



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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5th December 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Advent

During this second week of advent we light the candle of love. "God is love." This is a profound statement. God doesn't just love; he is love. His nature and essence are love. Love fills his very being and instills all his other attributes. As God's very nature is love, he must show love because doing so glorifies him.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy. I seek his will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord. Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the God who acted there, hearty gratitude for the life begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail. Amen.

Education City Workshop

We have subscribed to a new online learning platform called EducationCity. It supports children's learning in school through fun educational games, activities and printable worksheets. The website covers English, Mathematics, Science, French, Learning English and Computing. We have invited a representative from EducationCity to deliver a workshop for you to show you how to use EducationCity, how to use the homework to support your child's learning in school and for you to know how to see how your child is progressing. **The workshop will be on Tuesday 13th December from 9:00 am.**

Ofsted

As you know we had our Ofsted Section 5 two day inspection on the 22nd and 23rd November; we expect to share the full outcome with you before the Christmas holidays.



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



Christmas Raffle

The letter regarding this year's Christmas raffle has been sent out to all classes; please support this fundraising event by purchasing one strip of tickets for one pound (£1). There are some fantastic prizes on offer!

Christmas Events

As we draw closer to the end of term there are a number of school events to celebrate Christmas. We look forward to celebrating with you, please make note of the dates and times below:

Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 9:45 - Year 2 nativity performance

Wednesday, 14th December 2016 - Christmas lunch (**unfortunately parents are not able to attend**)

Friday 16th December at 9:45 am - EYFS nativity performance

Friday 16th December 2016 at 6:00 pm - Carol service at St. Francis Church

Monday 19th December 2016 - Christmas class party celebrations

Tuesday 20th December 2016 9:30 -End of term Mass at St Francis Church (**please note date**)

Classics Week - 28th November and 5th December

To enrich our English curriculum we are celebrating a "Classics fortnight" where each class will produce work based on a classic text of their choice. To support their learning and making it more fun, classes will have workshops where they will explore the language, the journey of the characters, the setting etc. We have chosen to do this to expose children to classic children's books and hopefully develop their taste for these books we all agree are fantastic examples of children's literature.

Nursery and Reception - The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Andersen

Year 1 - *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr Seuss

Year 2 - *Matilda* by Roald Dahl

Year 3 - *Wind in the Willow* by Kenneth Grahame

Year 4 - *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis

Year 5 - *The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien

Year 6 - *Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

We will have copies of these books in school, however due to time restrictions on the curriculum some classes will not finish reading the entire book; however you may want to have a copy of the book at home for your child to continue reading. If you would like to know more about what St Francis' is doing to develop children's love of reading please visit the Learning section of the school website and have a look at *Reading is a Priority*.

Pantomime

For pantomime this year, the children will visit Theatre Royal, Stratford East to see *Sinbad the Sailor*. The cost of the visit is £9.45 which includes the entrance fee and an ice cream. The classes will be visiting on the following dates:

Years 4-6 Tuesday 6th December

We expect the children to arrive back at school at about 5:30 pm so please make arrangements for someone to be at the school ready to collect your child.

N. Scott
Head Teacher

