



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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29th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

New International Version

³⁴ "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

Advent is a season of hope and expectation. We are invited to prepare joyfully for the coming of Christ. He comes in history (his conception and birth), in mystery (through the sacraments, and especially the Eucharist), and in majesty (at the Last Day). In the first weeks of Advent the stress is on this third coming in majesty. Hence today's gospel which we have already prayed with in recent days. The old liturgical year ended, and the new one has begun, with our calling to mind the Lord's final coming at the end of time. We look forward to it with happy anticipation, not with fear.

Letter from Bishop Alan

Please see attached Bishop Alan's Pastoral Letter for the First Sunday of Advent.

Class Assembly - 5R

We will celebrate the work that 5R is doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Thursday, 2nd December at 9:05 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend.

Coronavirus Update

As you are aware there is a new variant of concern called the Omicron variant. As a result, the Department for Education (DfE) guidance has changed and staff are required to wear a face covering in communal areas (but not in the classroom), visitors are also required to wear a face covering when in the school as well as pupils in year 7 and above.



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Peace, Love, Knowledge



As a school, we decided to return to wearing face coverings at the end of last week due to the rise in Covid cases in schools; we are reviewing our Covid measurements to ensure that we are keeping everyone as safe as possible. However, it is vital that you do not send your child to school if they have any Covid symptoms.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the above symptoms please schedule a PCR test.

Christmas Events

As we draw closer to the end of term there are a number of school events to celebrate Christmas, please make note of the dates and times below:

Wednesday 15th December 2021 at 9:15 - Reception nativity performance

Thursday, 16th December 2021 at 9:15 am - Year 2 Christmas performance

Thursday, 16th December 2021 - Christmas lunch (unfortunately parents are not able to attend)

Friday, 17th December 2021 at 1:45 pm - KS2 (Years 3-6) Carol Concert **at St Francis Church**

Monday, 20th December 2021 - Christmas class party celebrations

Due to the current situation we are only able to extend the invitation to the events above to one adult per child.

For the Christmas Carol concert we will ask parents to express a desire to attend, but we will have to limit the number of parents that can attend due to the current situation. However, we will live stream the event from the Church. We will provide more information about this in the coming days.

Cycle Confident

The London Borough of Newham is committed to making cycling a safe, enjoyable and practical method of transport in the borough. Anybody who lives, works or studies in the borough is entitled to the following free services:

FREE Cycle Skills: Get tailored training at a level suited to your needs, or book a lesson for the family (with up to three participants)! Choose from Basic (off-road environment), Urban (quiet local roads) or Advanced (complex junctions and busy roads).

<https://www.cycleconfident.com/sponsors/newham/>

Scooters and Bikes on the Playground

We are pleased with how many children are developing their physical skills and keeping active by riding their bikes or scooters to school. However, we have recently had accidents where children were injured on the playground due to bikes and scooters. **Please be reminded that children are not allowed on**



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their bikes and scooters on the playground, this is dangerous. Children should get off their bikes and scooters when they enter the school gates and should not get back on their bikes and scooters until they have left the school gates.

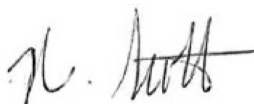
PE uniform

There is an optional sweatshirt as a part of the PE uniform; this is particularly helpful in the colder months for PE and for children who represent the school at competitions. The sweatshirt can be purchased in store or from the Ian Howard website; it is available in sizes up to 13 years. Please call Ian Howard to inquire about larger sizes at 020 8472 1729.

St Francis' Fund

St Francis' School Fund is 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 fund contribution is to £40 for the year. There is a payment item for this on ParentPay.

God Bless.



N. Scott
Head Teacher

