



# St Francis Catholic and Church of England Primary Academy NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 27

Summer Term

20th April 2018

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Dear families,

We have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school this week in the sunshine. I hope that you managed to enjoy some time together during the holidays, despite the weather.

I stayed on the Island until the 4<sup>th</sup> April on holiday with my husband and we managed to get soaked several times whilst sight-seeing, but it was well worth it. You are never too old to eat ice cream by the beach wearing a woolly hat!

It seems no time ago at all since we had to close the Academy because it snowed, now we are concerned about children going outside without sun cream on. If the weather continues to be warm please give some thought to sending your child to school with cream applied and of course ensure that they have a water bottle. We intend to have the children out in the fresh air in our beautiful grounds as much as possible and encourage them to play together on the grass.

On Tuesday I attended some fantastic training by Barnardos to improve my knowledge of ways in which we can support children and families still further. I have worked in several schools over the years where sadly, a child has a parent or significant adult in prison, and not really known how best to provide support at such an upsetting and traumatic time. I now have a great deal of information and practical ideas as a result of such excellent training. If you feel that your own child or your family may benefit from speaking to me confidentially please call the school office or come into school to make an appointment to come and see me or talk on the phone. When a loved one is sent to prison it can result in a great deal of isolation and worry for those left at home to cope, and it is important to know that you are not alone and that there is a lot that we can do to help, as well as other agencies.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs F Perkins

## **Please see below a message from our Chief Executive Officer of the Trust**

*Dear Parents,*

*I do hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break and have been enjoying the last few days of sunshine. Long may they continue!*

*This is just a short note to keep you informed of some leadership developments within our Trust family on the Isle of Wight.*

*We are incredibly grateful for the work that Mrs Perkins has undertaken at St Francis this year. I have been delighted to see the improvements that have been taking place since the academy joined the Trust family. This journey is being ably led by Mrs Perkins and fully supported by a highly committed staff team who want nothing but the very best for your children in all respects. Mr Augustus is looking forward to continuing the journey in September and to meeting and working with you all over the coming months.*

*You may be aware that Mr Wood, the Principal of our sister academy St Blasius in Shanklin, will be leaving the academy and island at the end of the summer term, in order to take on a new role in West Sussex.*

*I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Perkins will be remaining within the Trust family and moving to St Blasius academy as the Interim Principal in September. This move will help to further cement the positive working relationships between the two academies that have already begun and we trust will be of great benefit to the staff and children at both academies.*

*I am sure that you will all join me in thanking Mrs Perkins for her commitment to St Francis this academic year and will welcome this exciting development.*

Miss Amanda Johnston

Chief Executive Officer - Portsmouth and Winchester Diocesan Academies Trust

### **A message from the PTA - Poster Contest**

Would you like to see your artwork around the town? Pupils are invited to draw a lovely sunny picture showing a school fair, on A4 paper. The PTA will select their favourite for their Summer Fayre poster this year. Please hand your entries into the school office by Wednesday, May 2nd. The poster does not need to include dates and times, the PTA will add these to the finished print. Don't forget to make them eye catching and colourful.

### **Clubs**

You should have now had texts from school confirming if your child has a place in the club of their choice. All clubs start next week with the exception of tennis which will begin after the June half term. A reminder will be sent out nearer the time for these. We are aware that Year 5/6 Cricket clashes with the SATS revision for some of the Year 6s. Children should attend the SATs sessions for the next 3 weeks and their place in Cricket will be held for them to start the next week.

We have been made aware that there is a little confusion surrounding Reception classes and afterschool clubs. We do not offer clubs to children in Reception year as it has been felt in the past that the extending of the school day for the majority of them is just a bit too much at their age. We have received a request from a parent about Tae Kwon-Do - this club is run by an external provider as a private class and having spoken to Mr Scotcher, he is happy for reception age children to try it out. If you would like your child to have a place, please let the office know.

### **Summer Uniform**

The emergence of the sun heralds the appearance of arms and legs that have been hidden under layers of clothing for the last 6 months. Please remember to send in a named hat with your child that they can wear when playing or learning outside this term and to apply long-lasting sun cream before coming to school in the morning.

Summer uniform is as follows: Grey shorts with either shirt and tie (KS2) or polo shirt (Reception & KS1), or light blue gingham checked dress. Closed-toe school shoes should still be worn with ankle socks (grey or white), no trainers or open sandals.

Please ensure that your child's full PE kit is in school every day.

Finally, a reminder that all uniform (including hats) should be named. It is the time of year that jumpers and cardigans are shed and left on playgrounds and fields. Without a name it is virtually impossible to reunite them with their correct owners.

### **Congratulations Maria & Adrian!**

We would like to offer our congratulations to our school cook Maria and her fiancé Adrian who have won their wedding with Isle of Wight Radio and Albert Cottage. Thank you to everyone who voted for them.



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