



10th 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.

Altar Servers

There is a registration and initial training session for those wanting to be altar servers on **Monday 28 February at 6.45pm at St Michael's Church**. The prospective servers will need to have already received their First Holy Communion and so this would be for those in Year 4 and above.

Half Term Break

The school 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.

Safer Internet Week

On Tuesday, 8th February we celebrated Safer Internet Day 2022 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

RWI Workshop for Parents (Reception to Year 2)

Reading is an important and essential skill. One of the ways that children are taught to read is through synthetic phonics. We changed our phonics programme in March 2021 to the Read Write Inc programme for children in Reception to year 2. We would like an opportunity to share this programme with parents and discuss how they can help their children at home with reading in a RWI workshop for parents on **Thursday 24th February at 9.00 am**. Please book using the link <https://forms.gle/L5xNoDT6eULSufkD6>

Librarian Needed

We have a fantastic school library that is overflowing with rich and exciting books, however we need some support to get the library running again so that the children can take books out regularly. If you are able to spare any time to volunteer in our school library please contact the school at admin@st-michaels.newham.sch.uk

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 - Cinderella, Jack and the Giant Beanstalk

Reception - Jack and the beanstalk/ Rapunzel

Year 1 - The Journey

Year 2 - The Twits

Year 3 - The BFG

Year 4 - The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by CS Lewis

Year 5 - Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo

Year 6 - Alice in Wonderland

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

Class Assembly - Class 5

We will celebrate the work that Class 5 is doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Friday, 25th February 2022 at 9:15 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.

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 qualified <https://www.newham.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals/2>.

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 while he or she has tested positive. If your child has a negative lateral flow test (at least 24 hours apart) on day 5th and 6th of their isolation, they can return to school on the 6th day. Please see the attached flowchart for more information.

God Bless,



N. Scott
Head Teacher