



**St Francis' Catholic Primary School**  
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7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Luke 17: 5-10**

*The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"*

*<sup>6</sup> He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.*

*<sup>7</sup> "Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat?' <sup>8</sup> Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink?' <sup>9</sup> Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"*

Jesus tells us it's not great faith you need; it is faith in a great God. Faith is like a window through which you can see something. What matters is not whether the window is six inches or six feet high; what matters is the God your faith is looking out on. If it's the creator God, the God active in Jesus and the Spirit, then the tiniest little peep-hole of a window will give you access to power like you never dreamed of.

### **St Francis Feast Day**

We enjoyed the Feast Day of our patron saint on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> October. We celebrated a lovely Mass at church followed by ice lollies from the priests at St Francis. We are proud to be a Franciscan school and hope what we share Saint Francis' peace and love everywhere we go.

### **Read with Me Venture**

We are holding a short information session for the Read With Me venture on **Tuesday 8th October at 9am for parents and carers**. The workshop is about encouraging parents to read to their children and to have fun reading with them. You will hear about the benefits of reading to your child and learn about the rewards available to everyone who takes part. **This session is open to all parents and carers of children from Nursery to Year 2.**

### **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.



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



### Parent's Evening

You will be getting a letter shortly to book an appointment for parent's evening for years 1-6 on either **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October or Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October**. Please ensure that you make an appointment to find out how your child has settled into their new class and how you can support them at home.

### Black History Celebration

Last week we began our Black History Celebration. The theme this year is "**Commemorating the struggle while celebrating the triumph**". Our focus this year is as follows:

**Early Years and Year 1 will be studying Black History through the following books:**

Early Years - Handa's Surprise/Handa's Hen by Eileen Browne

Year 1 - Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain by Verna Aardema

**Years 2 and 3 will be looking at influential people such as:**

Year 2 - The 44th president - Barak Obama

Year 3 - Mae Jemison

**Years 4-6 will be looking at significant movements in history and its impact on modern day society:**

Year 4 - The Civil Rights Movement

Year 5 - Apartheid

Year 6 - Windrush

**This will culminate in a celebratory performance for years 1-6 as follows:**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October from 2 pm - Nursery and Reception**

**Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October from 2:30 - Years 1-3**

**Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> October from 2:30 - Years 4-6**

Parents/carers and friends are warmly invited to attend to see that what the children have learned and celebrate their achievement.

### Black History Workshop

We are inviting parents from Nursery - year 6 to come into the school on **Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 9:00 am, 2:00 pm or 5:30 pm for a special workshop on "Why We Celebrate Black History"** Our children learn harmful racial preferences, standards and values every day, even though adults are not directly saying anything to them about race. Where are they learning these racial preferences from and how are they learning it? Most importantly, what can we do about it?

### Assembly

There will be a class assembly for **6R on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

There will be a class assembly for **5B on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 9:05 am**; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

N. Scott  
Head Teacher



Newham London



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