



10th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year! Best wishes for a healthy and happy year ahead.

Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, "I baptize you with^[a] water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire.

The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

As brothers and sisters of Christ, we are all beloved sons and daughters of God. But do we really believe this? If not, what are the obstacles preventing us from doing so?

Citizenship Fortnight

The week beginning 10th January and 17th January 2022, we will celebrate our annual Citizenship Fortnight. The theme this year in 'Building Bridges'. There are many reasons why we build bridges:

- To direct traffic over an obstacle
- To connect people in different communities, allowing them to interact for work or play
- To improve relationships between people who are very different or do not like each other

During Citizenship Fortnight we will be focusing on building bridges between people by celebrating our differences and showing tolerance and understanding towards those who are different to us. We will focus on the principles of **Catholic Social Teachings (CST)** through our current RE topic.

We will also share some of the ideas in Pope Francis' ***Fratelli Tutti (all brother and sisters)***; this offers a blueprint for a world after coronavirus. It turns the world upside down, placing human dignity at the centre; it links back to the message of connectedness which was also at the heart of *Laudato Si'* (praise be to you). ***Laudato Si'*** is a personal invitation to everyone to pray and act to cherish God's creation and strive for justice for the world's poorest people.

The children will be taking part in some fundraising activities; more information will follow shortly.

Class Assembly - Class 6

We will celebrate the work that Class 6 is doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Friday, 28th January 2022 at 9:30 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend. Due to the current circumstances we can only allow one parent per child to attend.

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for your generosity for Christmas Jumper Day; we raised £160.00

School Uniform

It is important that children are wearing the correct school uniform. Please note the school uniform expectations on the school's website

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

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.**

Coronavirus Update

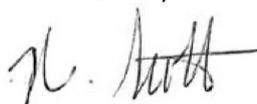
As we continue to deal with the unprecedented increase in positive cases of coronavirus, it is important that we continue to be vigilant and ensure that pupils do not attend school if they have any symptoms.

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)
- 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 if he or she has tested positive. If your child has a negative lateral flow test on day 6th and 7th of their isolation, they can return to school on the 8th day.

God Bless,



N. Scott
Head Teacher