

11th November 2022

Dear Parents

Friends AGM – I was delighted to attend The Friends' annual general meeting (AGM) last night via zoom. There were twenty parents present and it was fantastic to hear about how much was raised over this last year (£27,000!!) I am enormously grateful to the committee who will be staying in post for the next year. The next big event will be the Christmas Bazaar and lots will be asked of you in the coming weeks. The Friends will be sending out more information about their AGM meeting, so do please read it.

Christmas Cards – Your child should have come home with a Christmas card design which can be used to buy other merchandise such as mugs, tea towels, gift tags etc. All the orders must be made online – no orders or money are to be sent into school. **However, the deadline for any ordering is 16th November!** The Friends are trying to get an extension, but this may not be possible.

Photographs – Your child should also have come home with a photograph of themselves and with any siblings. If you want copies, they can be ordered online and the school gets commission from any purchases.

Assemblies – In the Catholic tradition, November is the month of the Holy Souls and so on Monday I led a remembrance assembly for people who have died. Today we held a two minute silence to remember those who have died in war. You are invited to write the names of any deceased relatives or friends in the book of remembrance at the front of school.

On Wednesday, Mrs Hindle led an assembly for the Junior children about St Martin de Porres, whose Saint's Day had been on 3rd November. She told the children about his early life and the discrimination he faced because of the colour of his skin. His traits were: being humble, compassionate, kind and caring to everyone. He had a particular love for animals. St Martin is patron saint of social justice, racial harmony and mixed race people.

England Rocks – We're celebrating "Maths Week England" by taking part in a friendly times tables (and division) competition next week. The competition runs from 7:30am Monday 14th November to 19:30pm Wednesday 16th November. It is all done online via <https://play.trockstars.com/> Junior children should look on Google Classroom for more information about this.

Parents' Evening – Most parents have now had the opportunity to speak to their child's teacher. If you did not, please email the school office to make an appointment, so you can speak to them about your child's progress.

Usborne Book Fair – Huge thanks to any parent who bought a book at the Usborne Book Fair on Wednesday at school. Total sales were £986.60, which has given us £591.96 of free books to purchase.

Internet safety – An interesting article here for parents to read. One in five parents never discuss online safety with their children. https://nationalonlinesafety.com/wakeupwednesday/no-internet-connection-1-in-6-uk-parents-never-talk-to-their-child-about-online-safety?utm_source=organicsocial&utm_campaign=myleeneklass&utm_content=awareness I will be booking some online safety training for parents for the spring term – date to be announced as soon as I can confirm it.

Advance notice - Bank Holiday Monday 8th May – Following the decision from government that a bank holiday will be awarded in honour of the King Charles III's coronation, school will be closed on Monday 8th May 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bank-holiday-proclaimed-in-honour-of-the-coronation-of-his-majesty-king-charles-iii>

Diary Dates

- **Monday 14th November – Wear odd socks to school** – This is in support of national anti-bullying week.
- **Monday 14th November – Last day to hand in Christmas Bazaar E-brochure front cover design for the competition** – entries to be sent to the school office on white A4 paper, portrait not landscape.
- **Friday 18th November – Happy bag clothes collection** – non-uniform day prize for the class that brings in the most bags of clean/unwanted clothes/bags/shoes/toiletries etc
- **Tuesday 22nd November 7pm – St Cecilia Music Concert** – Choir and orchestra to perform
- **Friday 25th November – Non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle for the Christmas Bazaar**
- **Friday 25th November – Christmas disco for all children run by the staff after school** – details to follow.
- **Monday 28th November** – bring cash for hamper appeal for families in need – details to follow next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Kate Baptiste
Headteacher