



St Francis' Catholic Primary School  
Maryland Park  
Stratford  
London E15 1HB

Tel: 020 8534 0476  
Email: [info@st-francis.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-francis.newham.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.st-francis.newham.sch.uk](http://www.st-francis.newham.sch.uk)

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

The children continue to settled back into school routines and develop their stamina for completing school work throughout the day. The children's emotional well-being remains our priority as a school as we ensure opportunities for prayer several times a day and weekly well-being lessons.

### **John 12:20-33**

#### **Jesus Predicts His Death**

*<sup>20</sup> Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.*

*<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.*

*<sup>27</sup> "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.*

*<sup>30</sup> Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up<sup>[a]</sup> from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.*

In every death, there is life - this is the big message of Lent and of Easter. The grain of wheat will die and will through death nourish us with food. In the death of relationships, of health, of faith and all that may be dear to us there is always the invitation to deeper life. In our final death is the call to everlasting life.

#### **Mask/Face Covering**

Please remember that we are asking all parents to wear a mask or face covering while dropping off and collecting their child each day to keep us all safe.



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## Lateral Flow (Rapid) Covid Tests

School staff have had access to weekly lateral flow (rapid) testing since February. This is to help stop the spread of the virus by identifying asymptomatic people who are positive. As a part of the government initiative to further support this you can order kits to test your household, childcare bubble or support bubble if at least one member:

- is a school, nursery or college pupil
- works in a school, nursery or college (this includes temporary workers or volunteers)
- works in an [occupation related to a school, nursery or college](#)

A test kit contains 7 tests. You can order one test kit per household each day.

A flatshare or house share counts as a household.

### **Who this service is for**

You can only use this service if:

- you're 18 or older
- you live in England
- you do not have coronavirus symptoms
- you have not been told to self-isolate
- you or someone in your household, childcare or support bubble attends a primary school, a nursery, a secondary school, a sixth form, a college, or works at one
- you cannot get tests from a test site or your work

Test kits can be ordered at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

## Easter Holidays

The school will be closing for the Easter holidays on **Thursday, 1st April 2021 at 2:00 pm**. There will be no after school clubs or Tea Time Club on this day.

**School will reopen on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 with the usual time.**

If your child develops symptoms or tests positive for coronavirus over the Easter holidays please contact the school immediately at [info@st-francis.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-francis.newham.sch.uk)

## Sky News Visit

On Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021, we had a visit from Sky News to speak to the children about their return to school after the most recent lockdown. As usual, the children were articulate and



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confident in their communication and were great representatives of the school. The video can be found on the school website at <https://st-francis.newham.sch.uk/>

### Reading Books

We have returned to sending reading books home to support the children's home learning and the development of their reading skills. As a result, children will bring home reading books on Monday each week that needs to be returned on Thursday; books will only be collected on Thursdays. Any books that are returned after that date may not be changed.

### Let's Get Active

The children in year 3 and 4 had cycle training last week to help develop their skills and confidence for cycling. As the weather is starting to warm up, it would be good to see our children and families using more active modes of transport such as cycling, walking or using a scooter to get to school.

From the 19<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 the school will be taking part in the Big Pedal, encourage your child(ren) to take active journeys to school on as many days as possible during the event, and join them on their way. Or, if your child(ren) are learning from home, take active journeys from home with them or encourage them to do physical activity on as many days as possible instead.

### Parents' Conference Meetings

Letters for the parents' conference meetings for years 1-6 were sent out last week. These meetings will be on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March and will be held via Zoom. **Please see attached the Zoom guidance and protocols for the meetings, please ensure you familiarize yourself with this information. We will send the Zoom links in a separate message before the meetings.**

The parents' conference meetings for Nursery and Reception will be on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April and Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> April. Letters for these meetings will be sent out after the Easter holidays.

God Bless



Natasha Scott  
Head Teacher



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