



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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3rd October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Luke 17:5-10

⁵ *The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"*

⁶ *He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.*

⁷ *"Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat?' ⁸ Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink?' ⁹ Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"*

Jesus draws attention to the greatness hidden in something tiny. We too are tiny, but God empowers those who truly follow him to do great things. God can work through us, beyond all our hopes and dreams, when we do not get in the way.

Black History Month Celebration

Last week was the beginning of our annual Black History Month celebration. At St Francis' we are committed to racial and social justice. We realize that Africa is the home of the world's most ancient civilizations. However, due to slavery and colonialism, African cultures and civilizations have been ignored or have determined to have little value.

Therefore, we are committed to celebrating Black History as one of the many celebrations of diversity within our curriculum. It's important all our children see themselves reflected in history. It provides all of us with a deeper understanding of world history.

Our Black History topics this year are below:

Nursery and Reception: (Kenya) Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain - The Maasai

Y1: Mansa Musa, The Richest Man in the World

Y2: The Mali Empire and Timbuktu

Y3: Kingdom of Ghana

Y4: Great Zimbabwe

Y5: Kush / Nubia

Y6: Aksum/Ethiopia and Artefacts Debate



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Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott



The children would like to share what they have learned during our studies with you at the times below. We would ask that the parents from the year groups listed below attend on their allocated day to ensure that everything runs smoothly:

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5 on Thursday, 20th October from 2:30 – 3:10 pm
Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 on Friday, 21st October from 2:30 – 3:10 pm.

Class Assembly – 6G

We will celebrate the work that **6G** is doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on Thursday, 10th November at 9:05 am. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend.

Parent Advice and Support

We are in difficult times and need to try to support each other as best as we can. The school website has an advice and support section with links to organizations that can provide legal advice, debt management advice and food banks.

<https://st-francis.newham.sch.uk/parents-carers/advice-and-support/>

If you need further advice or support please go to the school office and request an appointment with the Head Teacher.

Newham Libraries

There are ten libraries across Newham, each offering a range of services and community activities. As well as a fantastic selection of books and other reading material of course. **The libraries also provide free computer and internet access.**

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/libraries-arts-culture/newham-library-services>

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 no one (parents and children) is allowed on their bikes and scooters on the playground, this is dangerous. Children and parents 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.

Half Term Break

The school will be closed for the half term break from Monday 24th October 2022 to Friday, 29th October 2022.

The school will also be closed on Monday, 31st October 2022 for a staff training day and will re-open as normal on Tuesday, 1st November 2022.

All Saints Mass

We will celebrate the Feast of All Saints at St Francis Church on Tuesday, 1st November at 9:30 am. Parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.



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Curriculum Meetings

This week we will be holding the Nursery parents' meeting. The meeting will provide information about the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum, what your child will be learning throughout the year, how you can help your child at home and how to apply for full time school for your child for September 2023.

Thursday 6th October 2022 at 5:30 p.m. - Nursery

Unfortunately, crèche facilities are not available for these meetings.

God Bless,



N. Scott

Head Teacher



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