



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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24th April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back we hope you had a Happy and Holy Easter!

Welcome to new staff

A warm welcome to Ms Mark who joins us as the new admin assistant in the office and to Ms Foster who joins us as a new teaching assistant; I am sure you will make these new members of staff feel welcome as they join the St Francis' family.

Owl Visit

During World Book Week the school had a very exciting visit from owls. As a part of the visit your child took a photo with one of the owls. Today your child will be bringing home a pack with copies of those photos. The packs contain two photos and a brown envelope. If you would like to purchase the photos please write your child's name and class on the envelope and then place your payment inside and seal it. This should then be returned to your child's class teacher. If you do don't wish to purchase the photos or if you only want one please return any unwanted photos to school. All monies and photos need to be returned to school **by Friday, 28th April.**

Science Week

This week is our annual Science Week; the theme this year is 'Exploring Our World'. The children will be working as scientists during the week, carrying out experiments and hypothesizing about the outcomes. There will also be our yearly 'Gadget Shop' where the children can purchase their favourite gadgets. Please remember to give your children money to buy their favourite gadgets during the week. On Thursday 27, April 2017, we are inviting parents to take part in some science experiments/activities at 3:00 pm.

RE Newsletter

Please see attached the RE newsletter for the summer term, which details the themes/topics we will be covering in Religious Education this term.

Bank Holiday

Monday, 1st May is a bank holiday, the school is closed; we will re-open as normal on Tuesday, 2nd May.



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Peace, Love, Knowledge

Afterschool Clubs

The new afterschool clubs begin today Monday 24th April.

Parents' Conference Meetings

Thank you for all those parents who attended parents' evening on the 5th and 6th April (for years 1-6) and the 31st March for Nursery and Reception; these meetings are very important for you to get an update on your child's progress and get some ideas about what you can do to continue to support your child at home. The support that parents provide at home can often be the difference between a child continuing to make good progress and a child falling behind. If you have not yet made an appointment to see your child's class teacher please do so as soon as possible.

Holy Week Assemblies

This year's Holy Week assemblies and Year 1 Easter performance were excellent! The children brought home the message of Easter in a simple, confident and reverent manner. I am very proud of all their contributions! Thank you to all the parents who attended to support their children and thank you to all the staff who worked hard to put these liturgies together.

CAFOD - Turn little fish into Big fish

We raised a total of **£555.36** for the CAFOD Lenten appeal. Well done!

Cuts to School Funding

As you may have heard in the news over the last few weeks, schools in London face a cut to their funding due to a new national funding formula that the government has introduced. This will mean that St Francis' along with other schools will receive significantly less funding in order to operate over the next two years.

We have been very fortunate that due to careful management of our budget, we have been able to do many of the things we would like to do as a school to develop the children and the school. We will not be able to continue at this level in the future and will need to make very difficult decisions about spending. We will keep you updated over the coming weeks and months on potential changes and how they will impact the school.

Punctuality

As you know, the classroom doors open at 8:45 in the morning and children's first lesson starts promptly at 8:55. This change was made to maximize learning time. This is a great opportunity for your children to be able to make the most of every minute of their learning, however there are number of children who are regularly arriving late. When children arrive late it can be very upsetting; they are often confused and struggle to catch up with what they have missed. If you find that you are regularly arriving to school late please make an effort to leave home earlier to ensure that your child is in school on-time.

N. Scott
Head Teacher



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Peace, Love, Knowledge