



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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2nd December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Matthew 4:18-22

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

After Jesus' death and resurrection, He took some time to talk with Peter about all he'd been through, and how he had denied Him three times. And at the end of it all, Jesus said to him: "Follow Me!" Peter had some questions; he had some things he wanted to know; he wondered what was going to happen to John, but Jesus said to him, "What is that to you? You follow Me!" "Follow Me."

And I have no doubt that this is what Jesus is telling us today too. You don't have to sit there today and wonder, "If Jesus were standing right here, what would He say to me, today?" You don't have to wonder that; we KNOW from this scripture what He would say to you — Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever — His message would be the same to you today, as it was over and over and over again in His word: it's "Follow Me!"

Advent Appeal

You should have received a recent letter about our Advent appeal this year; at St Francis' School we believe that small changes make a big difference. As a result, we are asking each child to make a small change by donating one of the items stated in the letter to the school for the NEWway Homeless Project.

This charity opened its doors to the homeless people in Newham seven years ago. Alongside running a winter night shelter, serving hot dinner and breakfast, they offer day services where their guests can have their basic needs met: have a shower, wash their clothes and take fresh clothing. Our parish church - St Francis, currently operates one of the winter night shelters.

From Monday 2nd December each class will have a large box set up that we would like to fill with donations by **Wednesday, 18th December**.



Newham London



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Christmas Raffle

The letter regarding this year's Christmas raffle was sent out recently; your child should have also come 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!

Pantomime

For pantomime this year, the children will visit Theatre Royal, Stratford East to see Dick Whittington. The cost of the visit is £11.78 which includes the entrance fee and an ice cream. The classes will be visiting on the following dates:

Years 1-3 Thursday, 5th December 2019

Years 4-6 Friday, 6th December 2019

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:

Thursday 12th December 2019 at 9:15 - Year 2 nativity performance

Thursday, 12th December 2019 - Christmas lunch (unfortunately parents are not able to attend)

Friday, 13th December 2019 at 6:00 pm - KS2 (Years 3-6) Carol Concert at St Francis Church

Wednesday, 18th December 2019 at 9:15 am - EYFS nativity performance

Thursday, 19th December 2019 - Christmas class party celebrations

Friday, 20th December 2019 9:30 -End of term Mass at St Francis Church

St Francis' School Fund

There is a payment item on ParentPay in regards to a voluntary donation to the school for activities/resources to enhance the curriculum such as resources for our focus days, concerts and other events. **The suggested fund contribution is to £40 for the year per family.** This will allow us to provide extra activities for your children to make the curriculum more hands on and practical through workshops, educational visits and special visitors/workshops in the school.

N. Scott
Head Teacher



Newham London



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