



St Elizabeth
Catholic Primary
School
Newsletter
Autumn Term No2
23/09/16



Message from the Headteacher, Ms Angelina John

Dear Parents/Carers,

The term has started well, with parent curriculum meetings and Maths & English workshops/ information mornings. It was good to see the parents who turned up in order to support their children at home. Thank you.

Parent Satisfaction Survey

Last year we asked parents 5 questions to gain an insight as to how they and their children felt about being a member of St Elizabeth community and what we could do to further develop ourselves on our journey to Outstanding. In each Newsletter I will address some of the comments you raised.

It was great to hear so many positive comments:

"On the whole, my experience with the teachers has been very good and the children are taught well."

"Kids feel at home and happy."

"Part of the school community for over 10 years and like it."

"Great community spirit / friendly and encouraging to pupils."

"Social aspects are very good."

"Staff are friendly and strive to meet the educational needs of the children."

"The religious aspect."

"Atmosphere when you walk in is warm and friendly; you get the immediate impression children's welfare is paramount."

"The sense of safety and belonging to a family."

"Like the fact that teachers relate well with parents and are supportive."

"Multicultural and my child enjoys going to school."

"My children are clearly happy and enjoy being at this school which makes me feel like this is the correct school for them."

homework

Some of your comments about homework:

"Homework club is very good."

"Homework still not hard/challenging enough, paper hand outs for homework is messy and kids are not learning to take pride in their work."

"Lack of homework."

"Lack of homework marking."

"I feel children are given too much homework in reception. I worry that my son will be put off learning when he has to complete homework over a weekend."

"Homework for nursery children please."

"School homework policy needs to be consistent; maths homework is supposed to be every Monday but it stopped half way through the Spring term."

Our Homework Policy is on our Website. We endeavour to send homework home on a weekly basis where possible. We encourage all children to do their homework and we hold Maths and English workshops to support parents to help their child at home.

This year we had 44 parents attending the 5 day workshop. All the parents who attended thought the information given was very useful and that they felt better equipped to support their child at home. They understood that this is a joint venture and were eager to play their part in the education of our young people. Following the consultations last year, we asked parents to select their preferable times for these workshops and the feedback we received indicated that the morning sessions were the most requested.

Homework is completed on a 3-week cycle.

Week A	Week B	Week C
<p>Maths Homework will be given out on Mondays to be returned on Tuesdays. It is important that this happens, as this completed work will form part of the lesson on the Tuesday.</p>	<p>Maths Homework will be given out on Mondays to be returned on Tuesdays. It is important that this happens, as this completed work will form part of the lesson on the Tuesday.</p>	<p>Maths Homework will be given out on Mondays to be returned on Tuesdays. It is important that this happens, as this completed work will form part of the lesson on the Tuesday.</p>
<p>Reading Comprehension, Spellings & Topic – given out on Thursday and to be returned/ tested the following Monday; Topic, may be linked to reading Comprehension or may be different, (given out on Wednesday).</p>	<p>Writing Task, Spellings & Science– will be given out on Thursday and to be returned/ tested the following Monday.</p>	<p>Grammar Activity, Spellings & Religion– will be given out on Thursday and to be returned/ tested the following Monday.</p>

Homework will be marked each week, but we encourage parents to take the lead in this as teachers have a further 4-5 sets of books to mark each day for 30 children. It is essential that we work as a team to support our children.

Parent View

Please log on and make your view known on **Parent View** – We would love to hear some of our successes.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>



Office Staff Changes

It is with great regret that Cathy Russo who has been working at St Elizabeth for 15 years has resigned. She will be sorely missed but we wish her every success in the future and hope that she is having a restful time. We will open a collection for Cathy which will close on Friday 30th September, should you wish to donate to Cathy's leaving gift please bring your donations to the office.

New appointments — We are pleased to have:

Mr Juber Ali working with us, he is our HR Officer and PA to the Headteacher



Mrs Ulviye Mehmet who is our temporary Office Administrator.



Please welcome them when you see them in the office and be patient as we put a few changes in place.

Our Office Staff:

Pat Augustin – School Business Manager

Ceri Walker – Senior Administrator

Stephanie Neal – Admissions & Attendance Officer

Darlene Skeete – Finance Officer

Contact update

The deadline for updated contact forms will be **Tuesday 27th September**. Please remember to put your work number and at least two emergency numbers on your form.

Concerns

If you have a concern or any queries, the first port of call is to discuss it with your class teacher who will try their best to resolve the situation. If you are not satisfied how the query has been resolved please phone or go to the school office to make an appointment to see a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will get back to you with an appointment time. At St Elizabeth we are happy to listen to your concerns and will try our best to resolve any issues, however, we ask parents to refrain from bringing up personal matters in public forums such as curriculum meetings and the playground. We respect all our parents' needs and deal with matters in a sensitive and prompt manner. I thank you for your understanding in this matter.



No Mobile phones

Please can all parents refrain from using their mobile phones once they enter the school premises, this includes the playground. **This is a mobile free zone.**



Year 1

Mrs Gillott and Ms Eason would like to say a big welcome to the new Year 1 children. This term our topic is 'Now and Then'. We will be looking at the way we are now, compared to, the way we were when we were little. Please talk to your child about when they were little.

2E NEWS

We have had a great start in Year 2 so far this term. Children have been working hard in their reading, writing, and maths. In English we have been reading 'Burglar Bill' by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. We have been working hard to describe the settings and main characters in the story. At the end of the unit we will be writing our own innovated story!

In topic we are learning about our local area. Last week we went on a walk in our local area to look at the different buildings, structures and features of our community. We will be learning about direction: North, East, South, West. Children will learn to use a map to identify features of our local area. Please help your children by talking about things you see.

2F



Year 3

Year 3 have started their year off brilliantly and are enjoying their learning so far! Please remember to read with your child everyday and sign their reading records. Thank you for your continued support.

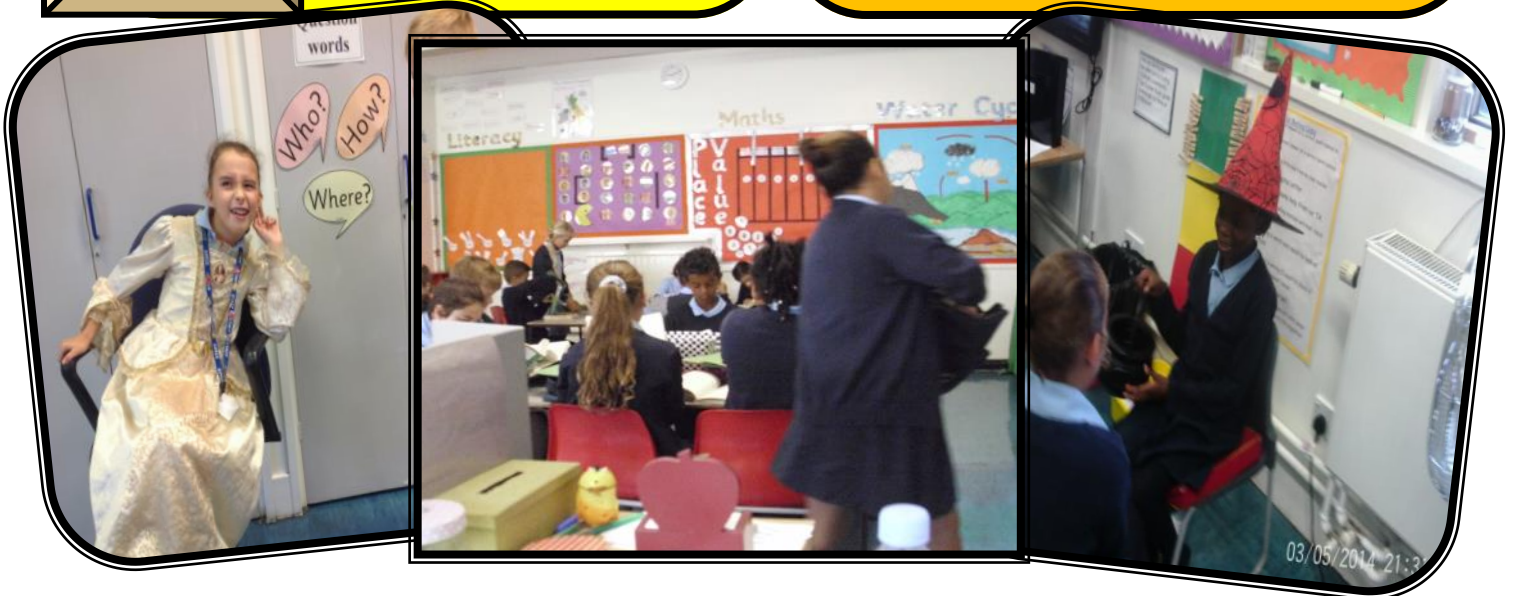


We had a visit from Snow White, the one from New York, this week! 4B had lots of questions to ask her such as: What makes you happy? Could you ever forgive your Step-Mother? Our Snow White was feisty at times!

CLASS 4B

4L NEWS

It's been an eventful poetry week where we learnt how to write Kenning poems and wrote one about a witch and also Snow White in New York. Well done 4L!



Pupils in year 5 have started off the first term with a positive attitude and a desire to learn. They continue to strive for excellence.

CLASS 5A

Currently our Topic is based on Ancient worlds (Ancient Egypt) and the children are really showing an interest in the Topic. It has been shown through the discussions we have had and the work produced so far.

UP IN 5V...

Does your child know their times tables up to 12?

Can they confidently answer quick mental math questions?

Now would be a good time to encourage your children to practise their times tables everyday. Challenge them and see if by the end of the first Autumn term they know them all.



6 NEWS

Year 6 have got off to a flying start, especially in English so far this year. Every week each class has an hour's performance poetry workshop with YouTube and Bestival star, Christian Foley. The impact is already visible with fantastic descriptive writing based on our class book, 'How to Train your Dragon', and some excellent evacuee letters have been written.

Early Years...



Reception

The Reception children have been settling in well. They have been exploring the Reception playground and sensory area as well as enjoying the new climbing frame in the KS1 playground.

We would like to thank all the parents that attended the Welcome to Reception Curriculum meeting. There will be a parent's phonics workshop later this term, more information will be sent next week.

Nursery

We welcome the nursery children and their families this academic year. Our topic is '**Marvellous Me**'. The children will be learning about their senses and understanding the importance of sharing and turn taking. As part of our topic, we would like a photograph of your child with their family to display in our classroom.

Classes will be told about their weekly attendance on a weekly basis. Classes are rewarded for reaching targets and exceeding them.

Well done to the classes that have reached 97% and some have exceeded this! We still need to remind parents about attendance and punctuality as the whole school attendance is below expectation at 95.91%.

Attendance & Punctuality

Parent / Carer News

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities At St Elizabeth School Being a Parent is hard work!

Would you like support to;

- Set boundaries
- Manage unacceptable behaviour
- Set up a homework/bedtime routine
- Understand your child/teenager

The SFSC course supports parents to:

- Build upon existing skills and build positive relationships with their children
- Share their experiences of being a parent
- Meet new parents and learn from each other

This is a course to support all Parents

We would like to start this group after the October half term. There will be an information session on Wednesday 2nd November at 9.15am in the Community House. If you are unable to attend but would like some information please speak to Sue Braniff or Anna Hair to book a place.



World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Thursday 29th September

3.00 pm onwards

Come along for a coffee and some cake and donate to Macmillan cancer support. Last year we moved the event to the afternoon which enabled

more of you to join in and we are doing the same this year.

If the weather is good we will hold the event in the KS1 playground, if not, we'll take cover in the KS1 hall.

Donations of cakes and biscuits are always welcome and can be left at the school office.

We look forward to seeing you and thanks in advance for your support.



You are invited to join your child in some simple scientific experiments and hear a presentation on how Science can open doors for your children's futures.



St Elizabeth Catholic Primary School

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