



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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24th February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back from the half term break! We hope you were able to enjoy the week, despite the rain and we are thinking of all the people affected by the recent flooding.

Matthew 5:43-48

Eye for Eye

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'^[a] ³⁹ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. ⁴¹ If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Love for Enemies

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor'^[b] and hate your enemy.'⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Of course, people cannot so easily love those who harm and shame them. This counter-intuitive act requires prayer. So, Jesus advocates praying for enemies (5:44). This will benefit a person's right action in life. In the "Lord's Prayer" (6:9-13), this idea is in harmony with the theme of forgiveness: forgiving others who have wronged you is crucial to receiving God's forgiveness as well (6:14-15). As we begin the season of Lent later this week, we will have lots of time to reflect in prayer. Forgiveness can be one of the hardest acts that we are called to. It is often so much easier to hold a grudge and hold on to the pain of being hurt. But if we are willing to really listen to the words above from Matthew we would free our spirits and our minds to truly enjoy our relationship with God. Every day we are given a new opportunity to embrace this gift.

Book Weeks

From Tuesday, 25th February to Friday, 6th March we will be celebrating Book Weeks; this year the theme is Stories from Other Cultures. We want to share the rich diversity and culture that we have all around us.

Nursery - Asia - the runaway wok

Reception - Asia - The runaway Chapatti

Year 1 - Ghana - Anansi



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Year 2 - Ireland - The Children of Lir
Year 3 - Mali - Sundiata
Year 4 - South America - The Chaman's apprentice
Year 5 - Scandinavia - Beowulf
Year 6 - Caribbean - A thief in the village

Throughout the week the children will be involved in a variety of activities to promote the love of reading including:

- A class café where the children will be able to relax while drinking a cup of hot chocolate and enjoying a book
- Story swap where your child can choose which class he/she wants to go to and listen to a story

Lastly but by no means least, our World Book dress up day! On Thursday, 5th March 2020, we will celebrate World Book Day where the children should wear a costume based on the book they are focusing on in class or a character from one of their favorite stories. It should be a character that your child is familiar with so they can tell the rest of their class about the character and why they chose that person.

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. **100% of the money received goes on activities for the children.**

After School Clubs

The new clubs begin on Tuesday, 25th February 2020.

PE Kits

I have noticed that a number of children are not wearing the correct PE kit for school. Please ensure that your child brings the correct PE uniform each Monday and leaves it in school for the week. The PE uniform is as follows:

White polo shirt, navy shorts or navy joggers and plimsolls or black trainers in years 5 and 6.

Please ensure that your child has the correct PE uniform.

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.

Class Assembly

There will be a class assembly for 1A on Friday, 6th March 2020 at 9:05 am; parents with children in this class are warmly welcome.



N. Scott
Head Teacher



Newham London

Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

