



# St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

Newsletter—No. 20

Friday 2nd February 2018



At St Francis of Assisi we believe God is at the heart of our school. As a school community, we work together to provide a caring, stimulating nurturing environment, where every child can discover their true potential and grow closer to Christ. As pupils and staff we encourage in each other a love of learning. This is a place where we can all belong and where diversity and difference is celebrated. We rejoice in each other's uniqueness and respect the dignity and beauty of each individual. Using our gifts and talents we will actively seek to make a real difference - by caring for one another and caring for our world.

## School Development Plan 2018/2019

Each year, we review our school needs and plan for the year ahead. The School Development Plan is the document that we formulate annually to focus on the educational priorities for St Francis of Assisi School.

Through the support of the staff, governors, parents and the PFA, we are able to target those areas in school that require updating and direct some of our finances to support curriculum projects. In order to collect the views of all our stakeholders, we would be grateful for any ideas and suggestions from you, using the following guidance:-

- (i) It is very important to us that we maintain our strong, committed Catholic links and that our mission and ethos, continues to be at the forefront of all our work at St Francis of Assisi involving the whole community. We are always looking for further ways to promote our mission in the community.
- (ii) We would also like your views on the curriculum and the school environment and would welcome any suggestions to improve and develop these areas further. For example, the PFA are currently planning to support with improvements to our school kitchen and updating our sound and lighting equipment in the school hall.

You may well view the school's needs from quite a different perspective from those of us inside it every day and your opinions could be most helpful when gathering information before deciding upon our priorities for the coming year(s). If you have any suggestions, please complete the attached sheet outlining your suggestions for the school.

If you are willing to take part, please return your form to the school office, addressed to Mr. Hallett, by Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018.

### Mass led by the Bishop next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 9.30am

All parents/carers are invited to a Mass of thanksgiving for Mary Scott in the school hall next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am. Many of you will know Mary. Her contribution to Catholic education in Crawley, mainly through her work as a Governor at St. Wilfrid's, the school bursar at Our Lady Queen of Heaven and most recently as Chair of Governors at St. Francis of Assisi School, is enormous! After sterling service to our schools, I am delighted that Bishop Richard has agreed to lead the proceedings in recognition of her immense work.

### Parent Questionnaire

Parentview gives you the chance to tell us what you think about St. Francis of Assisi School, from the quality of teaching to whether or not your child feels safe, etc. I would be extremely grateful if all families could complete the OFSTED Parentview questionnaire during the next few weeks. Thank you for your support. Please follow the link below:

[www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/give-your-views](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/give-your-views)

Thank you to St Bernadette Class,  
Miss Harden and all and all the parents who  
joined us for their class assembly.



### Diary Dates

#### February

**Mon 5**—Termly Learning Conference for St Peter Class

**Tues 6** – Class Assembly at 9.05am - led by St Maximilian Kolbe - parents welcome

**Thurs 8**—Termly Learning Conference for St Paul Class

**Fri 9**—Last day of term

**Mon 12—Fri 16** - Half Term



Congratulations to  
St Maximilian Class for  
achieving 97%  
attendance

### Note from Fr Simon

Today is the Feast of the Presentation (*Candlemas*) the traditional end of Christmas in the older form of the Catholic Church and some people may have kept their cribs up until now. Tomorrow in the Friary Church we have a special Mass at 12.15 to celebrate the duty and service of our wonderful Altar Servers. We could always do with more Altar Servers at all our Churches, especially but not exclusively at the Friary. If you'd like to start serving (*First Communion and above*) just come along to this Mass or come to the sacristy at your usual Sunday Mass. Serving at the Altar is an enormous privilege as we get close access to the action of the priest, as in the person of Jesus Christ, he offers the celebration of the Mass whereby the cross of Christ is re-presented before our eyes. Serving helps our children to better understand the Mass and help sow the first seed of vocation, so its importance cannot be underestimated.

### Termly Learning Conference

Please remember to book your TLC appointment on- line through Parentmail.

### Note from the PFA

#### PFA Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Monday 5th February at 6:30pm

The PFA will hold their AGM on Monday,. During this meeting all the current members and elected officials will stand down. The PFA will then hold elections for Chair and/or Vice Chair (Co-chair), Secretary, Treasurer and committee members. You are all welcome to come along and become part of the PFA for 2018. We would love to get some new members so why not come along and find out more about your PFA and how you can get involved.

#### Save the Date - 7th March 7:30pm (Doors open at 7pm) - Ladies Fashion Night

We will be holding our first ladies only fashion night. Why not bring some friends for what will be a fun packed evening with the chance to buy lots of high street brands with the added advantage of raising money for our school. Tickets will be £5 each which will include a glass of Prosecco. More details to follow.....

For the latest updates join our Facebook page "Crawley - Parents & Friends of St Francis"

Our basketball players that took part in a tournament on Tuesday were magnificent. They showed great spirit and fantastic team work. They played their best and had great fun!



### Lost Property

The lost property will be displayed outside the front office after school from 3.15 pm onwards. If your child has lost something, please check through the found items. Please remember the importance of labelling your child's belongings so that they can be returned if found.

### Note from Mrs Flack - Online Safety

Tuesday 6th February is Safer Internet Day and we will be having a focus of online safety throughout the school day. On Monday there will be an assembly for the children and there will be lessons throughout the week about staying safe online.

We would like you to reinforce the online safety message at home. Have you recently talked with your child about using their device(s) safely and responsibly? Perhaps you could agree a set of family rules. This could include not meeting up with people they have only met online, not accepting friends requests from strangers, how much time they are allowed to spend on apps, not using their devices in their bedrooms, what websites are ok to visit, and not ok and making sure their phone is switched off for a few hours before bedtime. For more tips and advice, search for 'childnet family agreement'. You can also go to <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018/sid2018-education-packs/education-pack-parents-and-carers> where there are lots of good ideas for discussing online safety at home with your child.

### Note from Miss Date—Book Week 26<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March

During the week, children will be studying different authors and using picture books to inspire their writing. The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the small hall after school Monday – Thursday. A percentage of the proceeds is donated to the school to spend on books. Last year we earned over £500 to help restock our classroom bookshelves. On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March children are invited to dress up as a book character from their favourite author. There will be a homework competition to research and share information on their favourite author. A prize per year group will be given to the most creative work.

Could I remind parents that for the safety and well being of some of our pupils with severe allergies, parents are asked to **ensure that snacks and packed lunches are free from food items that may contain nuts.** Thank you.



### Beginner Recorders at Crawley Music Centre

Here is an exciting **free** opportunity for children from Years 2 to 5 to **learn to play recorder with our woodwind teacher, Mrs Sarah Grose.** These sessions will be provided at **Hazelwick Lower School, Saturday 11.00-11.45am each week,** starting Saturday 3 February. Please register in advance for this activity as places are limited: **visit our website [www.westsussexmusic.co.uk](http://www.westsussexmusic.co.uk);** click on **'Making Music'** on the red banner; click on **'Area Music Centres';** click on the link to apply for **Music Centre Activities;** complete your details on the online form and from the drop-down menu **'Preferred Music Centre Activity'** select **Crawley Beginner Recorders.**

