

St. Francis' School Newsletter

10th January 2025



Value of the month – Faith

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back for the Spring Term! The children have settled back into school really well and are getting back into the swing of our routines. The Staff and I wish you all a very Happy New Year and hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your families. We would like to take this opportunity to send all of our thanks for the lovely cards, messages and gifts you gave us at the end of term.



Epiphany Liturgy

On Monday we had an Epiphany celebration of the word for all year groups. Like the wise men used the star for guidance to our savior we asked for guidance in this new year.

Attendance and Holidays

We are fortunate at St Francis that we have always had very good attendance. All children have periods of sickness and this is understood as attendance improves following their return to school. A child's absence has a direct impact on their learning and future achievement and prospects in life.

Late Picking up your child from school can sometimes make them feel anxious as they may not understand the delay. It can also create challenges for school staff who are responsible for their care, and in some cases, it may raise safeguarding concerns if a child is left waiting for an extended period. It's important to communicate with the school if you're running late, and if possible, try to avoid making it a regular occurrence to ensure both your child's emotional well-being and their safety are prioritised. The following is just a reminder about holiday and attendance expectations.

- Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child's attendance at school.
- **Please be reminded that regulations state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.**
- If you are planning a holiday in term time, please complete the 'purple' holiday for available via the Office. We shall check if 'exceptional circumstances' criteria can be applied. However, holidays will be marked as unauthorised absences.

Our attendance is monitored by the senior leadership of the school, the Governors and the Inclusion Team. If a child's attendance becomes a cause for concern, you may be asked to come into school for a meeting about how we can support improvement.

Scooters

Unfortunately, the two missing scooters that disappeared from the school grounds before Christmas to date have still not been found. This was reported to the police and they now have the CCTV. As a result of the number of incidents we are locking the scooters away during the day once the children have deposited them. The lock up will be opened up again at the end of the day for the children to retrieve their scooters.



Celebration Assembly

Well done to all the certificate winners this week and to **Anne Line** for winning the House points.

Best wishes,

Mrs McGrath and Staff



Calendar Dates

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| 6 th February | Children's Mental Health Day |
| 11 th February | Safer Internet Day International Day of Women in Science. |
| 14 th February | Inset Day – School Closed |
| 17 th -21 st February | Half Term |
| 24 th February | School Reopens @ 9am |
| 25 th February | Parents Evening- Details to Follow |
| 26 th February | Parents Evening- Details to Follow |
| 5 th March | Ash Wednesday |
| 10 th March | Science Week |
| 14 th March | Inset Day |
| 28 th March | Beginning Lenten Reflections Reception / Year 1 - Palm Sunday Parents invited 9.10am |
| 31 st March | Year 2 - Jesus in the temple-Parents invited 9:10am |
| 1 st April | Year 3 - Washing of the feet-Parents invited 9.10am Year 4 -The Last Supper-Parents invited 2:45pm |
| 2 nd April | Year 5 -The betrayal and The last supper -Parents invited 9.10am |
| 3 rd April | Year 6 - Station of the cross-Parents invited 9:10 am |
| 4 th April | School Finishes For The Easter Break @1pm |



Welcome back!

As we hit 2025 running! Hope everyone had a good break!

Quiz Night

The quiz night is taking place on **Friday 24th January 2025 – 7:00pm-10:00pm.**

Tickets are available on the PTA events website:

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

There will be drinks available to purchase on the night from the bar.

If there are any parents that do not wish to participate in the quiz but are available to volunteer to serve drinks at the bar please do let the PTA know, we would be very grateful for your support.

Christmas Fayre Update

Thank you to the parents that have got in touch for match funding. We hope to update you with a total profit next week.

Dates for the diary:

Friday January 24th- Quiz night 7pm

Thank you!
PTA



This week's riddle: What is full of holes but still holds water?

"It was brilliant to get feedback from an expert."

"Fantastic recital classes. Musical performers with their own ideas."

RR: Reigate Redhill & Festival

Celebrating Performance in Music and Drama

Centenary 2025

"Lovely atmosphere. Everyone is friendly. Very relaxed."

"The shared poetry was very entertaining... the audience enjoyed it."

1st – 23rd May 2025



Join us to celebrate the Centenary of Reigate and Redhill Festival: a fun and friendly festival with competitive and non-competitive classes in music, speech and drama.

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- Music classes for children and adult amateur musicians:
 - Brass, Choirs, Classical Guitar, Group Music, Harp & Clarsach, Piano & Organ, Strings, Vocal, Woodwind (inc. Recorders)
- Concerto class for musicians aged 19 and under
- Rock, Pop and Urban for soloists and groups, aged 10 to 19
- Speech and Drama classes for Reception to Year 13



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