

## Friday 6th December 2019

### Reminders

- Please label your child's uniform as a lot of clothing is being found without names.
- Please do not drive up to school at 1pm on a Friday, the same rules apply as the end of each school day. Thank you for your cooperation.
- Christmas Jumper Day is on Friday 13th December, you are encouraged to bring in £1 to support this cause, to find out more please click the link below:  
<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>



### Exhibition Week

Exhibition Week is finally here! This is your opportunity to hear what your children have been learning about so far this year. It will be similar to the parental engagement sessions where you will be able to see the children's books and discuss their learning with them. We look forward to celebrating the children's learning with you all.

Dosbarth Seren y Môr / Starfish Class - Monday 9th @ 2pm  
Dosbarth Dolffin / Dolphins Class - Tuesday 10th @ 2pm  
Dosbarth Caldey / Caldey Class - Wednesday 11th @ 2pm  
Dosbarth Sgomer / Skomer Class - Thursday 12th @ 2pm  
Dosbarth Ramsey / Ramsey Class - Monday 16th @ 2pm

### Urdd Caerdydd

Our Y5 pupils have spent three days this week staying at the Urdd Centre in Cardiff Bay. They had a packed itinerary for the duration of their stay and really enjoyed exploring our country's capital city. They took part in a Skype session with the Y6s in Ramsey Class this morning and shared their adventures with their classmates through the medium of Welsh - impressive skills on show! They were complimented by members of the public in the buffet in Cardiff Bay, by the staff in St Fagans and Cardiff Castle for how well-behaved and polite the children were. Thank you to the staff for promoting and encouraging these behaviours in our children everyday. A huge thank you to Miss Gallagher and Mrs Baker for giving up their time to take the children this week and for giving them these experiences.

### Darwin Science Day

Coding was on the agenda with Darwin Science in Dosbarth Ramsey this week - take a look at the Twitter page for videos and images from the session.

### Clubs

The numbers of children in after school clubs are decreasing, to keep the variety of clubs on offer after school they need to be attended. Please find the updated clubs timetable on the link below:

<https://www.stfranciscatholicschool.co.uk/extra-curricular-activities>

Dosbarth Skomer were the winners of the attendance shield this week. Three classes were above 95% attendance this week!



### Attendance

Dosbarth Seren y Môr	89.08%
Dosbarth Dolffin	86.01%
Dosbarth Caldey	90.67%
Dosbarth Skomer	92.55%
Dosbarth Ramsey	93.14%
Whole School Total	91.62%

### Parish Links

Our next Mass is our Advent Mass at 9:30am on Thursday 19th November.

### Mini Vinnies

On Monday afternoon our Mini Vinnies group were presented with their badges (certificates and prayer cards to follow) by two members of the SVP. This group will be supported by Mrs June McGuinness and Mrs Arnopp-Rees, we are really looking forward to seeing this group develop and are really grateful for their support.

### Lantern Parade

If you would like to take part in the Lantern Parade tomorrow night, the details are as follows: Pick up lanterns at the Memorial Gardens/Town Hall between 4-4:15pm. The parade departs from the Police Station at 4:35pm. Darcey Trueman won a competition and will be turning on the Christmas lights - enjoy!

### Dolphin Christmas Concert

Tickets are on sale now for £2.50 from Mrs Thomas in the office.

The children have made a great effort throughout the week during rehearsals. Please encourage your child to learn their lines this weekend as the concert is fast approaching! There is no charge for Starfish's assembly.

### Birthdays

Emma - 5 led  
Theo - 9 oed



# Parent Newsletter

Living faith  
within our families

December 2019



## “Best Friends at Christmas”

Hannah and Caleb were BEST friends and they LOVED Christmas - so much that they had agreed to help their teacher, Mr Farmer, wrap up presents for the children's ward at the hospital! Apparently, a local supermarket donated gifts, and Mr Farmer and his volunteers just had to wrap them up and deliver them.

One day, Hannah told Caleb something top secret: for Christmas her Dad was buying her tickets to see Little Mix live in concert! Caleb felt a little jealous when he heard this - Little Mix were his favourite band too!

Just then, Mr Farmer came up to them and said, "I won't be needing your help after all - the supermarket said they can't donate anything this year, so it looks like the sick children won't get any presents."

But Caleb and Hannah weren't

beaten so easily. They ran out into the playground and told everyone who would listen what had happened. Over the next few days, children from all across the school brought in all sorts of gifts, toys and chocolate and put them under the tree in the hall.

Caleb and Hannah were so pleased, and couldn't wait to take the presents to the children in hospital. But at afternoon break Mr Farmer brought some bad news:

"You've done brilliantly, but I'm afraid there's still not enough presents, and we can't give them unless there's enough for everyone."

That evening Hannah spoke to her Dad, hoping he would offer to buy loads of presents for the appeal. Instead, he offered to donate the money he had been going to spend on her Little Mix tickets!

It was a hard decision because Hannah had been desperate to go to the concert, but her decision was made, and word got around the school. Little by little, more presents came in from others who were inspired by Hannah's example.

It was a very joyful moment when Mr Farmer announced, "We've got more than enough presents! We've got enough presents to give to all the elderly people in hospital over Christmas too!"

Hannah, Caleb, and all of the other children who had helped collect presents were overflowing with joy! And they each felt so much more excited to give the presents to the people in hospital than they were about opening any of their own presents.

**'Best Friends at Christmas' is a three-part drama performed by children in schools this Christmas.**

## Happy is the man who doesn't lose faith in me." **Matthew 11:11**

The Good News of Jesus gives us reason to be joyful at all times of year, but especially during Advent, when we look forward to Jesus' coming at Christmas and at the end of time. John the Baptist's words preparing his followers for Jesus' ministry are as true for us today: *'Prepare a way for the Lord, make His paths straight.'* (Matthew 3)

Our Advent assemblies show children how to prepare their hearts

for Christmas by:

- Loving and caring for others
- Thinking of others before themselves
- Saying sorry to others and to God
- Remembering Jesus' love for them and that when they say sorry, He forgives them

You might like to discuss these with your child and come up with creative ways to actively prepare for Christmas.

### Prayer

Dear Jesus,

*As we prepare for Christmas with our friends and family, we ask you to be present in our lives.*

*Help us know your love and forgiveness.*

*Give us courage to share your message of peace with those around us.*

Amen



### Merit Certificates

Dosbarth Seren y Môr	Ava Rees "Excellent independent writing "
Dosbarth Dolffin	Logan Hutchinson "Always putting 100% into the Christmas concert rehearsals"
Dosbarth Caldey	Matthew Sanderson "An excellent effort to improve presentation"
Dosbarth Skomer	Rohan Davenport "Showing perseverance in maths this week"
Dosbarth Ramsey	Princess-Karissa Greene-Rayside "Her great attitude to learning this week"

The school Twitter handle is:

[@St\\_FrancisPembs](https://twitter.com/St_FrancisPembs)

To find out what's happening in each class please follow:

[@DosbarthSerenYM](https://twitter.com/DosbarthSerenYM)  
[@DosbarthDolffin](https://twitter.com/DosbarthDolffin)  
[@DosbarthCaldey](https://twitter.com/DosbarthCaldey)  
[@DosbarthSkomer](https://twitter.com/DosbarthSkomer)  
[@Dosbarth\\_Ramsey](https://twitter.com/Dosbarth_Ramsey)

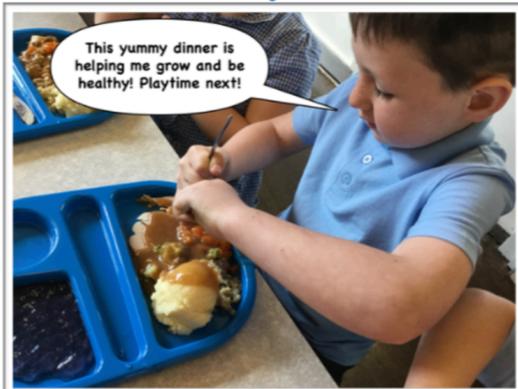
The Friends' Twitter handle is:

[@friendsofstfran](https://twitter.com/friendsofstfran)



Dosbarth Dolffins have been exploring what it means to be 'Healthy, Confident Individuals'. They decided upon and created the images to match the statements. To find out up to date information about the new curriculum for Wales please find information on our website.

*I am healthy and active, and I have a healthy diet.*



*Apply knowledge about the impact of diet and exercise on physical and mental health in their daily lives.*



<https://www.stfranciscatholicschool.co.uk/parent-zone>