



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

20th February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back from the half term break! The children have returned today with some lovely book boxes that were made with lots of thought and effort over the holiday to engage in and encourage their learning.

Mark 1:12-15

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Jesus Announces the Good News

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

During this time of Lent, let us make sure that we make time for prayer, fasting and repentance so that we are able to remember the sacrifices that have been made for us.

New After School Clubs

The new afterschool clubs begin today and run until Wednesday, 28th March 2018.

Operation Encompass

St Francis' has been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will be run jointly between schools and Newham Borough Metropolitan Police.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools before 10am on a school day when a child or young person has been involved or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff is able to liaise with the police and to make use of the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that St Francis' is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best help and support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial in effectively meeting the needs of the children and families involved.



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



Book Week

During the week beginning the 26th February we will be celebrating Book Week; this year the theme is Shakespeare. 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
- Story swap where your child can choose which class he/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, 1st March 2018**, we will celebrate World Book Day where the children should wear a costume from a Shakespeare novel. 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 **2A on Friday, 16th March 2018 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

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.

N. Scott
Head Teacher

