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8th February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Online Safety Week

This week St Francis' will celebrate Online Safety Week. The theme this year is **Play your part for a better internet!** The children will be involved in lessons that look at how to stay safe when they are online and how to report abuse if they are concerned. As parents, we know that the internet can be a fantastic resource for our children; however we need to ensure that they are using it safely and responsibly. **There will be an internet safety meeting for parents on Friday 12th February 2016 at 9:00 (note new time)** with a very knowledgeable speaker about how to keep children safe online.

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 22nd March 2016.**

Please support this very important appeal.

Book Week

During the week beginning the 29th 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.



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Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



- 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 3rd 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 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.

Half Term Break

The school will be closed for the half term break from Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February. There is a staff training day on Monday 22nd February and school will re-open as normal on Tuesday 23rd February.

Afterschool Clubs

Afterschool clubs begin on Tuesday 23rd February 2016 as a result **all clubs must be paid for by that time as the clubs list will close on ParentPay.** There is currently no waiting list for the clubs that are paid for through ParentPay.

N. Scott
Head Teacher



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