



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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29th January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Mark 5:1-20

They went across the lake to the region of the *Gerasenes*.² When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him.³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain.⁴ For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.⁵ Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.⁷ He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me!"⁸ For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you impure spirit!"

⁹ Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

"My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many."¹⁰ And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

¹¹ A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside.¹² The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them."¹³ He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

¹⁴ Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened.¹⁵ When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.¹⁶ Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well.¹⁷ Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

¹⁸ As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him.¹⁹ Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."²⁰ So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

God's kingdom best takes root in the marginalized, the outcasts, those seemingly most insignificant, the opposite of human institutions - in which power, wealth, fame, and influence are given pride of place. God often works through flawed people and institutions. We just need to be ready to hear his message. "Speak Lord your servant is listening!"

After school clubs

The letter for the new afterschool clubs will be coming up tomorrow for clubs starting on the 20th February 2018.



Newham London



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Half Term Break

The half term break will be from Monday the 12th February to Friday 16th February. Monday, 19th February is a staff training day therefore **school will re-open as normal on Tuesday 20th February.**

Class Assembly

There will be a class assembly for **4R on Friday, 2nd February 2018 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

British Red Cross Charity Bazaar

Thank you for your support for the charity bazaar on Friday, 26th January 2018. We collected **£476.08** for the British Red Cross.

School Start Time

Over a year ago we introduced what we call a "soft start" at St Francis'. This means that class doors are open and children are invited to go into their classrooms from 8:45. We are pleased that so many children are arriving at 8:45 and maximizing their learning time. I realize that perhaps some parents are confused about when school starts. The official start time for school is 8:55 that means at 8:55 we expect children to be in class having put their coats and bags away ready for the Morning Prayer. Children who arrive after 8:55 will disrupt learning time and can find it upsetting if they feel that they have missed out, therefore we would encourage all parents to aim to get their child to school for 8:45.

School Uniform

We had a uniform scrutiny on Friday and were pleased that there were a very small minority of children who were not compliant with the uniform expectations. Next time, we expect to have 100% of children compliant.

Just a reminder for parents that girls should have natural coloured hair extensions, and hair accessories should be functional and practical in navy blue, white or black. Equally, children should be wearing school shoes, not trainers or boots.

N. Scott
Head Teacher

