



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

26th November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Gospel Reading John 18:33-37

³³ Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

³⁴ "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

³⁵ "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

³⁶ Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

³⁷ "You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

Pilate has only one legitimate concern, and that is whether Jesus poses a threat to Rome. If Jesus is assuming the role of king, that is treason—punishable by death. However, Pilate can hardly imagine that this ordinary looking man would be trying to pass himself off as a king—so he asks, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He must anticipate that Jesus will deny the charge, given the punishment associated with a guilty verdict. The irony is that Jesus is, indeed, a king, but one who poses no threat to Rome. Jesus' question also reverses their roles—Jesus becomes the interrogator, the one asking the questions rather than the one submitting to examination.

Instead, Jesus offers an alternative to earthly kingship. "I have been born and come into the world for this: to witness to the truth" (John 18:38). The manner of Jesus' death testifies to his true identity. Those who can hear or see the message of Jesus' crucifixion see a true king; a heavenly king.

Christmas Raffle

The letter regarding this year's Christmas raffle was sent via email last week; your child will be coming home with a strip of raffle tickets today. Please support this fundraising event by purchasing one strip of tickets for one pound (£1). There are some fantastic prizes on offer!

Assembly

There will be a class assembly for **4R on Friday, 30th November 2018 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



Pantomime

For pantomime this year, the children will visit Theatre Royal, Stratford East to see Sleeping Beauty. The cost of the visit is £10.80 which includes the entrance fee and an ice cream. The classes will be visiting on the following dates:

Years 1-3 Thursday, 6th December 2018

Years 4-6 Friday, 7th December 2018

We expect the children to arrive back at school at about 5:00 pm so please make arrangements for someone to be at the school ready to collect your child.

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 12th December 2018 at 9:15 - Year 2 nativity performance

Wednesday, 12th December 2018 - Christmas lunch (unfortunately parents are not able to attend)

Thursday, 13th December 2018 at 9:15 am - EYFS nativity performance

Friday, 14th December 2018 at 6:00 pm - KS2 (Years 3-6) Carol Concert **at St Francis Church**

Wednesday, 19th December 2018 - Christmas class party celebrations

Thursday, 20th December 2018 9:30 -End of term Mass **at St Francis Church**

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.

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.

N. Scott
Head Teacher



Newham London



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