

4<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Dear Parent/Carers,

### **John 10:11-18**

#### ***The Vine and the Branches***

**15** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

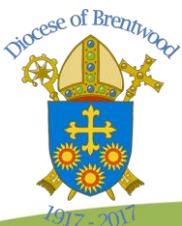
Jesus is telling us that the very core of our existence is to be connected with him. He invites me to 'abide', to rest, to stay, to remain in him, so the divine life flows in and through us.

The fruits of our Christian life are the work of God. Each of us can see the life and work of God in others - in ministry, in love, in commitment, courage, endurance, and ordinary daily kindness and compassion. Each of us, too, is gifted in some unique way. We can bear fruit for God in a way nobody else can. Prayer helps us recognise the fruits, develop them and offer them in the service of God and God's people.

### **Well-being/RSE Week**

During the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> May we will have a Well-being focus week. At the same time we will be looking at our RSE topics using the Diocesan recommended programme, ***Journey in Love***. As a part of this programme, a different aspect of the mystery of love is explored in each year group and all are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God's creative love. This is reflected in each stage of a person's growth, through a series of lessons with activities and reflections which focus on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development.

**Please see attached a guide to the Journey in Love programme.**



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

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In addition, parents with children in years 5 and 6 have been invited to a virtual coffee morning on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 at 9:30 am**, to have an outline on how the programme is organised and what will be covered in each year group. We hope to have the school nurse present at this meeting to share the role she will have in supporting the delivery of the programme. The children in years 5 and 6 will be learning about God's love in their changing and development-*Puberty* and God's love in creating new life-*How babies are created*.

### **Anxiety Workshop**

The national lock downs and pandemic have caused increased anxiety/worry in children across the country and St Francis' Primary School is no exception to that. Some children may be anxious about coming to school or other activities. As result, one of our external partners, Laura Stagg from Achievement for All will be leading a workshop for parents to discuss strategies for dealing with anxiety. If you are interested please book one of the slots below. A zoom link will be sent to you to prior to the meeting. All responses must be completed by **Friday, 7th May 2021**.

Please book the session using the link below

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcQn8TOopt9CftdnciHtLJ1Qu1spu0s\\_zoc3Ugo9X3mi4Xg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcQn8TOopt9CftdnciHtLJ1Qu1spu0s_zoc3Ugo9X3mi4Xg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### **Citizenship Weeks**

The generosity of our families continues to be overwhelming! We have raised **£1583.72** for our Citizenship Weeks fundraising for **Magpie Project**. This project is a part of our local community which provides a safe and fun place for mums and under-fives suffering in temporary or insecure accommodation.

In order to raise funds for this charity we hosted a 'Well-being Marathon', where the children asked parents, friends and relatives to sponsor them to complete a circuit of activities which will include skipping, running, jumping etc.

### **School Uniform**

As we move into the summer term, please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform and that the uniform fits your child appropriately. Please check the school's website for a reminder on the school uniform <https://st-francis.newham.sch.uk/parents-carers/school-uniform/>

The uniform supplier is Ian Howard - <https://www.ianhowardschoolwear.com/>

### **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

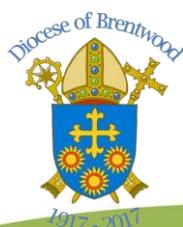
Test kits can be ordered at:

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

God Bless,



Natasha Scott  
Head Teacher



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