1st March 2024

Caterham

Value of the month – Forgiveness

Dear Parents and Carers,

Disco KS1

We are sure the children and parents will have a great time and we look forward to hearing more about it.



Week 2 Reflection

As we come to the end of the second week of Lent, take time to consider this week, your prayer life. This year is the "Year of Prayer" in preparation for next year's Jubilee year "Pilgrims of Hope". Pope Francis wrote a letter to all about his hopes for this year of prayer and preparations for the Jubilee- <u>https://www.cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025-letter-from-pope-francis/</u> you will find a link to it

above. We are asked to reflect on the "Our Father" the prayer that our Saviour gave us, to help us in building our relationship with God. Take a moment this week, and say this prayer, remembering its roots and importance in our faith.



Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.



New School Leaders

New 'School Leaders'. As you are aware, our School Leaders change half-way through the year in order to give other pupils an opportunity to have positions of responsibility. **Congratulations to Isabella and Alex** who have been voted for as our new Head Boy and Head Girl. The four different Houses voted for their new House Captains and we congratulate the following pupils who will lead their Houses until the end of the year.

RE

On Wednesday lunchtimes the RE monitors have been holding a lent reflection. It has been a pleasure seeing so many children coming for a moment of quiet reflection. Year 6 RE monitors have shown great responsibility setting up and leading these reflections every Wednesday. Science Assembly and Workshops

Science Show

The children (and staff!) all enjoyed the Science workshops that we had in preparation for Science week (11th 14th March). The classes were treated to sessions based on the theme for this year's Science Week "Time and connections" within their own year groups Science curriculums.



World Book Day Thursday 7th March

The children have been voting for their shared story/cinema, where they have the choice between The Snail and the Whale, Superworm, The Smeds and the Smoos and Tabby McTat. If you have these books at home, please share them with your child to help them with their vote. Please remember that you can bring in books for our book swap - the golden tickets for tea with Mr Murphy and Mrs Wheeler are ready to be hidden. Children have the choice to dress up as their

favourite book character or come to school in their pyjamas to encourage bedtime stories. The teachers are really excited for the day and we hope your children are too.

A Celebration of Life And The barn Show

It is always lovely to have and share thank you messages. The following message is from Angela at The Barn Theatre.

I write to express my gratitude that St Francis pupils were able to perform in our recent Christmas show at the Barn Theatre called "A Celebration of Christmas." The pupils were a real credit to the school and their parents. A huge thank you too to Mrs Palmer and those who supported her in rehearsals and on the day.

Well done and thank you to our staff and all pupils who took part in this special show - a celebration of Abi's life and to those who contributed to the fundraising. Abi was Mr Dean's cousin who is sadly missed. Do read the article below.

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those certificate winners this week and to Margaret Clitherow for winning the house cup points.

Have a lovely Weekend Mrs Wheeler and Staff



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1 st March	PTA Disco – Y1 & Y2		
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		
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 28th MarchAM Y6 Easter Liturgy - Stations of the Cross ReflectionSchool Finishes @ 1pm for the Easter Break – Note on this day Treewill open for the morning session only. It will be closed for the after			







Our 2023 Christmas show at the Barn Theatre, A Celebration of Christmas, on Saturday 16th December performed to two packed houses and was enjoyed by audience, cast and production team alike. I am so privileged that so many of our Barn family participated in bringing this production to the stage, despite some very testing personal situations for several of the team during the lead up to the show. This is truly testimony of the amazing people who so generously gave their time and talent.

Our cast comprised of several local performing arts schools including St Francis School in Caterham and alumni from The Orpheus centre. We were also joined by two of Abi's uncles and her cousin who wrote and performed a tribute to Abi.

Abi Dean, resident of Oxted, girlfriend of my son Thomas, and loved by all our family, was the inspiration behind how we decided to share the funds raised from this production. Abi sadly passed away in September of last year following a battle with a rare and aggressive form of eye cancer. The Oak Centre for Children and Young People at the Royal Marsden Hospital and Young Lives Vs Cancer will each receive £5,062.91 and the Barn Theatre will receive £3,644.22 to support the necessary ongoing improvement and maintenance required.

As well as the production itself, which was hugely supported financially by local businesses and individuals, the community of Oxted came together in the weeks leading up to the show raising money specifically for the Royal Marsden and Young Lives vs Cancer. There are too many businesses and individuals to thank but amongst these are the Little Peapod Day nursery who raised over £3,000, Hammonds Wine Bar who created a fabulous cocktail in dedication to Abi which raised over £550, the Dean family who raised over £800 in their Halloween night and various sponsored events, Oxted School who hosted a Christmas jumper day raising over £550 and Rebecca Littleford who ran her first ever half marathon and raised over £2,500.

We will never forget Abi and all she brought to the lives of those who loved her but what we collectively achieved will, we hope, go towards supporting those children and young people who require treatment at the Royal Marsden and support the tremendous work of Young Lives vs Cancer.

Thank you to all those who supported us - be it in bringing the show to the stage, supporting Paul Robinson and his team front of house, performing in the show, or coming to watch it.

Angie Muscio