

St Francis Catholic Primary School

AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER 2018

Welcome back to you all after the summer break. It is lovely to see the children all looking so smart in their new uniforms and shoes. A special welcome to our new pupils who are joining us for the first time this term; we hope that your time at St Francis will be a very happy and productive one. The staff and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who gave such kind gifts and cards at the end of last term, it was very generous of you and much appreciated.



SCHOOL DINNERS

A two course primary school meal currently costs £2.35 for Infants and £2.45 for Juniors. Does your child eat school meals every day? If so, you can get a 10% discount if you commit to purchasing meals every school day (190 days) and agree to spread the cost over 12 months via direct debit. This will effectively give you 19 free meals if your child is in school every day. Your child will also get a packed lunch for any school trips.

Infant price - £33.49 per month

Junior price - £34.92 per month

Please see Pembrokeshire County Council's website for further details.

SCHOOL TRIPS

On December 17th the year 5 pupils will be visiting Cardiff Urdd Centre for an action packed three days seeing the sights of the capital. Further details will be sent out nearer the time for both of these trips. As usual the attendance on such a trip as this will involve the pupils proving that they can be trusted to behave whilst away from school.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENINGS

There will be the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and receive information about the curriculum content for this term on Tuesday after school. Dolphins & Starfish – 3.15pm, Ramsey Class – 3.30pm, Caldey Class – 3.45pm. Teachers will be explaining the classroom routines and timetable and will be available to answer any queries that you may have regarding your child's new class. There will be lots of useful information to take on board and we hope as many of you as possible can attend.



ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the last academic year was slightly less than the previous year despite strategies being put in place to improve it. Following quite in depth analysis of performance data it is very clear to see that good attendance improves the chances of good results in both academic and social skills. We remain under considerable pressure to improve our rates of attendance and I am sure that we can rely on you to be supportive of all the measures that we put in place. It is really important that we are informed of absences of any kind in order to know that your child is actually safe with you and would kindly ask you call the school office to report absences by 9.30am.

This year's Attendance Ambassadors are Eva Howard, Charlie Allen and Charlie Gale who all had 100% attendance last year.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils may wear summer uniform until the half-term break, after which they must return in winter uniform. Pupils should also be wearing the school PE uniform which can also be ordered through school. On swimming days pupils in years 2 -6 are able to wear the school PE hoody and navy blue joggers/leggings into school. This saves on changing time at the pool and avoids the loss of school uniform. Please do not wear any non-uniform clothing into school on these days. If your child does not have the PE kit, then normal school uniform should be worn. Football shirts are not suitable for PE lessons and should not be worn. Father Paul has donated a number of pairs of boys' school shoes to us. When your son needs a new pair please feel free to pop in and see if there is something suitable here. Sizes and styles are obviously limited, but it is worth coming here before spending your money elsewhere as they will be free.

Newsletters

We are not going to be sending out hard copies of the weekly newsletters from next month. Please could you provide an email address if you would like to receive the newsletter electronically. It will also be on the school website from next month once we have addressed the current technical hitch.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We have once again decided to support this very worthy cause and would like your help in raising as much as we can to help. We intend to hold a coffee morning on the 28th September. Please see the weekly newsletter nearer the time for more information.



REMINDERS

- ❖ After school clubs will start from next week.
- ❖ Homework diaries are needed every day in key stage 2; reading records and books in Foundation Phase.
- ❖ School will be closed for our annual diocesan INSET day on Friday 26th October. This year we will be taking our two remaining days to undertake 'Talk for Writing' training with all of the other Milford Haven cluster schools. These dates are Tuesday 23rd October and Friday 8th March.
- ❖ Please label school uniform clearly with your child's name. We already have a collection of 'lost' clothing with no names!

Change of address

Please could you notify Mrs Thomas in the school office of any changes to home address or contact details. It is very important that we keep our records up to date in case we need to contact you in an emergency. Many thanks to all of you who have provided new details already.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Father Paul has confirmed that this will now take place on Sunday 25th November. Although it is a little later than usual the celebration will now accommodate all those who wish to take part. The children will continue with their preparations here in school. The date for First Confession will be communicated nearer the time.

Election of Head Girl & Boy

These will take place next Thursday with all prospective candidates making their presentations in assembly on Thursday morning. These roles are open to any pupils in Y6. However, other roles of responsibility will be available in all year groups. Pupils will be invited to volunteer once they have the responsibilities explained to them.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS TERM

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 13th – Roald Dahl day

Friday 21st – individual & family photographs (further details will be sent nearer the day)

Friday 28th – Macmillan Coffee Morning – 10am

OCTOBER

Thursday 4th – Feast Day of St Francis – Mass in parish church

Monday 8th – Ramsey class trip with Darwin Science

Tuesday 23rd – INSET day

Friday 26th – INSET day/break up for half-term

Monday 29th – Friday 2nd Nov – half-term

NOVEMBER

Friday 9th - Caldey Class assembly

Sunday 11th – Remembrance parade, Milford Haven 10.30am

Sunday 25th – First Holy Communion

DECEMBER

Tuesday 11th - Foundation Phase Christmas concert 1.30pm

Wednesday 12th - Foundation Phase Christmas concert 6pm

Thursday 13th – Nursery Christmas concert – 9.30am

Monday 17th – 19th – Year 5 trip to Urdd Centre Cardiff

Thursday 20th – Torch Theatre pantomime trip - Pinocchio

Friday 21st – Advent Mass in church/break up for Christmas holidays

Other dates will be communicated with you in the weekly newsletter as they occur throughout the term.

We are hoping to increase the number of volunteers who come into school on a regular basis to help out with activities such as listening to readers. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Thomas in the school office who will give you all of the information you need for registering.



