

St. Francis' School Newsletter

17th January 2025



Value of the month – Faith

Dear Parents and Carers

Two weeks seems to have flown by already! Please scroll down to see dates and information about PTA and school events.

Master Readers

The spring term has begun with all children in years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 beginning to explore new texts with their class: Year 2 are reading *The Magic Finger*, Year 3 are reading *The Iron Man*, Year 4 are reading *Ice Palace*, Year 5 are enjoying *Macbeth* Year 6 are exploring *Stormbreaker*.

Through Master Readers, children develop their comprehension skills and we hope to foster a love of reading. Please speak to your child about the text they're enjoying.

Absence Procedures

It is very important that children attend school every day, unless they are unwell. Attending every day means they can access all the learning opportunities available to them, providing them with a great foundation for their future. Please remember to use absence@stfrancis.surrey.sch.uk to report that your child is ill or will be in late or leaving early for an appointment. Please do not use office email. Notification should be made by 9.30am on the first day of absence. You need to notify the school on **each** continuing day of absence, even if you expect your child to be off school for a few days. Where possible, all other appointments should be made outside school hours. Please provide details of why they are off, unwell is not sufficient. In the event of vomiting or diarrhea would you please keep your child at home until they have been free of all symptoms for at least 48 hours.

In August 2024 the DFE published new guidance with regard to attendance in schools, 'Working together to improve school attendance'. The Children's Commissioner for England has put together a document outlining why attending school regularly is so important for children and parents' responsibilities. If children are taken out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996. Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Absence Category	0 - 21 Days	22 -28 Days	More than 28 Days
First Absence since 19 August 2024	£80	£160	Prosecution
Second Absence (within 3 years of first Penalty Issue date)	£160	£160	Prosecution
Third Absence (within 3 years of first Penalty Issue date)	N/A	N/A	Prosecution

Celebration Assembly

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

Best wishes,
Mrs McGrath and Staff



Parents Quiz Night



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

Tickets are £5 per adult and are available on the PTA events website:

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



Teams should be made up of no more than 6 people. Parents, carers, friends and those connected to the school are all welcome!! You are welcome to bring your own food and drinks with you but drinks will be available to purchase on the night from the bar, there will also be a raffle with the winning ticket pulled out at the end of the night! Get your thinking caps on!!!

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.

Clothes Collection

We have the next date confirmed for any unwanted clothes. Please Take a look at the Little Recyclers website to see what they do and don't accept. The date confirmed is Thursday 6th February. Please leave bagged up donations in front of the main gate, the school raises money per kg!

Thank you! PTA

Last week's riddle answer:
A Sponge!

This week's riddle: What question can you never answer yes to?

THE LITTLE RECYCLERS SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes - more funds for your organisation. 1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED ON:

06 FEBRUARY
THURSDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 07476 406699 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk

Calendar Dates

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



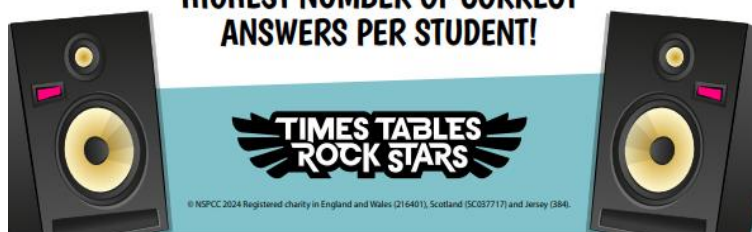
**NSPCC
ROCKS**

FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2025
7:30AM TO 7:30PM

PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE!

1HR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON!

WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER STUDENT!



**TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS**

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Reigate Redhill & Festival
Celebrating Performance in Music and Drama

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. With over 200 classes to choose from, there's something for everyone - whatever your age or talent!

Enter at www.rrfestival.org until 25th February 2025

Entries from £5

- 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



Registered charity no 1209178

www.rrfestival.org