



Saint Francis School

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School website: stfrancisschoolbkara.com

27th 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

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

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 th 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 th 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 th 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 th 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

22nd Sept Parents' Meeting with Class Teachers/LSAs for Statemented Students

25th 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.

26th 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.

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

October 2017

- 2nd - 13th Oct Animal Awareness Week
- 2nd Oct Confessions for all
- 3rd Oct Confessions for all
- 4th Oct St Francis Feast - Mass for all at 8:30 am at Madre Margherita Hall. Parents are invited.
- 6th Oct Adorations in Chapel being first Friday of the month
- 9th 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.
- 10th 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.
- 11th 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.
- 12th 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.
- 13th Oct Mass for Year 4 students
 Ekoskola Elections for students in Years 1 to 6.
- 16th Oct IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.
- 17th Oct Kinder students will be going to Gymstars. Students are to bring €5.50 for transport and admission fee.
- 18th Oct Jum Dun Karm.
 Ekoskola first committee meeting during break.
- 19th Oct Confessions for Year 5 students
- 20th 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.
- 21st 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 by not later than Friday 13th October.
- 23rd Oct IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.
- 24th 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
- 25th Oct Year 6 students will be going to Birgu for their Maths Trail. Transport fee €2
- 26th Oct Confessions for Year 6 students
- 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.
- 27th Oct Staff Meeting & SDP Day. **(Students have no school)**
- 30th Oct IEP meetings for Statemented Students. Those concerned have already been informed.
- Class photos. More details will follow.
- 31st Oct Class photos. More details will follow.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2017

1st - 3rd November Mid-Term Holidays

6th Nov Change to Winter Uniform

14th Nov Parents' Day

6th Dec Christmas Concert for Kinder, Years 1, 2 and 3

14th 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 2nd 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:

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

Parent's Signature: _____

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