



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

Newsletter—No. 8

Friday 3rd November 2017



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.

Parent & Friends of St. Francis

The PFA would not exist without the tireless volunteerism of a small group of parents and carers who make time to support the school amidst work, family, and all else that pulls for attention in our modern lives. This week, the PFA met to organise this year's Christmas Fayre, which will take place on Friday 1st December 4.30-7.00pm.

The PFA would like to thank you for your continued support and generous donations, without which, many events would not be able to take place. The funds raised will go to great use. Recently, the PFA funded the new playground markings, and it has been wonderful to observe the children initiating imaginative play and enjoyment beyond the classroom. Previously they have generously funded the outside classrooms, the outdoor gym and the management of the school's library system.

I am currently in the process of trying to secure funding to extend our kitchen area to make it a much larger and conducive space, which I hope in turn will enhance the overall lunchtime experience. This week a surveyor and designer have been in school to estimate costings and to evaluate the work involved. I have also made an application to have all classrooms in KS2 (and Year2) fitted with air-conditioning. The source of funding for the works has come from Government specifically for Voluntary Aided Schools. The school is expected to contribute 10% of the overall costs. The PFA have agreed that they will contribute towards this 10% should we receive approval to go ahead. I will naturally keep you updated of developments.

So thanks again to all of you who support the events and especially to Nicki Kennedy, Emer Lesova, Mary Morgan, Jo Doyle, Kellyann McGovern, Leeann Dunlevy, Michelle Doyle, Tanya Taylor, Ana Andrade, Sian Mullan, for their immense hard work and enthusiasm and for providing the logistics for these fabulous events!

On Wednesday, we celebrated the Feast day of All Saints. I should like to thank Fr. Simon and all parents/grandparents who were able to join us for Mass and of course to all the children for their leadership and participation during the Mass.

Our school has been given the opportunity to take part in a new project that will run jointly between schools and Sussex Police. Please see attached letter for more details.

Note from the PFA –Nearly New Uniform

The PFA will be selling nearly new uniform outside the front office at 3pm every Friday. There is quite a lot so please take a look.



Congratulations to
St Bernadette Class
for achieving 99%

Note from Fr Simon

November is a month where we pray especially for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. A faithful Christian believes that at death, life is changed and not ended and when the earthly temple of our body turns to dust, a new and eternal dwelling is made ready for our souls in heaven. Those who die in God's friendship go to heaven either immediately or if we are more honest after a time in purgatory to make up for all the times when we have not lived up to the glory of God in this life.

In November we pray not only for our own family and friends, but for all the Holy Souls, especially those in most need of God's mercy. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen. This Sunday at 2pm the clergy of the parish will be at Snell Hatch cemetery for the annual blessing of graves.

Poppies

As we prepare for Remembrance, poppies will be on sale from Monday 6th November at 3.15pm outside the front of the school. Donations are raised in support of the Royal British Legion.



Diary Dates

November

Mon 6— Reception Open Morning

Tues 7— Reception Open Morning

Tues 7— Class assembly at 9.05am led by St Vincent De Paul—*Parents Welcome*

Wed 8— Reception Open Morning

Fri 10— Remembrance Day Mass at 9.05am led by St Pio— *Parents Welcome*

Note from Mrs Campanaro -Cats Protection League

Many thanks to all the Year 1 parents who donated cat food when we had a visit from the Cats Protection League at the end of last half term. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning all about cats, their behaviour and how to look after them. We are also grateful to the volunteers from the Cats Protection League who gave up their own time for this informative and interesting visit.



Inset Day

Please can I remind you that school will be closed on Friday 24th November as there is a staff training day (INSET).

Open Afternoon—Monday 27th November 2.00pm

Parents with children who are due to start school in September 2018 are invited to view the school on Monday 27th November at 2.00pm. This is an additional opportunity to see the school after our 2 open days which have already taken place.

Note from the PFA—Christmas Fayre - Friday 1st December 4:30pm - 7pm

Save the date for the Christmas fayre, we have so many exciting stalls for you and your whole family to enjoy. Watch out over the coming weeks for full details. You really do not want to miss it! As with every Christmas fayre your support is needed. If you are able to help at a preparation Santa's workshop, volunteer on a stall or are in a position to donate for stalls we really appreciate anything you can do.



The first stall that needs your help is our Secrets room which is extremely popular. We ask children in KS1 to bring a small gift for Dad or male relation and KS2 a gift for mum or female relation. If you could bring them in and give them to your teacher next week it would be much appreciated. For a small fee the secrets room allows children to choose a present that their mum or dad do not know about. It will then get wrapped on the night for them to put under the tree.

Santa's Workshops

Our Santa's workshops will be held straight after morning drop off in the after school club, our first session is Friday 10th November.

For this first workshop we will be collecting and sorting secrets room gifts which have been donated. Everyone is welcome to turn up on the day.

Santa's workshops will run on the following dates

17th, 23rd, 27th November and 1st December.

These are a great opportunity for you to get involved with one of our biggest events of the year. They normally run for approx 1-1.5 hours.



To keep up to date with all activities and/or to Volunteer join our Facebook page "Crawley - Parents & Friends of St Francis"



St. Mary: Shanice Lynx
St. Joseph: Kristian Zrastak
St. Francis: Veia Inomiz
St. Anthony: Oliwia Kowalczyk
St. Bernadette: Frances Schilthuis-Duggan
St. Clare of Assisi: Demi Claudius
St. Therese of Lisieux: Connie Power
St. Vincent de Paul: Finn McShane
St. John Paul: Tanya Lynx
St Maximilian Kolbe: Oscar Piggott
St. Pio: Kian Evans
St. Philip Howard: Kailas Gobinathan
St. Peter: Kylie Ephraim
St. Paul: Giuseppe Gianquitto



St. Mary: Blake Rocha
St. Joseph: Sebastian Kaput
St Francis: Santiago Bunn
St. Anthony: Suveethan Sureshkumar
St. Bernadette: Danas Martinkus
St. Clare of Assisi: Michal Mrowiec
St. Therese of Lisieux: Sebastian Blechacz
St. Vincent de Paul: Kirsty Jean
St. John Paul: Julia Taylor
St. Maximilian Kolbe: Joshua Ascenso
St. Pio: Cailinn Bradbury
St. Philip Howard: Seloson Simion Raj
St. Peter: David Jardim
St. Paul: Daisy Amurun