



St Francis' Catholic Primary School
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Dear Parent/Carer,

Mark 4:23-34

The Parable of the Growing Seed

²⁶ He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷ Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸ All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹ As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰ Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³² Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."

³³ With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴ He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Seeds grow when the conditions are right. They need light, heat and energy. God's kingdom of love grows slowly and demands patience and faith. From even the tiniest seed planted in a soul, the Kingdom of God can grow so that the person who trusts in God is a source of nourishment and care for others.

Well-being Week

Next week is our well-being week! The theme this year is My Voice Matters. Everyone has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

Through out the week the children will have lessons on this topic to support their well-being.

"Research has shown that being empowered can have a positive impact on a person's health and wellbeing. For example, children and young people who feel that their voices are heard—and that what they say makes a difference—have a higher level of self-efficacy and self-esteem. They have a greater sense of community—and as people become empowered, they can work together to create positive changes for themselves and others." Place2Be

On **Tuesday, 18th June**, we will celebrate **Express Yourself Day**. We are different—we all have different things that make us tick and that brings a smile to our face. As a result, we encourage the

children to let their personality shine through your favourite colour. **Children will wear their favourite colour in addition to their uniform. This can be through adding socks of their favourite colour, hair bands, etc. along with their school uniform.**

During the week beginning 17th June, we will also teach our relationship and sex education (RSE) lessons across the school. For the teaching of RSE we use a programme called Ten:Ten; the parents in years 5 and 6 attended meetings recently that provided information about this programme. The Ten:Ten programme, 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 that 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 Please see attached parent guide about the teaching of RSE at St Francis'.

Sports Days

We will have our annual sports days for this year as follows:

Wednesday, 19th June 2024 - EYFS Sports Day at St. Francis' School

Thursday, 20th June 2024 - KS1 Sports Day at St Francis' School

Friday, 21st June 2024 - KS2 Sports Day at West Ham Park

Sports day starts at 9:30 each day, parents are warmly invited to attend.

Children should attend school in their full PE kits for the day (please see information below about appropriate PE kit).

PE Kit

- The school's PE kit consists of:
- White polo shirt
- Navy shorts or navy joggers
- Plimsolls or black trainers in year 5 and 6

Cycling shorts or tights are not permitted.

Also available for the PE uniform is a PE sweatshirt this can be worn for outdoor PE and after school clubs. Children should not have PE lessons in their blazers or cardigans/jumpers. I would strongly encourage parents to invest in the PE sweatshirt.

International Weeks

This year our annual International Weeks celebration will be from 24th June to 5th July. Over these two weeks the children will be looking at the culture of various countries including the history, food, music, etc. This will culminate in our **International Evening Celebration on Friday, 5th July 2024 from 6:00 p.m.**

We are asking parents to support us by ensuring that the child(ren) return to school at 5:30 in order to change into their costumes and get into their appropriate groups.

The Nursery and Reception children will have their International Celebration on Friday, 5th July 2024 from 2:30 pm.

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 over the next few months and in September please be aware of acceptable school shoe. Please be aware that trainers and boots are not acceptable school shoes.



God Bless,

N. Scott
Head Teacher