



St Elizabeth
Catholic Primary
School
Newsletter
Spring Term No 1
3rd February 2017



Message from the Headteacher, Ms Angelina John

Dear Parents & Children

Welcome back to the new term which has started and almost at the end of the first half! There was a great turn out at the parent-teacher-child meetings. There were many positive comments and a few suggestions for us to follow up on. Thank you to the parents who signed in and left their comments on 'Parent View' <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> it is important that we get your views.

Bishop Nicholas Hudson will be visiting the school on Thursday 9th February. We will have a prayer service in the morning and parents are invited—more information to follow.

International day—Can you guess how many languages are spoken by children and parents at St Elizabeth school?

Find me in the playground and let me know your guess. I would like to see as many countries represented on the stalls—sampling your food, traditional dress, history and culture. I am sure the Bishop would also like to sample some of your culinary delights.

Junior SLAMBassadors, run by the Schools Library Service and The Poetry Society, has engaged primary school children in Tower Hamlets for the last two years. It is a project that will focus not only the participants' literacy and oracy, but also crucially on their emotional literacy.

This year the programme used the theme of **Identity** to encourage participants to think about the diversity of the world around them; from the local to the global. It allows them to make links between their motherlands and the East End of London, and explore their place in the world. I had the pleasure in accompanying a group of Y5&Y6 to Rich Mix to perform and compete against 5 other schools. Christian's work is evident as our team came home with two trophies! The children did a sterling job and I was so proud of them. The feelings and thoughts put into the poems made their performance second to none. Well done... see inside for their brilliant poems.



Coffee Morning every Friday 9.00am-9.30am in the Community House

Volunteer at your child's school

Would you like to volunteer at school i.e. support in the classroom/school trips and help in the library. There will be an assessment day on Thursday 23rd February 9.00am-11.30am in the Community House. Come along to find out more about the volunteer programme.

1E SAYS...



We innovated on the story of Mr Gumpy's Outing. Look at our Amazing stories ! Ms John was very impressed.

This term we have been learning about how to write a recount. We went on a trip to Pizza Express and got to make pizza. We have written some great recounts of our trip. In topic we have been learning about the different countries that make up the UK. We had a guest speaker come in to tell us all about Wales.

1G



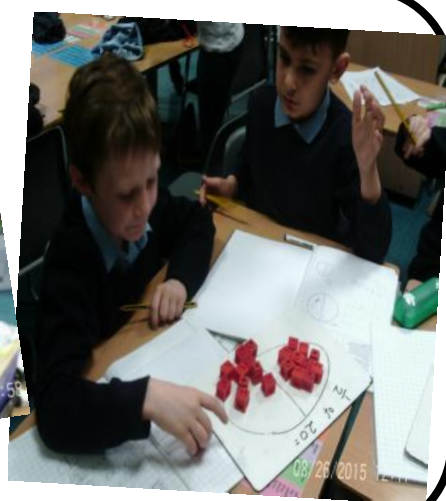
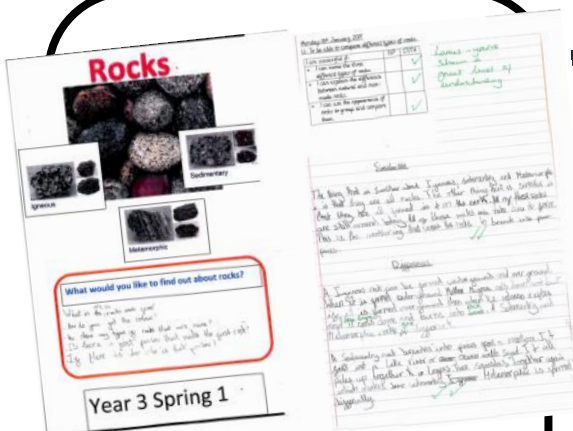
Year 2 have been working on a new literacy unit called Traditional Tales with a Twist!

Year 2 NEWS

Together we have been reading different Traditional Tales with a twist and comparing the similarities and differences. After exploring the different stories we created our own traditional tales using talk for writing. We have been working on editing out our own writing to make it better for the reader. Please work on editing your children's writing at home.

In topic we have been learning about The Great Fire of London. We are excited to go on our class trip to investigate and learn more. We have role played and investigated the events of that horrible week. Next term we will be writing a non-chronological report on The Great Fire of London. Please continue to discuss the events of what occurred.

YR 2



"We are learning about fractions, it's quite hard but I'm enjoying it and now I can tell others how to do it in the playground" **Aaron E (3J)**

3F

"I've learnt how to tell the time, I couldn't tell the time before" **Jessica (3J)**

"In maths we're learning fractions, I'm enjoying it because the activities are fun. I can write fractions and count fractions of number"

Alexander (3F)

"French in Y3 is fun because we get to learn new French words" **Deevon (3F)**

"I enjoy French because we always get to learn how to spell words in French." **Maggie (3J)**

"In French we are learning the body parts. It's fun because we are learning things we haven't learnt before" **Jekka (3J)**

Y3



4B NEWS

In literacy, we wrote our own fantastic versions of Robin Hood. We presented them as comic strips and we drew illustrations with speech and thought bubbles. Robin Hood met a group of Merry Men and went on various adventures in parks, in Japan and even in space!



CLASS 4L

We hope you all enjoyed our informative and inventive Ancient Greek assembly. The children enjoyed themselves and sang their song with enthusiasm. We thank all the parents and carers for their help in making the assembly such a success.



CLASS 5A

Class 5A have been working extremely hard and working towards their goals. Just recently, in pairs, the class wrote a short play about the ideas of different theorists and their thoughts about Geocentricism and Heliocentricism. They really enjoyed working together and identifying the different reasons as to why different theorists, in different eras, thought the way that they did and how building on other peoples ideas can create new ones.

IN 5V

In 5V this week we have been learning about Macbeth. "Macbeth has really drawn me in and I do not want to stop reading it" reports Uosis. On Tuesday we each performed a dramatic reading of the, 'Is this a dagger speech' "During the dramatic readings, we needed to make dramatic pauses, and different tones of voice" says Nnaedozie. Check out the school website, some clips of our dramatic readings will be uploaded soon.

6M NEWS

6M won the Mathletics Competition during Maths Week. The competition was to see how many points a class could achieve in a week. 6M got a staggering 43,945 points! We are celebrating by having a class party on Friday afternoon! Flavia in 6M also won the individual competition by earning over 12,000 points! What a fantastic job!

Another success in 6M is that we have won the Monthly Attendance award for the third month in a row! Well done—a brilliant achievement!

6A have had a rip-roaring start to the year! We have been thinking about kingdoms—studying the Ancient Kingdom of Benin in History and building our own kingdoms using Kodu as part of our Computing lessons in recent weeks. Moreover, 6A have been creating their own universes too, by writing their own stories inspired by Pullman's Clockwork.



Congratulations go to Fergus who has represented the class at the recent SLAMBassadors event!

Early Years...



Reception

The children in Reception celebrated Chinese New Year this week. They made Chinese lanterns and learnt about how China celebrates this special event. They painted Chinese numbers and we read the story "The Great Race" which explains why each Chinese year is named after an animal.

Nursery

Nursery children learnt about the Chinese New Year festival. We had our very own Chinese restaurant and practised using chopsticks. We learnt about the story of "The Great Race" and that we are born in the years of the snake and dragon.

Parent / Carer News

Reading with Children

We are looking for parents to read with children in reception and year 1 class. Would you be available for 1 hour per week? If so please leave your contact details at the school office.

Minor Ailments Information Session

You are invited to come along and meet our new school nurse Yasmin Begum to discuss the prevention and treatment of minor ailments for children. The session will be on Tuesday 7th February at 9.15am in the Community House. Parents with pre-school age children are welcome to bring them along.

Childcare Level 2 Training Course

The initial open day for the above training has been changed to **Tuesday 21st March 9.15am** in the Community House. Smart Training is obtaining funding for some parents to attend this training.

You will need to

- Have been living in the UK for a minimum of 3 years.
- Be 24 years old and above.
- Unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week on a paid basis.

Come along to the information session for further details.



Attendance & Punctuality

Class 6M have won the monthly award for January with an attendance of 98.44%, well done! The award will be back with you soon!

The whole school attendance is 94.55%.

Our target is 97%

POETRY

Brave, Ivy Ukpokolo

I am who I **am**
More than a face or name
Hiding in the shadows, I can be heard
I can be brave...
I have a voice that deserves to be heard
This is my identity

What is my identity you ask?

It makes me, me
The way a bee needs its wings
And a flower needs its leaves
I need my identity

I know to you, I may seem like a face in the crowd
With my curly hair **loud!** and my voice out..**loud!**
But I am proud to be Nigerian
I am proud to be Ivy
Like Ivy, I grow through difficult places
Bigger and stronger. **Bigger and stronger**

I am made of my parent's love
Combing my hair, trying not to cry
When I get home the smell of pounded yam...
I am lucky because I am allowed to be me
Some people are not allowed to be them
Rest in peace the people who died because of their identity
Rest in peace the people who died because of their religion
Just because they don't look like you, doesn't mean you should disown them
How would you feel if your dad went to war?
If your mum told you "We are running away!"

How would you feel?

I look at the world and I feel scourged like cut wires
I am cut by the wires of remorse
Look out the window, fighting and rioting upon **our** streets
The world is like a jungle - wild
How can we make the world better?
Safe zones from guns and drones
It is war.

But you can make yourself a dream
Imagine the help of a hundred thousand people
I can care for others like they are my baby
I can care for others like they are my parents
As a child you are as delicate as a glass jar
You learn to speak
Then walk, then run
Then you want to run the world
We want to be adults, but we don't know what it's like
Teenagers think they don't need their parents, but they shape them like playdough
When you are old you look back at life
And want to be young again
Our identities change like the ocean

I am who I **am**
More than a face or name
Hiding in the shadows, I ... can be.... heard
I can be brave



Best Soloist



Most Emotional Poem

This is our vision.

Eyes hazel like hazelnuts
Blue like our school uniform
Eyes like maple syrup in autumn
Green like summer grass
We don't all look the same

I am Nigerian, Russian and as British as
bangers and mash
I am Irish, Spanish and Turkish, a country
in trouble
I am as cockney as rhyming slang and foot-
ball firms, I don't have a Scooby doo why?
I am English and Scottish; I am trying to be
independent
I am Jamaican British, ackee and saltfish
mixed with chips
I am from Ghana, we say "Eti-sen"

My dimples deep as temples and full of wis-
dom
I hold my afro comb like a microphone and
listen to afro beat
Knots like a tangled branch
I got my skin from my mother and my speed
from my brother
Life moves very fast
I got my height from my father, he is a
skyscraper with lots of stories
We got told old stories of magic and souls

These days souls are in trouble
Families are being forced out of their coun-
try by war
They come to America and are forced out
by law

Law sounds a lot like wall
We should open the door,
We should open the door,
We should open the door
To the people who are poor

What if I arrived late in the night?
No sign of light? Got put back on a flight
What if I died and no one realised?
What if I was in a small rubber dinghy?
Children crying, men shouting, every
wave is a falling mountain
What if I could not climb? What if I
could not swim?
What if I couldn't do anything?

But we can do something.
I am going to help the world by welcom-
ing all identities
I will share my food with you, even my
jollof rice,
I will look after every grain of the truth
This is the voice of the youth
We look to the future
We don't all look the same

Eyes hazel like hazelnuts
Blue like our school uniform
Eyes like maple syrup in autumn
Green like summer grass

We don't all look the same
This is our vision.

SLAMBASSADORS

THEPOETRYSOCIETY



Group entry—
Kiko, Agnes, Lucy,
Shenii H, Megan,
Fergus,



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SPRING TERM 2017 'COME AND SEE' AT HOME

Dear Parents/Carers,

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics.

Please support your child learning about our faith.

LOCAL CHURCH - COMMUNITY

(9 January – 3 February)

Early Years	CELEBRATING - People celebrate in Church
Year 1	SPECIAL PEOPLE - People in the parish family
Year 2	BOOKS - The books used in Church
Year 3	JOURNEYS - Christian family's journey with Christ
Year 4	COMMUNITY - Life in the local Christian community and ministries in the parish
Year 5	MISSION - Continuing Jesus' mission in diocese (ecumenism)
Year 6	SOURCES - The Bible, the special book for the Church

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME

ACTIVITIES

Explore the Diocesan website, looking at the number of churches, and finding out about our bishop.

Read Bible stories together or encourage older children to read a child's Bible.

EUCCHARIST - RELATING

(6 February – 10 March)

Early Years	GATHERING - Parish family gathers to celebrate Eucharist
Year 1	MEALS - Mass, Jesus' special meal
Year 2	THANKSGIVING - Mass, a special time to thank God
Year 3	LISTENING & SHARING - Jesus gives himself to us
Year 4	GIVING & RECEIVING - Living in communion
Year 5	MEMORIAL SACRIFICE - Eucharist as the living memorial of Christ's sacrifice
Year 6	UNITY - Eucharist enabling people to live in communion

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME

ACTIVITIES

Look through the family photograph album to help the children remember important events and special people in their lives.

Discuss how we come together for special celebrations.

LENT/EASTER - GIVING

(13 March – 7 April)

Early Year	GROWING - Looking forward to Easter
Year 1	CHANGE - Lent: a time for change
Year 2	OPPORTUNITIES - Lent: an opportunity to start anew
Year 3	GIVING ALL - Lent: remembering Jesus' total giving
Year 4	SELF DISCIPLINE - Celebrating growth to new life
Year 5	SACRIFICE - Lent: a time of aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus
Year 6	DEATH & NEW LIFE - Celebrating Jesus' death and life

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME

ACTIVITIES

As a family talk about how you are going to practice self-control and self-giving for the rest of the season of Lent. You may decide to give up biscuits or cakes and donate the money to a charity.

If you have an older child provide him/her with an opportunity to take part in The Stations of the Cross. Ask your child/ren how the school is focusing on Lent and self-giving.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1 January

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8 January

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9 January

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

2 February

9 February Bishop Nicholas visit to St Elizabeth School

ST DAVID, BISHOP, PATRON OF WALES

28 February

ASH WEDNESDAY

1 March

ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

20 March

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

25 March

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

9 April

MAUNDY THURSDAY

13 April

GOOD FRIDAY

14 April