



**St Francis' Catholic Primary School**  
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12<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Gospel Reading Mark 12:38-44**

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>40</sup> They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

### ***The Widow's Offering***

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup> But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

This reading reminds us about the kind of faith that we are supposed to have, and the kind of faith that we are not. The faith of Jesus Christ is not a self-absorbed faith. It is a faith that digs deep, a faith which is sacrificial, a faith which bears the cross. In short, the faith of Jesus Christ is not about us. It is not about me. It is not about you. It is about what we give to God. And it's about the amazing riches that God gives in return. It is about a God who is not self-absorbed, a Christ that is not self-absorbed, and faithful Christians who are not self-absorbed. Whether we are professionally religious or not, we are to be the widow. Loving, living, and giving sacrificially.

### **Birthday Celebrations**

We welcome the opportunity to congratulate your child on their birthday and are happy to accommodate parents by handing out small gifts/party bags for your child's birthday. However, these need to contain healthy snacks or age appropriate gifts. We will not hand out chocolate, sweets or any other unhealthy snack. We would suggest healthy snacks such as raisins, bagged fruit slices, cereal bars, etc.

### **Admission Consultation**

We are currently consulting on our 2020 admission criteria, which is available on our website at:

<http://st-francis.newham.sch.uk/parents-carers/admissions/>

We would be pleased to receive any comments in writing to the school office by 5pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018.



Newham London



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

### Assembly

There will be a class assembly for **6B on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 9:05 am (apologies for the confusion with the previous date given)**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

### Anti-Bullying Week

During the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018, we will be celebrating Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is **Respect**; during the week we aim to support the children to understand:

- the definition of the word respect
- that bullying is a behavior choice
- that we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. we don't have to be best friends or always agree with each other but we do have to respect each other
- that we all need to choose to respect each other, both face-to-face and online

We will renew the High 5 strategies with the children to give them the tools to deal with conflict.

1. Ignore it
2. Talk Politely
3. Walk Away
4. Talk Firmly
5. Report It

We will also have a special workshop on **Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 9:15 and 5:30** (this is a repeated workshop that was delivered in the Summer term); the workshop will look at some of the causes and how to reduce the probability of young boys being involved in violent behaviour. Please return your reply slip to confirm your place at this workshop.

### Parental Contributions

Thanks to your parental contributions for the last academic year, we raised a total of £3,620. Your contributions are vital in ensuring that building works and improvements to the school premises take place. Please ensure that you pay your parental contribution of £40 through ParentPay.

N. Scott  
Head Teacher



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