

St. Francis' School Newsletter

8th May 2026



Virtue of the month – Peace

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a short but very full week at school, and we are already a month in! We've just said goodbye for the weekend to our Reception parents who came in to have a look at how their children are learning and playing at school. It's always special to watch children showing off their school to their parents, including maths and their work on caterpillars and butterflies!

At the other end of the age range, our Year 6 children will be sitting their **SATs** next week. We know this can feel like a big moment, but it's also a chance for them to show everything they've learned and the progress they've made during their time with us. We're really proud of how hard they've been working and how well they've prepared. We are also very grateful to the Y6 team for all the booster sessions they have been running before and after school. This is entirely out of the goodness of their hearts, and we are lucky to have such generous staff. The most important thing is that the children come in, try their best and feel proud of themselves. We'd like to wish them all lots of luck – remember to get a good night's sleep, have a healthy breakfast and stay positive. Good luck, Year 6 – you've got this!

Reading at Home

Reading with your child doesn't have to feel like a big task. Just a few minutes each day can – **will** – have huge compounding benefits. It helps children build confidence, grow their vocabulary and supports their learning across all subjects. Talking about the story together – what's happening, how characters feel or what might happen next, also helps deepen their understanding. Most importantly, reading together should be enjoyable. It's a lovely way to slow down, share a story and spend some quality time together. Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home, it really does make a big difference. 📖

Attendance

Congratulations to Cherry Class for winning this week's Attendance Cup as the most improved class! Your excellent attendance shows a real commitment to being in school, learning together and making the most of every day. Well done to everyone for this fantastic achievement and for your continued effort, keep it up!



Trips This Week

This week, our children enjoyed some fantastic outdoor learning experiences. Year 3 had a brilliant trip to Frylands Wood, where they took part in a range of fun activities, working together, building confidence and making the most of being out in nature. Meanwhile, Year 4 visited High Ashurst, where they challenged themselves on the high and low ropes courses. It was great to see them step out of their comfort zones, showing determination and encouraging one another throughout the day. Across both trips, the children demonstrated excellent teamwork, resilience and positive attitudes. It was a fun and memorable experience for all involved! 🌳

Online Safety

The online world is a big part of children's lives, so it's important to help them use it safely and appropriately for their age. You don't need to be an expert – just staying involved and having regular conversations makes a big difference. For more simple advice for primary-aged children, visit: [NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk)

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all the certificate winners, this week

And to **Thomas More** again for winning the

House points.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Doyle & Staff

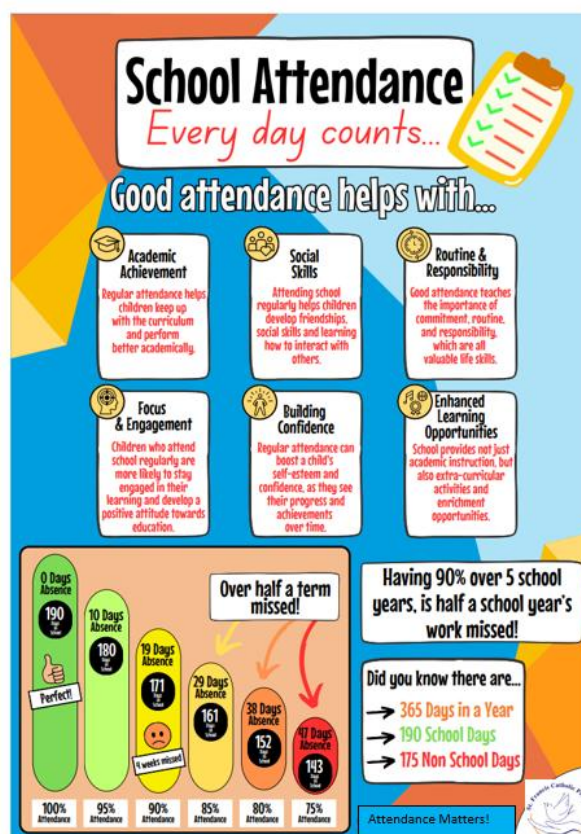


RE

This week's gospel reading begins with the phrase 'If you love me, you will obey my commandments'. It is a phrase which is well known and yet sometimes we can forget. If you love me - loving Jesus, loving the message he brings and loving the instructions he gives to us. You will obey my commandments - the commandments that Jesus gave us about loving God with all your heart, mind and soul and loving your neighbour as yourself. If this is the case, we should follow the role Jesus took, serving others and helping people within our community, as well as loving those who the community have rejected. Do we always set that role model for others? Are we ready to forgive readily, just as Jesus did? This leads us to our children too - do we as parents set structure and an example to help them be kind to others and know how to be caring? Their future is in our hands; do we help them and challenge them to be the best they can be? **Mr Yarnell**

Calendar Dates

11 th – 14 th May	Sats Week for Year 6
16 th May	PTA Spring Disco Sacred Heart (See email sent out from the PTA)
19 th May	Outdoor learning Assembly – 9.10am Parents Invited.
21 st May	Talent Show -Details to Follow
22 nd May	Outdoor learning Day Break Up For Half Term
1 st June	School Reopens @9am
1 st June	Whole Class Photographs (Full School Uniform)
1-12 th June	Year 4 MTC
10 th -12 th June	Year 6 PGL Residential
16 th June	KS1 Peter Pan Workshops
17 th June	Year 5 Trip to Tower of London Details to follow
18 th June	Year 5 Wintershall Trip
19 th June	Inset Day -School Closed
26 th June	Sports Day -Details to Follow
28 th June	PTA Summer Fayre- Details to Follow
3 rd July	PTA Mufti Day – Bring a £1
6 th July	Reception to Bocketts Farm- Details to follow
17 th July	Break up From School @1pm
1 st September	Inset Day -School Closed
2 nd September	Inset Day -School Closed
3 rd September	School Reopens @9am





ST FRANCIS SCHOOL SPEECH AND DRAMA
19th Year of Supporting the Curriculum
"Every child a winner"
Supporters of the National Open Youth Orchestra
Welcome - National Open Youth Orchestra



REIGATE AND REDHILL FESTIVAL CELEBRATING PERFORMANCE 2026

Good luck to Olivia (yr 3) and Leon (Yr 4).. both violin and Sean (Yr 4) guitar, who will be performing tonight (Friday 8th) and/or tomorrow (Saturday 10th) in the instrumental section of the Festival at Redhill United Reform Church. Mrs Shannon attended last night as a steward and managed to watch the last musical theatre section. The singing from committed-to-their-art teenagers from Woldingham and other mainly independent schools was of a very high standard. Evidence of participation in festivals is often a prerequisite for applying for independent school scholarships, so Mrs Shannon encourages parents of talented St Francis pupils to take part next year. Just speak to your child's instrumental and singing teachers.

The Speech and Drama section opens on **Monday 11th May** with the Reception children at 4.15pm . The Group Chorals take place on Thursday 14th May both at Reigate Park Church. All children take part in the Group Chorals as part of the programme unless formally agreed otherwise in advance. For Set Poetry, Prose and Bible Reading. dress is summer school uniform . Polished shoes, white ankle socks for girls and hair tied back off face with school coloured hairbands, etc. Costumes/props will be provided for the acting/group choral pieces unless otherwise arranged/agreed. Good luck to all the St Francis pupils taking part as well as the St Francis year 7+ speech and drama alumni.

Just as choir and other school events, please ensure that you have by now informed **in writing any extracurricular coaches /teachers** that your children may be missing a session as they are representing their school in this Festival. Also, that you have made appropriate arrangements for your children to be collected from school to arrive on time, missing out the Reigate one way system. (Children will not be allowed to leave school early!). (It is tight but only for one week a year.) Entry by programme £3.00 for all events per head.

Mrs Shannon has now met with most parents but. if you have not been to see her, to ensure your child is fully prepared and parents are au fait with procedures please make an appointment with Mrs Shannon with your child/ren this weekend, the last also for group choral rehearsals. Please contact her via bjsspeechdrama22@gmail.com or Tel 01883 344373 . Final practice sessions at her home are Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th . Also please ensure all outstanding entry fees are paid to her immediately.

Please see last week's newsletter via a vis "no shows" and no (two term) notice withdrawal charges for time and resources. Absence due to sickness should be reported to the school office in writing. Charges will apply for having to withdraw shared/group pieces due to failure to attend by any member(s) of any group as well as contribution towards costumes. Exceptions are team events/sports fixtures that have been planned ahead of the festival for which evidence must be provided.

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible"
 St Francis of Assisi



May 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
 Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Recordings available for 48 hours

School Anxiety	4 May 10am
Understanding Anger	4 May 7pm
Facing Defiance	5 May 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	5 May 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	11 May 10am
Anxiety Explained	11 May 7pm
Introduction to OCD	12 May 10am
What is ACT?	12 May 7pm
Decreasing Depression	18 May 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	18 May 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	19 May 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 May 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 May 10am
Improving Family Communication	25 May 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	26 May 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	26 May 7pm
FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep	28 May 7-8pm



4.7★ Star Based on Google, TripAdvisor, Traveler's Choice award Winner and 'Excellent' on Trustpilot. Safe, Caring, Organised, Friendly, and Fun!



Priority Pass Offer - Save 35% OFF London & Surrey's uniquely epic Adventure Camp @ GO Action Forest

PREMIUM ADVENTURE SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP EXPERIENCE, FOR KIDS AND TEENS (AGES 8-14)!

THIS IS NOT JUST CHILD CARE.

Home to **GO Paintball** and **GO Laser Tag**, we are the **UK's premier forest activity venue (4.7★)**, proudly known for hosting the country's **top-rated kids' parties, school trips, and family events.**

From these foundations, and through structured **instructor-led sessions, small group sizes and experienced staff**, we have created the **ultimate outdoor, uniquely epic, Multi-Activity Kids Camp.**

DETAILS & LOGISTICS

- SUMMER HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:** Six Camps running every week, with 4 Day Full Week or Single Day options available.
- FULL DAY COVERAGE:** 8.45am drop-offs & 4pm pick-up (Early/Late options available), from our 'Command Chopper' - Plus **FREE** Parking all day for commuters to London Bridge/Victoria.
- EPIC 50-ACRE FOREST VENUE:** Located @ GO Action Forest, Salmons Lane, Whyteleafe, Surrey, CR3 0HB. Just a 10-minute walk from Whyteleafe South Station (Zone 6).
- EXPERT TEAM:** Run by 'handpicked' professionally trained, DBS Checked & First Aid Trained staff with over 120+ years of combined events experience.

EPIC ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- 'Mini' & Kids Super Low-Impact Paintballing
- Electric Quad Bike Trekking - Controlled-speed 'Skills Course'
- Forest Laser Tag Experiences
- Laser Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Archery Tag Games
- Tactical Team & Leadership 'Low Ropes'
- Rifle & Target Shooting @ Airsoft Games Gel Blaster Missions
- Leadership & Communication Workshops + And so much more!
- 12x Professionally Designed Forest Gaming & Activity Areas, plus huge sheltered 'Base Camps' for R&R
- EXTRA REWARDS!** Includes Army Dog Tags & Rank-Ups, Free Tactical Armoured Gloves to keep, Daily Polaroid Keepsakes, Daily Slushie/Hot Chocolate, and a named Certificate of Achievement!

OUR MISSION

To help you **build the next generation of leaders equipped for an AI and digitally based world.** Utilising the **UK's best forest adventures** and focused, **instructor-led sessions**, we develop **Leadership, Teamwork, Communication, and Social Confidence** - Through a **safe, engaging and super fun summer camp** that simply **does more!**

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