

Newsletter ~ Term 5, Week 1

Welcome back to school for our two summer terms...and when it stops raining, we will be able to enjoy them properly! These final two terms of the year are always busy ones and children will have the opportunity to participate in many extra-curricular activities include the Nailsea Carnival, church events, music concerts, sports activities and lots of trips (including the year 6 residential). Keep an eye out for further information in the newsletter and for separate letters coming home in book bags / via ParentPay email about these and other events.

Please note: we are trialling a new system with whole school paper copies of letters coming home. From now on only the oldest child in the family will have a copy. We are endeavouring to cut down on our paper and ink consumption but it does mean our oldest children will have to be very responsible about getting letters safely to you. We will be talking to all the children about this.

A Message from our Chair of Governors

Ms Hostein continues to recover from her illness. However, she has decided to resign from St Francis and we thank her wholeheartedly for her contribution to the school over the last 10 years. Mrs Hunt will continue to act up as Head and Mr Groves as Deputy for the next two terms.

The educational climate continues to change and the governors would like to invite all parents, carers, parishioners and friends of St Francis' to a meeting at the school where the forthcoming challenges can be discussed and proposals explained. This is planned for early May and more information on this and Ms Hostein's leaving event will follow in due course.

Further Staff News

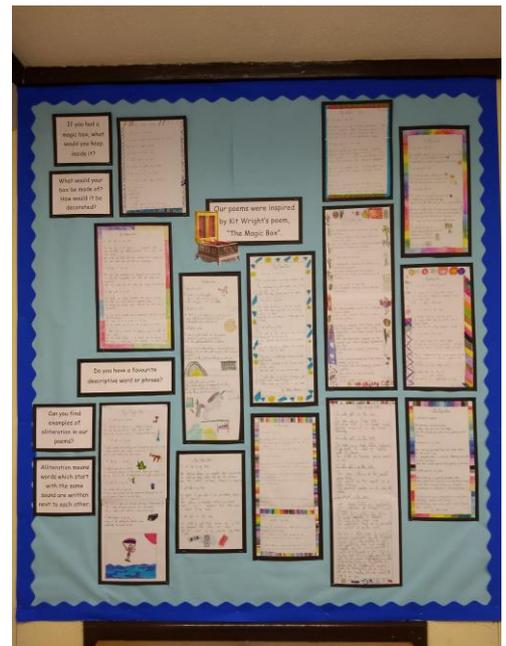
I know you will be sorry to hear that Mrs O'Gorman, our year 1 teacher, has decided not to return to school after her maternity leave. She and her lovely son are doing really well and she wants everyone to know how much she will miss being with us. We are currently recruiting a replacement for Mrs O'Gorman and will update you when we have more news.

Well Done

This week I have been spending some time in year 3, where I have seen some very enthusiastic learning going on, and in year 1, where I was very pleased with the phonic work the children are doing and how well they are working on their handwriting.

Year 5 have been busy writing poetry and there is a beautiful display of their high quality work outside their classroom; Year 6 have started their learning about the Greeks with another interesting and informative display outside their room. Ask the teachers if you can come and have a peek!

Merit certificates have been awarded this week to Alan, Ben, Cristal, Ronnie, Sophie, Poppy, Ava, Liam, Matilda, Flavio, Mia, Catherine, Keira and Angus for improved presentation, contributions to class discussions and growing in confidence, among many other praiseworthy things...





Sun Hats and Sun Cream

Even though the weather is not particularly 'summery' at the moment, a reminder that during these two terms all children must have a named sun hat in school for protection when they are outside. If sun cream is used it should be applied at home before school.

Clifton Diocese Summer Camps

The annual Clifton Diocese Summer Camps have launched for 2018 and bookings are now being taken. This year, the camps have moved to a new location at Viney Hill in the Forest of Dean and are being held between 13-17 August (ages 7-11) and 20-24 August (ages 12-16). The camps promise to be weeks full of fun, faith and friendship. If you are interested in finding out more, or to book a place for your child, please visit <http://livingyourfaith.co.uk> or email livingyourfaith@hotmail.co.uk.

Some of our children have already signed up to participate, so if your child would like to join them, please see Miss Parry for further details.

Year 6 Camp and SATs Meeting Tuesday 1 May 3.30pm

We will be holding meeting in the Y6 classroom, open to parents and children, to share information about their forthcoming SATs week (May 14 to 18) and School Camp (May 21 to 25). Please see the letter which came home this week for further details.

Year 4 Assembly Friday 20 April

Our year 4 children will be leading our Friday assembly next week so do come along and join us.

Fund Raising News

Our Wheelie Weds final total was £2429.47 – congratulations to all who helped achieve this amazing total.

Friends' News

Our Easter Egg Hunt and BBQ at the end of last term went very well, the children had lots of fun following the clues for the Egg Hunt and it was lovely to see so many people stay after school for the BBQ. Thank you to everyone that helped during the afternoon and for the kind raffle donations. We raised £167 as well which was great.

It was the first session of Mums' Netball yesterday evening; it was lots of fun and we're looking forward to next week already! Everyone is welcome to come along, 6.30 - 7.30 pm on Thursdays in the junior playground.

It is Mums Movies and Munchies tonight and doors open at 7 for 7.30pm start. We're showing *Bridget Jones's Baby*; if you haven't yet returned your slip but would like to come along you can pay at the door.

Finally, thank you to those that have returned Smartie tubes already; it looks like lots of good deeds have been done! If anyone wasn't in school when the Smarties were handed out and would like a tube you can collect one from the office. Please can full tubes be returned by Friday 20 April.

And Finally...

A huge thank you to two volunteers who have recently helped make our school a more interesting and enjoyable place to be. Firstly, we are so grateful to one of our parent governors who has re-decorated our staff room for us over the Easter break – we all love our new, calm colour scheme!

And we also say thank you to one of our grandparents, who has created the most wonderful Easter garden for us in our entrance hall. Please do pop in and have a look.

Many of our parents, staff and friends give their time willingly and quietly to make our school a better place for our children to be. In this time of tight budgets, we are increasingly reliant upon volunteers, so if you have some spare time and a talent, please let us know and we will make good use of you!



Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there.

Clarence W. Hall