

21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents

It was wonderful to see such an array of red in the school today to show our support for the “show racism the red card” campaign <https://www.theredcard.org/> Thank you for engaging with this so positively.

**Assemblies** – On Monday I spoke to the children about black history month and why this was first introduced in 1987 in the UK, as a way to bring positivity against a backdrop of racism and prejudice. As a white woman I have learnt a lot from my black husband and his family. There is still much to be done to ensure people are treated equally regardless of their colour or ethnicity. I shared a range of successful black British people and have put the assembly onto Google Classroom and Tapestry for anyone who would like to take a look. On Tuesday Mrs Kells read a story to the children about Wilma Rudolph. Wilma suffered from polio as a child but did not let this stop her from striving to succeed as a world record breaking Olympic athlete on track and field. The message from the story was to never give up, no matter what difficulties you may face. On Wednesday nearly a third of the Year 4 classes performed on musical instruments for the pleasure of the children and their parents. We heard pieces on the piano, keyboard, violin, guitar, recorder and cello. A short video has been posted onto the Year 4 Google Classroom pages for you to watch.

**Visits to St Monica’s Church** – This week, our Year 2 children visited St Monica’s church. Anna, our parish catechist had planned a lovely morning where the children had to locate various items in the church such as: the statue of St Monica, the font, the tabernacle, the sacristy and so on. It was a very informative morning and the children were brilliantly behaved.

**Literacy meeting for Reception parents** – If you were able to attend the meeting about Literacy on Thursday night or Friday morning, I hope you found it useful. All the handouts can be found on our school website by clicking the following link <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/learning/reception/phonics-and-reading/>

**Last week’s Quiz Night** – Last Friday was a most enjoyable evening as Mrs Tottle-Nugent and her husband Jim put everyone through their paces with the quiz. The final figure of profit was in the region of just over £2,000 and so we are well on our way to buying another set of chrome books. Thank you to everyone for supporting this event so generously and for the Friends’ organisation.

**Internet safety** – I have found a website which offers free courses for parents about how to keep your child safe online. For details, click here <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/training>

### **Diary Dates**

- **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October** – school is closed for a teacher training day
- **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November** – school open as usual
- **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – School photo day. Children will have individual photos taken as well as photos with their siblings (who are in school), which you can then buy. The school receives commission for any photos purchased which is then used to buy resources for the children such as reading books.
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 7pm and repeated Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 9.15am, Literacy meeting for parents in Years 2 and 3 in the Infant hall.** Details to follow after half term.
- **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Non-uniform day for children in St Francis (green) and St Theresa’s (blue)** who were joint winners for this half term’s house points!
- **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm – Open afternoon for prospective Reception parents for 2023.** Tell all your friends to come and visit if they have a child who reaches their fourth birthday between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.
- **Week beginning Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – An opportunity to meet your child’s class teacher. All the dates and times and how to book an appointment will be emailed to parents after half term. Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> has been designated for face to face meetings only, the other appointments on other days will be online.
- **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30-7pm – Book Fair** – Books on sale on the stage area of the main hall.
- **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Wear odd socks to school** – This is in support of national anti-bullying week.
- **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Happy bag clothes collection** – If you’re having a clear out over half term, keep any unwanted clothes that are clean and in good condition. Happy Bag also accept paired shoes, bags, cosmetics and other items (details to follow). We receive money for each kg received which The Friends can then use to buy resources for your children.
- **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 7pm – St Cecilia Music Concert** in the main school hall. Choir and orchestra to perform, all families welcome.
- **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle for the Christmas Bazaar**
- **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas disco for all children run by the staff after school** – details to follow.

Have a lovely half term holiday and see you all back in school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Kind regards

Kate Baptiste, Headteacher