



St Francis' Catholic Primary School  
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27<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

**John 1:29-34**

**Jesus Begins to Preach**

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— <sup>14</sup> to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

<sup>15</sup> "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,  
Galilee of the Gentiles—

<sup>16</sup> the people living in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of the shadow of death  
a light has dawned."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."  
**Jesus Calls His First Disciples**

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup> 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, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

**Jesus Heals the Sick**

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Those first disciples, for their part, might have preferred to keep their jobs, to remain with their families, to stay with the life that they knew. When they see Jesus and hear his words to them, they make a different choice, however; they take a risk, step out in faith, leave behind that which is comfortable and secure. They choose to follow Jesus. It really is that simple, we don't need to overcomplicate the choice; we just simply need to put Christ at the center of our lives and he will do the rest.

**Childcare Payments**

If you are going through Student Finance to pay for your childcare please contact the School Office for the school's registration number.



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



### Parent Workshop

The information for the parent workshop that was held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 regarding vocabulary teaching and the use of Bug Club is available on the school website <https://st-francis.newham.sch.uk/learning/>.

### Use of Social Media - Tik Tok

We are in an age of instant information! We are privileged to be in a position where we can get our questions answered instantly with the use of the internet. Social media is a great way to stay connected to friends both near and far in our busy lives. However, with great privilege comes great responsibility! Studies show that being online can affect our mood; it can make us feel angry, sad, worried, stressed, or annoyed, this can build up and start to have a negative impact on our life. As adults, we are sometimes able to manage that, but children are not developmentally ready to be able to deal with this in the same manner, therefore it is really important that they are not exposed to these pressures and expectations too early on in their development.

It has recently come to my attention that a number of children in the school are using the social networking music app Tik Tok; it gives users the ability to watch and create short clips of up to 60 seconds. This app recommends a minimum age of 13; therefore no child in St Francis' should have an account or be using this app. The videos posted can sometimes include inappropriate language and images which makes this app unsuitable for younger children. Children are referring to Tik Tok dances on the playground and names of pupils who attend St Francis' have been mentioned on some of these videos.

I would like to make it clear that any child caught referring to a Tik Tok dance in the school will be brought to me for further investigation. I would also have strong concerns about safeguarding arrangements for parents who are allowing their primary school child to access this programme.

There are many pressures that our children will have to face as they grow, let's try to keep childhood as innocent as possible.

### Citizenship Weeks

We had an outstanding celebration of citizenship over the last two weeks; the message of small change making a big difference has really been well received by the children. Thank you for support for the charity bazaar we raised a total of **£529.16**, which will be donated to NEWWay Homeless charity in Newham.

### Class Assembly

There will be a class assembly for **5R on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020** at 9:05 am; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.

There will be a class assembly for **4G on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020** at 9:05 am; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.



N. Scott  
Head Teacher



Newham London

