



Newsletter ~ Term 2 Week 2

Year 5 have gone off for their residential trip to Kilve Court today and Year 4 are visiting the Roman fort at Caerleon – what a lovely crisp autumn day for both classes to be out enjoying themselves. Years 3 and 6 have been very happy too as they have enjoyed the extra space on the playground at playtime. Year 1 are having a busy week with their two local visits. Yesterday they went looking for the Gruffalo in the woods – Sarah thought she may have found him. Lily H and Lacey-Bowe said they slipped and swished in the mud and Jack and Sofia had big smiles when they recalled making their stick men. The fun continues tomorrow with a trip to the park.

Reception and Year 1 Open Afternoons

Parents of Reception and Year 1 children are invited in to their classrooms on either **Thursday 9 November or Friday 10 November between 3.15 and 4pm** to have a look at children's books and learning diaries and to celebrate all the learning that has taken place since September.

Remembrance Day, Friday 11 November

Poppies are on sale in school to commemorate Remembrance Day and children are invited to bring in a small donation for a poppy or a poppy related item. Children will observe a minute's silence on Friday morning as we commemorate all those who have died or injured in war.

November – the month of All Souls

November is the month when traditionally, we remember the dead – those we have known and loved, those who are in Heaven, those souls in purgatory and those who have no one to pray for them. Children have the opportunity to contribute the name of a loved one to our prayer board in the Hall this month.

Well Done

Lots of children to congratulate this week from returning to school with great motivation and giving 100% effort in their learning to showing kindness to each other and demonstrating excellent behaviour. Well done then to: Vince & Sarah (Y1), Leon, Marcus, Freya, Alessio & William (Y2), Chloe, Isobel, Alexandre & Jack (Y3), Matilda C, Chloe, Cayden & Nathan (Y4), Jake, Sylvie, Flavio and Freddie (Y5) and Eleanor, Amelia, Jemima, William, Matthew & Keira (Y6).

Congratulations to our new prayer team: Lucy, Amelia, Eleanor, Niamh, Emily, Maya, Joshua and Isabel. These children will be joining other Diocesan schools for their Commissioning service with Bishop Declan November 24.

Also to our new School Council, recently elected: Ciara, Alfie and Matthew (Y6), Leanne and Luca (Y5), Izzy and Sam (Y4), Aleena and Tommy B (Y3) and Joe and Imogen (Y2)

Ice Skating

Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to go ice skating next week – Years 4 & 6 Monday 13 November and Years 3 & 5 Thursday 16 November. All children will need to bring in a packed lunch on their ice skating day to be eaten at school before they go as they will leave at 12 noon. On the day children will need to wear comfortable clothing to school – long trousers, long sleeved tops, a hoodie or sweatshirt, thick socks and a pair of gloves. They need to be warm but be able to move comfortably on the ice. Boots will be supplied at the venue.

Children in Need, Friday 17 November

Year 5 are once again organising Children in Need this year. Children are invited to wear spotty mufti next week and bring in a donation of £1. Other activities are detailed in a letter which will be sent home on Friday so please keep an eye out for this.

Friends' News

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who came to celebrate the unveiling! There was an amazing buzz of excitement from everyone!

We have loved hearing all of your generous feedback about the new playground and have really enjoyed seeing how enthusiastic all the children have been.

The project has been in the works for nearly 4 years - fundraising, planning, quotes, preparing the site and finally completion. We would once again like to thank Hansons Aggregates in Cheddar, who have kindly donated all of the 40 tonnes of stone we required which has helped us reach our target fundraising amount. Also, thank you to Pentagon and Easigrass Bristol & Bath for working over the half term to make this a reality!

Letters went home last week for our Christmas Party to be held on Saturday, 25 November from 4pm - 7.30pm following the same format at last year with a fayre between 4pm - 6pm and a family disco in the hall from 6pm.

We are especially looking for donations for our raffle to join the Echo Dot, vouchers and hampers on our prize list!

Also do you know of any local small businesses looking to sell their goods in our Local Traders room this year? At £15 a table, we would love to see this room filled with amazing goodies to buy. Contact us at stfrancisfriends2016@gmail.com

Please as always, if you can help in any way, return your forms as soon as possible.

We look forward to holding a fun family night out so get your tickets early!

Please join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, 15 November, 7.30pm at School.

Flu Vaccinations

The school nursing team will administer the flu vaccination to children of Years Reception, 1, 2, 3 and 4 on Monday 20 November. If you haven't yet returned your reply form, please do so by that date. Children who do not return a form will not be vaccinated.

Reception Admissions September 2018

For children eligible to start school in September 2018, there will be an opportunity to visit St Francis' during the school day to see the school in operation. The next visit will take place **Monday 4 December, 2pm**. Please contact the school office should you wish to make a visit. Applications for children starting school in the Reception class should be made online to North Somerset Local Authority – the closing date for applications is (23.59 hours) 15 January 2018. Baptismal Certificates as supporting evidence must be presented to the school office before January 15 in order to accompany the application.

Transfer to Secondary School

The process for transfer of pupils to secondary education has begun and all applications need to be completed and returned to North Somerset by 23.59 hours, **Monday 31 October 2016**. In addition parents applying to St Bede's must complete the Additional Information Form and return it to St Bede's by 31 October. As a Catholic primary school our 'feeder' secondary school is St Bede's Catholic College in Bristol. Morning visits are welcomed throughout the year by appointment; please contact the college on 0117 3772200. Transport for children to St Bede's is via a coach that runs from Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead for children from North Somerset.

A message from St Francis Church - Defibrillator

We have just installed an Automated External Defibrillator on the outside of St Francis Church Hall and are trying to inform as many of the community as possible of its position. Hopefully it will not be used but is there for use by anyone in need of it.

And Finally

Year 2 have been extra busy this week linking their learning to real life.

They have been learning about money and to help them have had a class bring-and-buy sale. Children were asked to bring in 3 small items - toys or books they no longer wanted - to sell to their classmates. Through this sale children took on the roles of customers and shop keepers and brought in silver and copper coins to purchase items.

The children have been delighted to raise in the region of £30 which they have decided to donate to charity. They want the money to be split between Children in Need and the Poppy Appeal. Well done Y2 - some excellent giving.