



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

Newsletter—No.32

Thursday 25th May 2023



At St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School, God is at the heart of our school. We try, everyday, to follow Jesus' commandment 'Love one another as I have loved you'. We do this through love for our families, our friends, and our school. We respect our environment and recognise our responsibility for it. We encourage in each other a love of learning. We rejoice in each others' uniqueness. We place prayer and worship at the centre of everything we do. We are a community of love dedicated to God. Our school is somewhere we can grow together.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we are at the end of another half term. The time goes so quickly!

We have packed lots into the short week. Year 1, as part of their English work and animal topic work, interviewed Oreo. They asked lots of excellent questions including who his friends were, how high he can jump and what he does in his spare time. I can't wait to read the children's reports when they are finished.



Speaking of Oreo, he has loved his new "Bunningham Palace". Thank you to Max and his mum for making him such a stately play area! The King would be delighted!

Our choir gave another outstanding performance this week at The Harlequin in Redhill. This was off the back of performing in County Mall on Saturday. There were lots of people enjoying their singing on Saturday. Mr Winton was with me and loved every minute of it too.

We welcome Miss Commins to the school who will be covering Mrs Jones' maternity leave in Year 5. Mrs Jones will be leaving soon to have her baby and we wish her all the best for a safe and happy birth.

Year 6 have begun auditions for The Jungle Book. I am beyond excited about this - it is sure to be a smash!

The May Procession was a wonderfully holy and reverent occasion. The children moved around the grounds and listened to the Mysteries. The final Mystery was led by Father Nelson. Thank you to the parents and carers who joined us for such a special afternoon. Thank you also to Father Nelson for being with us. We welcome Father Peter to our St Francis family. He joined us for his first Governor meeting this week. I am sure he will be a fantastic addition to the Governing Board.

Can I please remind you that holiday in term time will not be authorised. It is so important that children are in school and accessing learning. Poor attendance does have an impact on attainment and progress which can cause further issues as children progress through education. Your understanding and ongoing support with this is hugely appreciated.

I hope that you all have a wonderful half term. The weather looks like it will be lovely and I hope to get out in the sunshine too!

Have a happy and peaceful break,

Mrs Winton



FOREST SCHOOL

From snow to sunshine, Year 3 have come to the end of their Forest School sessions.



Children have shown super skills of motivation, resilience and particularly noteworthy, of supporting and encouraging their classmates. They have learnt how to build and light fires and have cooked some tasty treats, have used bowsaws and loppers to create artwork and to tidy up our site, and have especially loved our team game "Capture the Squirrel"!



Reception Trip to Tilgate Nature Centre

Last week, children in Reception had a great day visiting Tilgate Nature Centre. The day began with a talk where they learnt how different animals use their senses for survival, and we were lucky enough to touch hissing cockroaches and a large python.

They walked around the centre and saw lots of interesting animals, including reindeer, wallabies and meerkats.

A fabulous first school trip!



Parking and Children's Safety

Please can I remind you to park considerately and safely when collecting and dropping off the children, both at the start and end of the day. This includes not parking in the school carpark or in front of the barrier.

We have had a number of complaints about dangerous parking including parking on the pavement. Please do not do this as children then have to walk in the road.

Please also avoid walking through the school carpark as children can be hit by moving vehicles.

Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe.

If you feel a car is parked unsafely, this can be reported at:

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/>



School Choir News

On Tuesday, our school choir sung at the Gala Celebration Concert at the Harlequin Theatre in Reigate. The children were fabulous and we have been awarded 'Best Junior Choir' trophy. Congratulations!

A big thank you to all the parents for your continued support!



Punctuality

As a school, we monitor punctuality with the same scrutiny that we monitor attendance. Please ensure your child is at school on time and ready to learn.

Your child should be in class for 8.55am as we begin promptly at 9.00am.

Arriving on time for school is important as late arrivals are disruptive for the class and can be embarrassing for the child who is late. Children can also miss important information during registration including the plan for the day.

WSCC Community Hub

The WSCC Community Hub has been set up to support low income households with rising costs of living, including energy, food and essential bills.

The Community Hub can be contacted on 0330 222 7980 and is open 09:00-17:00 seven days a week (except on Bank Holidays when they are open 10:00-14:00).

Further information can be found via <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/fire-emergencies-and-crime/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-information/advice-and-support/community-hub/>

Should you require any further information or advice about the scheme, please contact welfarecommunities@westsussex.gov.uk

Thank you to St John Paul Class, Mrs Turney, Miss Date, Mrs Webb and all the families who joined us for their class assembly.

This week St John Paul Class did a fantastic assembly on how to build bridges. The children explained clearly why we sometimes need to build bridges with our friends, family or God and how we can do it successfully.
Well done St John Paul!



Diary Dates

May

Fri 26—Inset Day -

Mon 29—Half Term

June

Mon 5 - Back to school

Tues 13—Year 3 trip to Arundel Castle

Tues 20—St Joseph class assembly at 9.05am-parents/carers/grandparents welcome



Congratulations to St Francis, St Therese of Lisieux and St Maximilian Kolbe for achieving 98% attendance this week.

Inspirecastle Group

Inspirecastle Group is a Community Interest Company working towards improving community services at the Mill in Bewbush.

Our school has donated 10 tables to the charity. We are delighted we were able to help with such an exciting community charity.

The charity have signed a lease for a main building and are setting up a community hub. The services offered are free and support wellbeing and mental health within the area.

There will be a community garden and lots of other lovely activities to follow.

If you would like to get involved or would just like to know more, please email or visit our website or Facebook page details are below:

Email: inspirecastle1@gmail.com

Web: <https://inspirecastlegroup.co.uk/>



Child Protection and Safeguarding

At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School, we are committed to promoting the welfare of all our pupils, ensuring they feel safe and can place their trust and confidence in any adult that is working in, volunteering for or visiting the school.

The designated Safeguarding Leaders at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School are Mrs Winton, Miss Strudwick and Miss Chester.