



**St Francis' Catholic Primary School**  
Maryland Park  
Stratford  
London E15 1HB

**Tel:** 020 8534 0476  
**Fax:** 020 8555 3068  
**Email:** [info@st-francis.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-francis.newham.sch.uk)

28<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Advent**

We have begun the season of Advent. Advent is the 4-week period prior to Christmas. It is a time to ponder the great sacrifice that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, made for us by coming to earth as an infant. He lived a perfect life, died a sacrificial death, and rose from the dead for us. We pray a prayer of Thanksgiving at this time:

#### **Thanksgiving 1 Corinthians 1:4-9**

4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Ofsted**

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

### **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 13<sup>th</sup> December from 9:00 am.**

### **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 16<sup>th</sup> 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

**Friday 20th December 2016 9:30** -End of term Mass at St Francis Church



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!

### **Classics Week - 28<sup>th</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup> 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*.

### **Phonics Workshop - Reception**

Thank you to all the parents who attended the workshop on Tuesday it was a very promising turn out.

### **Parents' Conference Meetings**

The attendance at parent's evening last week was fantastic overall! We appreciate your commitment to working together to provide the best possible outcomes for your child.

### **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 1-3 Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Years 4-6 Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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

