



Virtue of the month – Peace

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been lovely to enjoy some sunshine this week alongside another busy time in school. As we come to the end of the half term, it feels like a great opportunity to pause and reflect on everything the children have achieved.

Our **Year 1** children have been preparing really well for their upcoming Phonics Screening Check. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and the progress they are making in reading. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the meeting last week, we hope you found it helpful in supporting your child at home. If you would like some extra ideas to practise together, these websites are a great place to start:

www.phonicsplay.co.uk www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

We would also really encourage you to continue reading with your child at home. Sharing books together is such an important and special experience, it builds confidence, supports learning, and creates those lovely moments that children remember. To support this love of reading even further, we are excited to be taking part in the **National Book Tokens annual prize draw**, which gives five schools across the UK and Ireland the chance to win £1,000 to spend on new and inspiring books. We would love your support, as this would be a wonderful way to further enrich our library and encourage a lifelong love of reading in all our children. Please click on the link <https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/home>

In **Year 4**, pupils have been busy getting ready for the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). They have been practising regularly and growing in confidence, and we are very proud of the effort they are putting in. If they would like to keep practising at home, they can use: [TT Rockstars](#) [Hit the Button](#) -

It was also lovely to welcome our Year 4 parents to the Outdoor Learning assembly on Thursday, which the children led so confidently. Today, we celebrated **Outdoor Learning Day** across the school, with all classes enjoying at least part of their learning outside. We were fortunate with the weather, allowing us to make the most of our beautiful grounds, including time spent in the prayer garden. Thank you, Ms McCutcheon.

Well done to our netball and football teams, who represented the school brilliantly in their matches this week. Thank you to staff and parents for your continued support, it is always very much appreciated. A big thank you as well to Mrs Palmer for organising another fantastic talent show. This is always such a joyful afternoon, celebrating the many talents of our children, well done to everyone who took part, and thank you to those who auditioned.

As we head into half term, we hope you are able to enjoy the sunshine and spend some quality time together. Life can be very busy, so this is a lovely opportunity to slow down and enjoy being with family and friends.

Attendance

Congratulations to **Pine Class** for winning this week's Attendance Cup as the most improved class!

Your fantastic attendance reflects a strong commitment to being in school, learning together and making the most of every opportunity. Well done to all of you for this great achievement, keep up the excellent effort!



A Big 'Thank You'

We are so grateful to Alana's dad (Apple Class), Mr. Webb, for building a wonderful mud kitchen in our outdoor area for Reception children. He kindly gave his time and skills completely free of charge, and the children absolutely love it! It has already brought so much joy and imaginative play.

Thank you so, so much!



Arbor App Reminder

Just a quick reminder to log in to the Arbor app and have a quick check that all your information is correct and up to date. Thanks so much for your support with this

Redhill and Reigate Festival

Over the last few weeks, many of our children have taken part in the Redhill and Reigate Festival. Congratulations to all who entered, we are incredibly proud of your efforts and achievements. Please scroll down to see more information.

I have also received some lovely feedback about the dedication and passion shown by Mrs Shannon in preparing the children. She gives her time entirely voluntarily, and it is important to recognise the significant amount of care, commitment and expertise she brings. Her dedication to her art and to supporting our pupils is truly inspiring.

We are also very grateful to our parents, who continue to support their children so positively behind the scenes.

PTA SPORTS DAY T-SHIRTS & CAPS

The online shop is now open for you to purchase Sports Day items! 😊 <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stfrancisschool/index.cfm> Please make sure you place your order by **Wednesday 27th** — unfortunately, we're unable to accept any late orders.

Reminder: Class photographs will take place on the **first day back (Monday 1st June)** Please ensure that children come to school in full uniform on this day,

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all the certificate winners, this week.

We wish you all a happy and restful half term

Mr Doyle & Staff



RE

This Sunday, the Church celebrates Pentecost Sunday, one of the most important feasts in the Christian year. Pentecost marks the moment when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, filling them with courage, joy, and the strength to share Jesus' message with the world.

For Catholics, Pentecost is often called the “birthday of the Church” because it marks the beginning of the Christian community living out its mission. It reminds us that:

- the Holy Spirit is still at work today
- God gives each of us gifts to use for the good of others
- we are called to be people of peace, kindness, and hope

In school, we will be helping the children understand that the Holy Spirit is God's presence with us — guiding us, comforting us, and inspiring us to make loving choices. Pentecost encourages all of us, young and old, to use our gifts to build a caring and compassionate community.

We wish all our families a joyful and spirit-filled Pentecost. **Mr Yarnell**

School Re-opens Monday 1st June @ 9am



Calendar Dates	
1 st June	School Reopens @9am
1 st June	Whole Class Photographs (Full School Uniform)
2 nd June	Year 6 PGL Meeting @3.40pm
1-12 th June	Year 4 MTC
10 th -12 th June	Year 6 PGL Residential
16 th June	New Reception Parents Welcome Meeting @ 9.15am
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
23 rd June	PGL Assembly 2.45pm
25 th June	Year 1 Trip to Godstone Farm
26 th June	Sports Day -Details to Follow
28 th June	PTA Summer Fayre- Details to Follow
30 th June	Changeover Day
3 rd July	PTA Mufti Day – Bring a £1
6 th July	Reception to Bocketts Farm- Details to follow
7 th & 8 th July	Year 6 Production
9 th July	New reception Children -Play & Stay @ 2,15pm
10 th July	Year 6 Leavers Disco
13 th July	Year 6 Mass @ Sacred Heart
17 th July	Year 6 Leavers Mass @9.10am
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

School Attendance

Every day counts...

Good attendance helps with...

Academic Achievement

Regular attendance helps children keep up with the curriculum and perform better academically.

Social Skills

Attending school regularly helps children develop friendships, social skills and learning how to interact with others.

Routine & Responsibility

Good attendance teaches the importance of commitment, routine, and responsibility, which are all valuable life skills.

Focus & Engagement

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.

Building Confidence

Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.

Enhanced Learning Opportunities

School provides not just academic instruction, but also extra-curricular activities and enrichment opportunities.

Over half a term missed!

Attendance	Days Missed	School Days Remaining
100% (Perfect)	0 Days	190
95%	10 Days	180
90%	19 Days	171
85%	29 Days	161
80%	38 Days	152
75%	47 Days	143

→ 365 Days in a Year
→ 190 School Days
→ 175 Non School Days

Attendance Matters!



ST FRANCIS SCHOOL SPEECH AND DRAMA
(Supporting the Curriculum since 2007)



REIGATE AND REDHILL FESTIVAL 2026

Congratulations to all the St Francis and Alumni children who participated in the **Reigate and Redhill Music and Drama Celebrating Performance Festival** over the past two weeks and not least those selected to perform in the Gala Showcase this Friday at Reigate Park Church. It has to be said that the behaviour of St Francis children at the festival was **impeccable**; the children are a credit to their parents/guardians and the school. They all did amazingly pitted against children from independent schools where they have dedicated speech and drama lessons.

The results/comments are currently being collated/recorded from the certificates/Adjudicator Report sheets. They will be given to the Head Teacher and published post half term.

In the meantime, if you took your children's certificates/reports away with you, could you kindly put them in an A4 envelope (hard back preferably) and post them through Mrs Shannon's door by half term. (Comment sheets are as much for the benefit of the coach as the pupil!). They will all be returned with any other speech and drama certificates via a celebration assembly in due course. (Do keep a copy/take a photo before your post).

There are still some outstanding entry fees due, not least from those who withdrew at the eleventh hour with no explanation from both solo and shared (duo/trio) pieces. Note the Festival Programme goes to press very soon after the February entry deadline and for those who did late entries which were then also confirmed you still need to pay! (Any problems in doing so please speak to Mrs Shannon in confidence).

All are winners by taking part and for parents speech and drama is the ideal solution for keeping children off addictive technology. NB Mrs Shannon does not use social media of any kind, only has a phone for emergency use and leads by example. She may be contacted via bjspeechdrama22@gmail.com or 01883 344373 (leave message/ date/ time of call, your name, child's name and year)

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

St Francis of Assisi



SOUTH EAST SURREY DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION
Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association SESDA Reg. Charity no.281076

Support Evening for Parents and Carers

Wednesday 3rd June 2026

8pm to 10pm

A chance for parents and carers to meet Committee members, who are themselves parents of dyslexic youngsters, and specialist dyslexia tutors, to talk about any concerns they have about dyslexia at home or in school.

Session will include a talk about

'Moving on to Secondary School'

There will be resources and information for parents about the best way to help at home and how to keep in touch with teachers and SENDCos. Some ideas about how best to support teenagers sitting GCSEs and other exams.

This meeting is free and informal and open to all parents and carers who have an interest in dyslexia.

It would be helpful to know numbers beforehand but not essential.

**Canada Hall, All Saints Church,
Battlebridge Lane, Merstham. RH1 3HA**

SESDA Helpline: 01737 556 173 and E-mail: sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com