



31st January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

²⁵ "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." ²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

Jesus not only preached the Good News in what he said but more so by what he did. Today's Gospel story shows us a person who spoke with a courage and a wisdom that struck the ordinary people with its ring of authority.

For a few moments of prayer let yourself notice and admire what the people were so impressed with about Jesus.

Parent consultation meeting regarding Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy

We sent out a letter recently informing you that, after careful consideration [and preliminary discussion with the Diocese], the Governing Body at St Michael's Catholic Primary School have decided that they wish to explore conversion to Academy status and, in particular, joining the Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy Trust, with the following Catholic Primary Schools: St Antony's, St Edward's, St Francis', St Helen's, St Joachim's and St Winefride's. We are writing to consult with staff, parents, local community to determine whether the School should proceed with conversion and we would like to invite your views on the matter.

The governors are consulting with everyone associated with our School before Governors meet again to make a final decision. There will be an open meeting for you to come and raise any queries you may have or make comments about this on **2nd February 2024 at 2:30 pm in the school hall**. If you are unable to make this meeting but would like to ask any questions or make any comments please either telephone and ask to speak to the Head Teacher or email us at info@stmichaels.newham.sch.uk us by 9:00 am on Thursday, 2nd February 2024.

Half term break

The school will be closed for the half term break from Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday, 16th February 2024.

The school will also be closed on Monday, 19th February for a staff training day and will re-open on Tuesday, 20th February 2024 as normal.

Safer Internet Day

On **Tuesday 6th February** we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating **Safer Internet Day 2024**.

Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

This year the campaign will be focusing on change online, this includes covering:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online
- The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre has created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents.

Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or Ms Pereira, the Computing Leader.

Class Assembly

Class Assembly we will celebrate the work that **Class 3** are doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Thursday, 8th February 2024 at 9:15 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcome to attend.

We will celebrate the work that **Class 4** are doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Friday, 9th February 2024 at 9:15 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcome to attend.

Nuts in School

We have noticed children in school recently with snacks that contain nuts.

Just a reminder that St Michael's does not allow food containing nuts in school; we have an increasing number of pupils in our school who have nut allergies. Anaphylaxis (allergic reaction) can occur as a result of digestion, inhalation or any other contact with nut-based products. For their safety, all nut-based products have been banned from the school premises.

Please do not send your child into school with any nut-based product for packed lunch or for a special birthday treat- this includes products that may contain traces of nuts.

Potential allergens could include the following:

- Spreads, e.g. chocolate spread
- Cereal bars
- Some types of biscuit containing nuts
- Condiments, e.g. satay sauce
- Cakes containing nuts
- Some snack pots containing nuts

It is important that you check the labelling of food products before sending your child in to school with them - it is not always apparent that products contain nuts or traces of nuts.

Due to the severity of the allergy, if any pupil is found with a nut-based product, the school will confiscate it and contact parents straight away.

We appreciate your continued support to ensure that our children remain safe.

Items during the School Day

The children should come to school each day with all the items that they need for the school day i.e. PE bag, packed lunch, etc. The school days are very busy and we are getting an increasing number of items that are dropped off to the school office. This can be quite disruptive to the effectiveness of the school; we do not often have additional adults in the classroom to go and collect these items and the staff in the office are not always available to bring these items to the children in their class. We are asking for your support to ensure that your child has everything they need and your understanding in that items you deliver during the school day can be disruptive.

Citizenship Fortnight Fundraiser

Thank you for your support and generosity with the cake sale fundraiser. We raised **£233.66** for cancer support/research.

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/>

God Bless,



N. Scott

Acting Executive Head Teacher