



**St Francis' Catholic Primary School**  
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4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Luke 19:1-10**

*Zacchaeus the Tax Collector*

*19 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. <sup>2</sup> A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. <sup>3</sup> He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."<sup>6</sup> So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. <sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."*

*<sup>8</sup> But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."*

*<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."*

The final passage of this section of Luke's Gospel contains Jesus' mission -- that of a Shepherd, to seek and to rescue the lost and straying. It is a servant's role. There is little glorious about this kind of work. Those lost people are in our churches, in our neighbourhoods, at our jobs, in our schools -- hurting people whose lives are messed up and who need Jesus' mercy and grace. These people need our willingness to love them rather than judge them, our willingness to go out of our way to extend ourselves in love.

### **SEND Coffee Morning at St Francis' on Tuesday 12th November**

Parents, carers and family member of pupils with additional needs are warmly invited to our Coffee Morning which will be held on Tuesday 12th November from 9am-10am. Our Speech and Language therapist will be delivering a presentation and Newham Families Advice and Support will be attending to offer help. Come and network with other parents and carers. All parents that have been invited will have received an invitation leaflet in their child's school bag. Unfortunately no crèche facilities are available.

### **Christmas Card Competition for Knights of St Columba Council, Stratford**

The annual competition to design a Christmas card for St Francis parish has begun; entries are currently being accepted from children up to 10 years old. **There is a £25 gift voucher prize for the winner. Designs should be handed in to the Parish Office by the closing date of Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



### **Black History Celebration**

Thank you to all the parents who attend the Black History celebrations on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October. Both days were very well supported by parent/carers; the children really enjoyed performing and were confident to share what they learned during Black History Month. We were lucky to have the Newham Recorder in attendance on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> October and they were very impressed by the children's performance. Please see the entire article <https://www.newhamrecorder.co.uk/news/school-hosts-black-history-month-celebration-1-6334726>

### **X7eaven Opportunity**

X7eaven is a local performing arts group that St Francis' has worked with for our Black History and International Evening performance. They have an excellent opportunity; X7eaven have teamed up with Newham Head Start to organise after school workshops at X7eaven during the week. The project takes place at X7eaven, 3 Snowberry Close, Leytonstone E15 2AH. The project is for 9 years old and up.

Tuesday - 5:00PM-6:30PM - African Drumming

Wednesday - 5:00PM-6:30PM - Song writing

Thursday - 5:00PM-6:30PM - Music Production

See X7eaven's youtube video.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZ8lwT9Smjc&lc=z23wtz044qbdyrgby04t1aokghqvnemjkatszvsaei-grk0h00410>

### **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.

### **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.

### **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

