



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

Newsletter—No.29

Friday 9th May 2025



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,



In school this week we celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. We all wore red, white and blue and all classes had a special lesson to teach the children about why we celebrate occasion. The wonderful parent volunteers from the Friends of St Francis organised a lovely afternoon tea outside. There was Union Jack bunting, music and lots of CAKE! A massive thank you to the amazing mummies who gave up their time to plan and run the event. It was a wonderful show of community and solidarity. One parent said to me, "in a time when budgets are tight and time is limited, yesterday showed an incredible and beautiful community spirit." Families baked the most gorgeous cakes, gave up their time and shared their pennies. In the words of Winston Churchill, "attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference."

As if that wasn't awesome enough, leftovers were taken to Crawley Open House and Burley's Wood Care Home so that they could add them to their VE Day celebrations.



Year 4 Rock Climbing

How brave is Year 4! The children were superstars yesterday as they scaled an enormous climbing wall in the playground. I stood at the bottom in awe of their courage and resilience. Children who at first were nervous, conquered their fears and each time attempted to go a little higher. Year 4 - you rock! Please see overleaf for more photos.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes, Mrs Winton

This afternoon in Celebration assembly, we gave thanks to our new Pope: Pope Leo XVI who was appointed yesterday evening. As he addressed the world he said, "United hand-in-hand, we move forward."







Year 4 - Climbing Wall



On Tuesday, our KS2 choir took part in the Redhill and Reigate Festival. We competed against three other schools and won first prize! Here are some of the comments from Christine Gwynn, the festival adjudicator:

"Thank you for such an exciting, committed, beautifully sung performance."

"The choir tone and tuning is excellent throughout the generous range of pitch and style."

"The ensemble was really impressive and all the singers were staying focused. I loved your own composition."

Including the Sutton Music Festival in November, and the East Grinstead Music and Art Festival in the Spring term, this is our third consecutive win in competitive festivals.

Well done children & well done Mr. Marvelous Szymczyk.



NUT FREE SCHOOL

As we have several pupils in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy, please could I take this opportunity to remind everyone that our school is a NUT FREE School. Those pupils, if they encounter a nut product, can suffer life threatening consequences.

Please can I ask parents and carers to not send food into school that contain nuts.

This includes: All nuts, spreads and sandwich fillings containing nuts such as peanut butter, Nutella, sesame seed rolls, cereal and chocolate bars, cakes and biscuits.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies to help parents and educators cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

1 CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES



2 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION



3 MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION



4 FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS



5 CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES



6 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR



7 BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY



8 SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP



9 RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY



10 ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY



Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is Director of Holcyn Education Ltd and Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust. With extensive experience in systemic mental health in schools, she supports educational leaders across the UK to develop inclusive, resilient, and supportive learning environments. Anna is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.



Source: See Acknowledgements list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/fostering-a-sense-of-belonging

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Congratulations to Bumblebee & Alpaca Class for achieving 100% attendance this week. Well done!

Perfect Punctuality Pizza slice awarded to: Ladybird, Bumblebee, Koala, Zebra, Armadillo, Panda and Toucan Classes.

Diary Dates

May

Mon 12—15—Year 6 SATS Week

Thurs 15—Pre-Loved Uniform Sale after school

Fri 16—Pre Loved Uniform Sale before school

Tues 20—Bumblebee Class Assembly at 9.05am – parents/carers/grandparents welcome

Tues 20—Year 1 Trip to Chessington Zoo

Tues 20—EYFS Workshop—Tom's Talking Reptiles

Thurs 22—Disco—KS1 2pm-3pm KS2 3.30pm-5pm

Fri 23—Lost Property will be displayed outside the front office from 3pm

Mon 26—Half term week



Ladybird: Joshua Ugwu
Bumblebee: Alan Buczek
Koala: Reilly Stephens
Wallaby: Imogen Baillie
Penguin: Kaif Tamaar
Seal: Sophie Wroblewski
Meerkat: Benajmin Pratt
Zebra: Eva-Rose Vessio
Armadillo: Tyrell Naraina
Raccoon: Laura Vieira
Leopard: Raphael Joseph
Panda: Debbie Wong
Toucan: Laura Kucharczyk
Alpaca: Marco Guehi



Ladybird: Angeles Latouche
Bumblebee: Evelyne Petrus
Koala: Emmie Thorne-Campbell
Wallaby: Rushika Patel
Penguin: Antonia Vartejanu
Seal: Towdah Eromosele
Meerkat: Sophie Parau
Zebra: Keira Li
Armadillo: Sebastian Mrowiec
Raccoon: Alice Lane
Leopard: Asher Baptiste
Panda: Alice Sousa
Toucan: Rasmika Gopikrishnan
Alpaca: Reyansh Patel

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, Miss Date and Mrs Jones