

**Rooted in Faith
Growing in Love
Learning for Life**

Newsletter—No.1
Friday 9th January 2026



And seeing the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. Matthew 2:10

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

I hope you had a restful and joyful holiday season. I am excited to begin another year of learning and growing together. It was particularly exciting this week as we were blessed with snow - such a delight to see the children's excitement as they played in it.

Epiphany Mass Celebration

On Tuesday, our school community was truly blessed to have **Archbishop Elect Richard Moth** celebrate our Epiphany Mass. It was a powerful reminder of the light of Christ in our world.

Having the Archbishop with us made the start of the year so memorable and was a wonderful way to conclude the Jubilee Year of Hope. His homily explained to the children how like the Wise Men, we follow Christ every day in our lives. This light is even better than a SATNAV!



Important Reminder: Dental Appointments

Please ensure that dental appointments are scheduled outside of school hours, unless it is a genuine dental emergency. This helps minimize disruption to your child's learning.

School Start Times

Please remember that learning begins from 8:40 a.m. All children must be in the building by **8:50 am** so that they are ready for the first lesson of the day. Being punctual is essential to ensure a smooth start to the day and that no learning is missed.

Building Works Update

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during the building works. We appreciate that it takes a few extra minutes to walk around to the other gate if you have children on both sides of the school. Your patience helps us keep everyone safe during this time.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Warmest wishes,
Mrs Winton



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 not to 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.



Reception Class Intake 2026

Please note the national cut off date for September 2026 intake is Thursday 15th January 2026

You will need to complete and return the **school's supplementary information form to the school office** by 3pm that day.

CLUBS

Outside Clubs

All clubs will begin next week, Monday 12th January (except Years 5 & 6 girls football which starts Monday 19th Jan)

If your child is making their own way home after a club, you will need to complete an additional consent form (due to the darker evenings). Forms are available from the class teacher or school office.

POST CHRISTMAS CLEAR OUT? WE'LL HAPPILY TAKE IT!

On now until 10th Feb 2026

.....

The Friends of St Francis are on the lookout for any unwanted or unused Christmas gifts that need a new home. If your cupboards are groaning, your shelves are overflowing, or you've already run out of hiding spots... we're here to help!

Every donated item helps support our school community and reduces waste — a win for everyone.

What we'd love to rehome:

- Gift sets for adults, children or pets
- Toys & games (new or like new)
 - Unused stationery
- Gift bags & wrapping paper
- Unopened wine or alcohol
 - Clothing
- Novelty bits and bobs
- Unopened Chocolate or sweets



If it's new or like new, and you no longer need it, we'd be thrilled to receive it.

How to donate

Just get in touch — friends@stfrancisassisi.org.uk

School office drop off welcomed and local collection is available, making it super easy to pass things on.

Thank you so much for your kindness and continued support.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful 2026 filled with joy, calm cupboards, and fewer mystery gift sets!



FRIENDS OF ST FRANCIS
A COMMUNITY IN CHRIST



SOUTH EAST SURREY DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION

**Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association
no.281076**

SESDA Reg. Charity

Parents Support Evening

**Monday 26th January 2026
8pm to 10pm**

A chance for parents and carers of pupils of all ages to meet Committee members, who are themselves parents of dyslexic youngsters or specialist dyslexia tutors, to talk about any concerns they have about dyslexia at home or in school.

Ideas and resources to help the dyslexic child at home will be on display at the meeting.

For more ideas go to bdadyslexia.org.uk and click on advice.

This meeting is free and open to all parents and carers who have an interest in dyslexia.

It would be helpful to know numbers beforehand but not essential. Contact sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com

**Canada Hall, All Saints Church,
Battlebridge Lane, Merstham. RH1 3HA**

SESDA Helpline: 01737 556 173

E-mail: sesdadyslexia@hotmail.com

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Congratulations to Leopard Class for achieving 100% this week.

Perfect Punctuality Pizza slice awarded to Penguin and Armadillo Class.

Diary Dates

January

Thurs 15th - Years 1,2 & 3 in St David's House—Mini Forest School Session

Fri 16th—Years 4,5 & 6 in St David's House—Mini Forest School Session

Fri 9th—Year 4 Swimming starts

Tues 20th—Panda Class Assembly—Parents/Carers/Grandparents welcome

Tues 27th—Meerkat Class Assembly—Parents/Carers/Grandparents welcome



Ladybird: Reign Marabella
Bumblebee: Hubert Koper
Koala: Mark De Heredia
Wallaby: Joziah Bankole
Penguin: Milly Hull
Seal: Alexander Hatcher
Meerkat: Patrick Quinn
Zebra: Max Pearson
Armadillo: Illyas Abdul-Rehman
Raccoon: Adriano Pinto Sambouang
Leopard: Adeola Lendor
Panda: Naina Kamal
Toucan: Julia Skulska
Alpaca: Chloé Follette



Ladybird: Adam Czwertlik
Bumblebee: Noemi Fett
Koala: Maya Iwanski
Wallaby: Chloe Hunter
Penguin: Sana Thomas
Seal: Aisha Ahmed
Meerkat: Dominykas Maikstenas
Zebra: Victoria Haxho
Armadillo: Dani Dias Malkowska
Raccoon: Helena Zagaja
Leopard: Ben Bogus
Panda: John Bestin
Toucan: Vincent Sun
Alpaca: Ellie Balestrini

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