



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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18th January 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Citizenship Weeks

On Friday we launched our Citizenship Week celebration. Citizenship Week will run from the week beginning the 18th January to the week beginning the 25th January. The theme this year is **Gospel Values are British Values**. We will be talking to the children about the gospel values that we believe in as Christians and how they are the same as the British values of this country. The British values are defined by the Department for Education as the following:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect for and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

The children will have a variety of activities over the next two weeks including working with the NSPCC, a visit to the Houses of Parliament, workshops with Handprint Theatre and some specific work with the Refugee and Migrant Project (RAMP) in Manor Park.

This year the group we are fundraising for is RAMP, a local organization that supports refugees. In order to help RAMP to do this very important work we will be having a food drive and ask that the children donate nonperishable items throughout the two weeks. These items will be on display in the front reception of the school so that we can how generous the families of St Francis' truly are.

Pope Francis recently said, "... as you persevere in this work of providing education for refugees, think of the Holy Family, Our Lady, Saint Joseph, and the Child Jesus, who fled to Egypt to escape violence and to find refuge among strangers. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

Fruit of the Holy Spirit

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit that we will be exploring with the children this week is **Self-Control**. In Proverbs 25:28 we are told, "Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls."

Self-control is the ninth and last of the fruits of the Spirit listed by Paul in Galatians 5:22-23. Though it is listed last, there can be no doubt about its importance to Christian living. Can a Christian be uncontrolled in his manner of life and still be a Christian? How will we try to make sure that we practice self-control in our daily lives?



Newham London



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Speech Therapy:

This year, our school is buying in extra sessions of Speech and Language Therapy from East London NHS Foundation Trust.

The Speech and Language Therapist, Lena, will be in school every Tuesday. She will be working in classrooms around the school, and all children may work with her at times.

If there is a need to work one-to-one with your child or to carry out further assessment, you will receive a letter to request your permission and to invite you into school for a meeting. If you have concerns regarding your child's speech, language or communication please speak to your child's class teacher.

Pupil Targets:

Each half term the children from years 2-6 receive pupil targets for writing and Maths. These targets include two to three areas that the teacher has identified that your child needs to work on to improve in writing and Maths. Starting this term year 1 will begin to use pupil targets for the first time. These targets are given to each child on a separate piece of card paper and they refer to the targets throughout the school day. Children are expected to write in the date when they think that they have achieved their targets and teachers sign to say that they agree. Targets for guided reading are shared with the children each week when they read with the teacher or teaching assistant. You should receive a copy of these targets by Friday, 15th January; please speak to you child about their targets and support them at home to try to achieve them.

We have had these pupil targets for some time, however we have recently decided to share them with parents each half term because we believe it will increase each child's improvement if we are all working together on the same areas at home and at school.

Class assembly

There will be a class assembly for **4C Friday, 22nd January 2016 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

N. Scott
Head Teacher

