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29<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Class assembly

There will be a class assembly for **3B Friday, 4th March 2016 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

### Book Week

During the week beginning the 29<sup>th</sup> February we will be celebrating Book Week; this year the theme is *Heroes and Villains*. Throughout the week the children will be involved in a variety of activities to promote the love of reading:

- Visits to the local library (so please send in their library cards as soon as you can) we will return them after our visit. If your child has not got a library card then talk to their class teacher who will give you a form to fill in.
- Drama workshops and activities
- Junk modeling
- Story swap where your child can choose which class he or she wants to go to and listen to a story
- Reading café/ book club where children share stories and comment on books they have read over a cup of hot chocolate and biscuits.

Lastly but by no means least, our World Book dress up day! **On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016, we will celebrate World Book Day where the children should wear a costume for a character that is a hero/heroine or villain from a story.** It should be a character that your child is familiar with so they can tell the rest of their class about the character and why they chose that person.

### Class photos

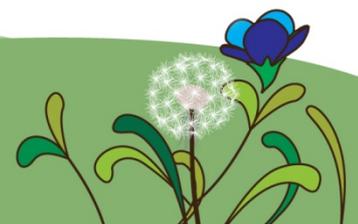
The children will be taking their **class photos on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March**; please ensure that your child is in the correct school uniform.

### Lent

It is an important time in our liturgical year as are in the season of Lent. Lent is really about denying yourself of something that you enjoy in order to be reminded that it's God that you depend on in life; that it's your heavenly Father that you most need in life. Lent mirrors the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. He voluntarily removed himself from the pleasures of life and company of people so that he could draw close to God, hear from Him, and prepare Himself for what was to come. **Please do make an effort to attend Mass for that day either at 8:00 am, 12:15 pm or 8:00 pm at St. Francis Church.**



Newham London



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

### Holy Week Assemblies

In order to focus our minds on the Passions of Christ during Holy Week; the children will remind us of the very important moments including his death and resurrection in a series of assemblies as follows:

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 9:05 am - Year 3 Holy Week assembly**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 9:05 - Year 4 Holy Week assembly**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 9:05 am - Year 5 Holy Week assembly**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 9:05 am - Year 6 Holy Week assembly**

### Year 1 Easter Performance

In KS1, the year 1 children will also remind us of the sacrifices made for us during this special time during their KS1 Easter performance **on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 9:45.**

### CAFOD 2016 - Make a Splash

As you are aware each year during Lent St Francis' supports the CAFOD appeal. In 2012, CAFOD's Lent campaign focused on water, as a result £9million was raised which was doubled by the UK government to £18million. That money helped to make a big difference in communities like Simatelele in Zimbabwe. As water is such a vital resource this year CAFOD has focused on water again in it's ***Make A Splash*** appeal. World-wide it is estimated that women and girls spend 140 million hours a day collecting water. For some girls this means walking several hours to and from a water point when they could be going to school, studying or playing with friends. Lack of access to water at home and at school, prevents girls from gaining the education that can change their lives and the lives of their families.

Pope Francis has called this year the Year of Mercy, where we reflect on the place of God's actions in our lives. As a result, St Francis' will support the ***Make a Splash*** appeal and every pound you give to CAFOD up to the value of 3.5 million will be matched by the UK government. Your children will be coming home with the CAFOD envelopes this week; **they are due back at school by Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016.**

Please support this very important appeal.

N. Scott  
Head Teacher

