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6th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

5 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret,^[a] the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

⁵ Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Peter invited Jesus into one of his most precious and important possessions - his boat. This was the means of his livelihood and gave him status among the others. Peter also allowed Jesus to tell him where to fish, handing over control of this boat and his own life to Jesus. In prayer we invite Jesus into the most personal and important places of our lives. We also allow him take possession of us, giving all that we can to him. From Peter's boat, he spoke to the crowds; from our lives he speaks to people today.

Half Term Break

The school will be closed for the half term break from Monday, 14th February to Friday, 18th February. We will re-open as normal on Monday, 21st February 2022.

The school will also be closed on Friday, 25th February for a training day.

After School Clubs

The message for the new clubs for after half term was sent out recently. The closing date to book clubs is Thursday, 10th February. The new clubs will begin on Monday 21st February.



Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

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Safer Internet Week

Safer Internet Day 2022 will be celebrated on 8th February with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

The best way to address any problems children have online, is to tell a trusted adult immediately. For example, this might include someone sending them a friend request; an online message that upsets or worries them; someone telling them to visit a specific website, or app; or asking them for their personal information. Reassure them that if anything happens online that they are unsure about, or makes them feel worried or upset, they should come to you for help.

Parents and carers, see how you can start a conversation with your child by watching this short clip from the UK Safer Internet Centre.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94ILqgg_3f4&t=12s

Unfortunately, for parents the internet can be very worrying. We know how much it can support our children's learning, however we know it can also make our children vulnerable.

As our children are spending an increasing amount of time on the Internet, is it important that we are able to support them to understand how to be safe.

Technology is fast paced and it can be difficult to keep up; please join us for our Internet Safety Workshop on **Thursday, 10th February at 9:00 am** to understand what children think about using the internet and how we can keep our children safe. Please click on the link below to register for this workshop

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHGF9YzjMcbORib2z6W_Tsm1024tI9-w67naZp2HE_se7m1g/viewform?usp=sf_link

World Book Weeks

During the weeks beginning the 21st February and 28th February we will be celebrating World Book Weeks. This year's theme is *Fantastic lands*. When you open the pages of a book you step into a parallel universe. You can discover new worlds, fantastic lands or even see reflections and alternative versions of the real world in the stories that you read.

During these two weeks the children will engage in a variety of activities to celebrate reading and our love of books. The books that the children will be focusing on are below:

Nursery - Rapunzel

Reception - Jack and the beanstalk

Year 1 - Peter Pan

Year 2 - Room on the broom

Year 3 - Alice in Wonderland

Year 4 - Narnia C.S. Lewis

Year 5 - The Wizard of Oz

Year 6 - A Winkle in Time



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This will culminate on Thursday, 3rd March 2022, when the children will dress up as a character from a fantasy land story.

RE Survey

We sent a survey out to parents at the beginning of the term regarding the religious education provision that we provide at St Francis'. Unfortunately, we had a low number of responses; your opinion is very valuable, therefore we are asking parents to just take a few minutes to complete the survey using the link below. **If you already completed the survey previously, please complete it again using the link below**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmECiTUKnQ-vrFFANegs3VxzS2U1JkGQQ+ADVhgLJJmkFIZA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Free School Meals

Please check to see if your child is eligible for free school meals; eligible children may receive holiday vouchers to support with food purchase during holiday times. Please check to see if your child is qualifies <https://www.newham.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals/2>.

Citizenship Fortnight

Our whole hearted thank you to the parents/carers who supported the Danceathon, we raised **£2572.52** for the NEWway Project. I continue to be amazed by the generosity of our families!

Class Assembly

The 2P class assembly has been rescheduled.

We will celebrate the work that **5B** is doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on Thursday, 10th March 2022 at 9:05 am. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

As I am sure you are aware, we are celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year. In honour of this, there are two bank holidays on the 2nd and 3rd June (during the school's half term break). As a result, schools have been asked to set aside an additional day in their school calendar for this additional bank holiday; **therefore, on Monday, 6th June the school will be closed for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We will reopen on Tuesday, 7th June 2022.**

In addition, we have had to change our last staff training day to Friday, 25th February 2022.

Coronavirus Update

As we continue to deal with the unprecedented increase in positive cases of coronavirus, it is important that we continue to be vigilant and ensure that pupils do not attend school if they have any 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)



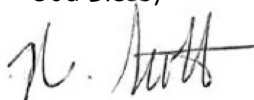
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- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've 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 take a lateral flow test (LFT). Please ensure that your child remains at home while he or she has tested positive. If your child has a negative lateral flow test on day 5th and 6th of their isolation (at least 24 hours apart), they can return to school on the 6th day. Please see the attached flowchart for more information.

God Bless,



N. Scott
Head Teacher



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