



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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12th December 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Advent

On the third Sunday of Advent we light a pink candle that signifies joy. This makes sense since it is lit on Gaudete Sunday-named for the entrance antiphon for that Sunday's Mass **Philippians 4:4**: "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice."

Pope Francis says that Gaudete Sunday is the "Sunday of joy," and that instead of fretting about "all they still haven't done to prepare for Christmas, people should "think of all the good things life has given you."

James 5:7-10

Now be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains!

8 You too must be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon.

9 Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates.

10 For your example, brothers, in patiently putting up with persecution, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord's name;

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.**

School Gate

As you may have noticed, the gate at the entrance of the school on Bow Street currently does not close completely as it should. We are having the issue investigated in order to find a permanent solution. In the interim, there is a yellow sign on the gate that asks everyone to ensure that they close the gate behind them once they leave the site. **I ask that parents take note of the sign and ensure that the gate is closed when they are leaving the school premises.**



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



PE Sweatshirt

There is a new **optional** PE sweatshirt that is available at the uniform shop for £9.50. This can be used for outdoor PE or outdoor after school clubs during the colder seasons.

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.

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)**

Please note ends for the Autumn term on Tuesday 20th December at 2:00 and re-opens for all pupils on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

N. Scott
Head Teacher



Newham London

