



# Saint Francis School

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School website: [stfrancisschoolbkara.com](http://stfrancisschoolbkara.com)

27<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

Dear Parents & Children,

This is our first official circular for scholastic Year 2017 / 2018. We hope that all students are looking forward to a great scholastic year.



## PARABLE OF THE PENCIL

*-You will be able to do great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held by someone higher than you.*

*-It is ok to experience a painful sharpening from time to time.*

*-The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside. Be men and women of honor, relying on your inner core values and morals.*

*-You will make mistakes. Everyone does. That is why pencils have an eraser.*

**MAKE YOUR MARK.**

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE WHEREVER YOU GO.**

[www.spirituallythinking.blogspot.com](http://www.spirituallythinking.blogspot.com)

We would like to welcome the following new members of staff:

**Ms Lydia Grech** who will be teaching Year 1.2 (Ms Marisianne's Class)

**Ms Natalia Grixti** who will be teaching Year 5.2

**Ms Josephine Cushieri** and **Ms Marie Claire Muscat** who will be joining the Domestic Staff and

**Mr Joel Mifsud** who will be doing the duties of a receptionist.

**Ms Joanne Gatt** will be teaching Year 4.1. (Ms Joanne was asked to replace Ms Juana Dimech who will be teaching PSCD / Science) since at her last school her experience was with Year 4 students.

**Ms Madeline George** will be teaching Year 6.2

**Ms Juana Dimech** will be teaching PSCD / Science

**Ms Kathleen Caruana Salafia** will be teaching Year 1.1 (Ms Stephanie's Class)

As from this year besides taking Complementary lessons, Ms Anna Caruana will be taking library sessions.

We would like to publicly thank Ms Julie Zahra for her great work at our school. Ms Julie has resigned from her post and we are currently looking for her replacement.

We would also like to thank Sr Giovannita Briffa and the Franciscan Sisters of the Heart of Jesus for working so hard to make our dream a reality. We are proud to announce that students of Years 4, 5 & 6 will be transferred to the new building.

**General Information:**

**School Website:** [stfrancisschoolbkara.com](http://stfrancisschoolbkara.com)

During the summer holidays, we have updated our school website. In this website, you will be able to find all the information regarding our school. Circulars can be downloaded from the site and an absentee form needs to be downloaded and filled in, when children are absent from school. There is also a link where you can access our school calendar. Kindly go through the school policies & sign the form overleaf.

**Admission Time:** Please note that assembly starts at **7.45 a.m.** so children have to be at least 5 minutes before. We will daily take note of the children who arrive late, and those who repeatedly do so, will be made to miss their first lesson. Also, please note that in the morning **ALL students** are to enter from Brared Street **ONLY**. The Convent door at Mnajjar Street will be closed at that time.

**Dismissal Time** We would like to remind you that Brared Street will be closed for traffic between 1.15 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. **Only van drivers will be allowed to go through during that period.** Those parents who come for their children with their own transport are to come between 1.30p.m. and 1.45p.m. No late comers please.

**School Uniform:** May we remind you that the uniform consists of brown shoes and beige socks with the regular uniform. White socks and completely white gym shoes should be worn with the P.E. kit on the day they have PE lessons. Please note that the white PE cap should be in the child's bag every day. Kindly label it clearly. The navy blue fleecy jacket should be worn with the winter PE kit. The blazer will be worn with the regular uniform only. This jacket is compulsory from years 1 to 6. No crew cuts will be allowed in school.

**These are the timetables for P.E. lessons.**

	P.E.
KG1	Tuesday & Friday
KG2	Tuesday & Friday
Year 1	Monday & Friday
Year 2	Tuesday & Thursday
Year 3	Wednesday & Friday
Year 4	Monday & Wednesday
Year 5	Tuesday & Thursday
Year 6.1	Monday & Wednesday
Year 6.2	Tuesday & Thursday

**Healthy Food:** It is the school policy to encourage healthy eating habits. This means that parents are to provide healthy food for their children's lunches, eg. sandwiches, fruit, vegetables etc. and plenty of water. No sweets, sponges or salty snacks are to be given to

the students. On birthdays and other celebrations, it is best to provide muffins or cakes that are **PLAIN that means no cream/Nutella/icing etc.**

**Heavy Bags:** Kindly ensure that your child follows the class timetable and that **no extra things** are in the school bag.

**Parents' Meetings:** We will be having Parents' Meetings during the first term. Please take note of the date and time. Your attendance is highly recommended.

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September, 2017	8.30 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.	KG1 KG2 Year 1 Ms Lydia Grech Year 1 Ms Kathleen Caruana Salafia
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October, 2017	8.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.	Year 4 Ms Joanne Gatt Year 4 Ms Josette Gonzi Talk from Avantis for Year 4 parents
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October, 2017	8.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.  10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.	Year 5 Ms Madeline George Year 5 Ms Charmaine Portelli Talk from Avantis for Year 5 parents Year 2 Ms Rachel Bugeja Year 2 Ms Roana Grixti
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2017	8.15 a.m. - 9.15 a.m. 9.15 a.m. - 10.15 a.m.	Year 3 Ms Suzanne Caruana Year 3 Ms Rita Grech Year 6 Ms Madeline George Year 6 Ms Marisa Zerafa

Hereunder please find list of activities for the month of September and October:

### September 2017

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sept** Parents' Meeting with Class Teachers/LSAs for Statemented Students

**25<sup>th</sup> Sept** First Day of School for Kinder, Year 1, 2 & 3 students.  
School hours are from 7:45 am - 11:30 am  
Programme for KG1 and Year 1 students and Parents may be found on the school website or in the circular already sent to parents concerned.

**26<sup>th</sup> Sept** First Day of School Year 4, 5 & 6 students.  
School hours are from 7:45 am - 1:30 pm

#### **Some important issues:**

Please make sure that your child comes to school on time everyday wearing full uniform and with an appropriate haircut. You may wish to refer to the School Policies on the school website.

Kindly check the school calendar through the school website.

On the first day students are asked to bring **ONLY** the items as indicated on the stationery list given in June.

Children are to wear the summer uniform on the first day of school until we change to the Winter Uniform.

- 28<sup>th</sup> Sept Confessions for Year 3 Students  
 29<sup>th</sup> Sept Mass for Year 3 Students  
 Last PTA Committee meeting for scholastic Year 2016 / 2017.

## October 2017

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Oct Animal Awareness Week
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Confessions for all
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct Confessions for all
- 4<sup>th</sup> Oct St Francis Feast - Mass for all at 8:30 am at Madre Margherita Hall. Parents are invited.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Oct Adorations in Chapel being first Friday of the month
- 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 8:00 a.m. Parental Meeting for parents of Year 4 students followed by a talk by Avantis re tablets.  
 IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Oct 8:00 a.m. Parental Meeting for parents of Year 5 students followed by a talk by Avantis re tablets.  
 10:30 a.m. Parental Meeting for parents of Year 2 students.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 8:15 a.m. Parental Meeting for parents of Year 3 students  
 9:15 a.m. Parental Meeting for parents of Year 6 students.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Oct Confessions for Year 4 students  
 Year 3 will be having musical sessions at Masquerade. Students are to bring €7.50 for transport and workshops fee.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Oct Mass for Year 4 students  
 Ekoskola Elections for students in Years 1 to 6.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Oct IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Oct Kinder students will be going to Gymstars. Students are to bring €5.50 for transport and admission fee.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Oct Jum Dun Karm.  
 Ekoskola first committee meeting during break.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Oct Confessions for Year 5 students
- 20<sup>th</sup> Oct Mass for Year 5 students  
 Year 2 students will be visiting Mdina & taking the train round Rabat. Students are to bring €5 for transport and fee.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Oct PTA Annual General Meeting. Mass will be celebrated at 6.30 p.m. with the participation of the school choir and students of all year groups. A short meeting will follow in which the new committee will be elected. Those parents who wish to form part of the PTA Committee for this Scholastic Year are to contact the administration via email [stfranbk@gmail.com](mailto:stfranbk@gmail.com) by not later than Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.
- 24<sup>th</sup> Oct Year 1 students will be visiting Birdpark. Students are to bring € 6.50 for transport and admission fee.

- Year 4 students will be going to Barrakka Gardens for their Maths Trail.  
Transport fee €2
- 25<sup>th</sup> Oct Year 6 students will be going to Birgu for their Maths Trail. Transport fee €2  
Confessions for Year 6 students
- 26<sup>th</sup> Oct Mass for Year 6 students  
Pink October Activity for Staff. Staff will wear something in pink and donate money towards Cancer research.  
Year 5 students will be going to Marsaxlokk for their Field Work. Transport fee €2
- Meeting for parents of KG1 & KG2 students re Literacy organized by the Curia Literacy Support Team 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
Meeting for parents of Year 1 students re Literacy organized by the Curia Literacy Support Team 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 am.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Oct Staff Meeting & SDP Day. **(Students have no school)**
- 30<sup>th</sup> Oct IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.  
Class photos. More details will follow.
- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct Class photos. More details will follow.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

### **November 2017**

1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> November Mid-Term Holidays

6<sup>th</sup> Nov Change to Winter Uniform

14<sup>th</sup> Nov Parents' Day

6<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Concert for Kinder, Years 1, 2 and 3

14<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Concert for Years 4, 5 & 6

### **Donation**

We would like to remind you that our School's Policy is not to ask for a specific amount of money as a donation. The school relies entirely on your generosity. Preferably all donations are to be sent at the beginning of every term. Kindly send the donation in a sealed envelope, labelled with your child's name, class, donation and address it to Sr Giovannita Briffa, Head of School. Sr Giovannita will then issue a receipt in the next few days. We thank you in advance for your kind generosity and co-operation. May we remind you that the running of the school and the expenses incurred all depend on your donations.

Thanking you for all your co-operation, I remain,  
Yours faithfully

Sr Giovannita Briffa  
Head of School

**Email addresses**

Kindly note that all circulars and other details will be sent via email **only**. For this purpose and for updating our database, please fill in the form below and send it to the office by not later than **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**.

**Student's Details - Scholastic Year 2017 / 2018**

Name and Surname \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Mobile Number \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Mobile Number \_\_\_\_\_

Other Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Specify relation with child \_\_\_\_\_

Email address on which you would like to receive school circulars:

\_\_\_\_\_

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**I have read the school policies from the school website and will abide by them.**

**Parent's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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If you would like to be a PTA member, please mark accordingly **YES**  **NO**