



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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15th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

John 14:15-21

¹⁵ "If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be ¹⁸ in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit, whom he calls the Spirit of Truth. This is the Spirit who reveals to us the truth of who we are - children of God within whom God lives. We hold within ourselves a spark of the Divine! Let us sit quietly with this thought in the presence of God.

Ascension Day Mass

The children will be celebrating Ascension Day at Mass on Thursday, 18th May at 9:30 am in St Francis of Assisi Church. Parents are warmly invited to attend.

Relationship and Health Education

In the academic year 2020/21, Relationships Education and Health Education became statutory in all primary schools in England. This new subject has built on the non-statutory lessons we had previously taught in RSE.

As a Catholic school, our mission is to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all of our pupils, rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Church. The education of children in human sexuality is an important, precious and privileged responsibility. The Church teaches us that this is very much a partnership with parents, in which parents are the 'first educators' of their children on these matters; ultimately, you confer on us the right to co-educate your children with you.

We have been researching various programmes that are available and have decided to adopt **Life to the Full** by Ten Ten Resources. Ten Ten is an award-winning Catholic educational organisation that is well-respected and very experienced in this field of work.



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Headteacher: Ms Natasha Scott

Life to the Full has been approved by our diocese. Furthermore, Ten Ten have entered into a partnership with the Catholic Education Service and the Department for Education to provide training for teachers in Catholic schools on the subject of the new statutory curriculum. Therefore, we are confident that this programme is a very good fit for our school.

Through their programme, Ten Ten understand the foundational role that parents have in educating and nurturing their children on these matters. Within the programme, they have built in resources which will not only keep you informed about what is being taught in school, but will also give you the opportunity to engage your children in discussion, activity and prayer.

We would like to invite you to a **coffee morning on May 16th 2023 at 9:00 am and again at 5:30 pm (please note updated date)** to explore the programme and have key discussions regarding the teaching of certain topics.

We hope that our approach not only assures you about the new subject we are going to undertake; we hope that this will be an important and exciting opportunity for our entire school community.

Please book to attend using the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeE6WDqS5Z_DbOTj9JJAR2TJkcppSiR6HIpuPDSHP4XS-fxkg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Knife Crime Workshop

Knife crime is a significant issue in many parts of London, and it is crucial to educate ourselves as parents about the dangers of carrying knives. As a result, we are providing knife crime workshops for parents on Thursday, 18th May 2023 at 9:15 am and 5:30 pm to talk about the causes of knife crime and what we can do to keep our children and young people safe. We often hear of knife crime incidents and wonder what if anything could have been done to prevent this from happening; this workshop will help to develop your understanding of the causes.

The knife crime workshops will be delivered by Chris Grandison, who is a teacher with almost 20 years of experience working in schools in East London. He has worked with schools across Newham to educate pupils, parents and staff on the causes of knife crime.

The same information will be repeated at both sessions so please book to attend either at 9:15 am or 5:30 pm.

Please click on the link below to book a place on the knife crime workshop that will be taking place on Thursday, 18th May for all parents:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8bxbQPQYrIyGzm9UihXLJZiBhtM-zYbS_yTVMnwzmZmLPA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Assemblies

We will celebrate the work that **1K** are doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Thursday, 18th May at 9:05 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend.



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We will celebrate the work that **Reception O** are doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Thursday, 25th May at 9:05 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend.

Half Term Break

The school will be closed for the half term break from Monday 29th May to Friday, 2nd June 2023. School will re-open as normal on Monday, 5th June 2023.

Club Letter

The clubs for Summer 2 will be available on ParentPay on Tuesday, 16th May. The new clubs begin on Monday, 5th June 2023.

School Uniform

As we draw closer to the end of the academic year; just a reminder about the uniform policy when you are purchasing uniforms for September.

The uniform policy is available on the website for further reference

<https://st-francis.newham.sch.uk/parents-carers/school-uniform/>

As you replenish your child's school uniform for September please be aware of acceptable school shoe. Please be aware that boots are not acceptable school shoes. We allowed boots during the period of snow and ice, however children need to return to wearing their school shoes.



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 a



member of the senior leadership team.

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>

God Bless,



N. Scott
Head Teacher



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