



St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School
A Voluntary Academy

Headteacher:
Mrs L. M. Kelly, B.Ed.



Friday 19th July 2019

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and Children,

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of yet another busy academic year, and once again, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. The end of a school year also allows the opportunity for us to take stock and look back at what has been achieved during the past 12 months. I truly believe that as a school we continue to go from strength to strength and it is a privilege to work with such a committed, dedicated and supportive staff team. We have a school to be proud of, where everybody has an equally important role to play in its success.

Highlights of the year at St. Elizabeth's

The children continue to develop and '*Let their Light Shine*' in so many ways and we are proud of them all. St. Elizabeth's strives to deliver a rich and varied education for the children and offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities in order to further develop their thirst for learning. Through the 'Weekly Update' and 'Peek at the Week' you will see the wide range of opportunities that your children are given. Notable highlights include; Our school council annual trip to London, Debate Mate reaching the finals at the University of Law in London, Year 3, 5 & 6 taking part in Live Lessons with special guest David Walliams, Y4 performing 'The Tempest' at the Lowry, the choir performing at 'Young Voices', RNCM and singing at ASDA and Age UK.

Special visitors have included; authors, artists, chicks, insects, Paralympians and the Deputy Lord Mayor.

We continue to be dedicated to developing our children's sporting abilities, talents and sheer enjoyment of sport. This year children have been involved in Tag Rugby, Lacrosse, Tennis, Football, Athletics, Archery, Gymnastics and who could forget the amazing Year 1 football team who beat over 100 schools to become the winners of the Northwest Community Cup! We have recently been awarded the Sports Silver Award. My thanks again to all the staff who deliver after school sports clubs for our children.

We endeavour to provide a wide range of school trips to enhance the learning experience. These have included; The Marist Centre, Formby Beach, Chester Zoo, Blists Hill, Jodrell Bank, Chester Roman Experience, Air Raid Shelters, Tatton Park, Pizza Express and Eccles Archery Club but to name a few. The fact that we provide so many enhancement opportunities is testament to the fact that we are not a school merely focussing on tests and results, but believe, we are committed to the development of the whole child.

Many of our children take on leadership roles and have joined our Smart Pupil Parliament this year. Our Smart Pupil Parliament doesn't just include the elected children but embraces the views of all children across our school through our weekly class votes. These class votes have been instrumental in making whole school decisions such as: new uniform, the development of the sensory room and peace garden, achieving Rights Respecting School status and much more.

Key Stage Assessment Results

That said, we are rightly proud of how hard our children work and achieve academically too! We are pleased to inform you that, once again, our headline data is very pleasing. As it stands this is provisional data until it is verified in the autumn term. The national data comparisons are based on 2018 data.

Reception Good Level of Development 2019

Children are defined as having reached a 'Good Level of Development' at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage if they achieve at least expected level in:

The early learning goals in the **Prime Areas** of learning (personal, social and emotional development: physical development; and communication and language) and the early learning goals in the **Specific Areas** of Mathematics and Literacy.

Number of children in cohort	27
Number of children who achieved a Good Level of Development	21
Percentage of children who achieved a Good Level of Development	72%
National 2018	71%

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check 2019

The phonics screening check tests a child's ability to decode words using only his or her phonic knowledge. It helps to confirm whether they have met the expected standard for the end of Year 1. The check is a statutory requirement for all children in Year 1 and takes place each year in the summer term. Children who do not meet the expected standard in Year 1 will re-take the test in Year 2.

Number of children in cohort	30
Number of children who achieved the required standard	26
% of children who achieved the required standard	87%
National 2018	82%

End of Key Stage 1 Assessments

Children are assessed in Year 2 at the end of KS1 to determine whether they have met the expected standard in English, mathematics and science. Teachers use the results from the national curriculum tests and other assessments to reach their own judgements about how a child is progressing.

In Year 2 there were 30 children in the cohort.

	Expected Standard	National 2018	Higher Standard	National 2018
Reading	77%	72%	27%	26%
Writing	70%	67%	10%	16%
Maths	87%	73%	23%	22%
Science	83%	82%	NA	NA
RWM combined	67%	67%	7%	12%

End of Key Stage 2 Assessments

Children in Year 6 have taken tests in reading, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling. Teacher assessment judgements are given in writing and science as there are no formal tests.

In Year 6 there were 28 children in the cohort.

	Expected Standard	National 2018	Higher Standard	National 2018
Reading	82%	75%	36%	24%
Writing (TA)	75%	78%	18%	20%
Maths	89%	76%	50%	24%
SPAG	79%	78%	36%	34%
Science (TA)	82%	82%	NA	NA
RWM	71%	64%	14%	10%

In summary, at the end of KS2, **71%** of children met the expected standard for all subjects, compared with 64% nationally. You will note that at the higher standard we are well above the national figures from 2018 with the exception of writing.

We are delighted with all our results; results in almost all years, across the school continue to be in line with our high expectations. It must be pointed out, however, that each cohort from one year to the next is different and that is because we work with real children not just numbers on a page. All children develop at different rates and we know our children well. We have worked hard to develop a culture where children know it is ok to make a mistake as that is how we learn best!

As with many schools across the country, writing continues to be a priority for our school. These results are very pleasing. Maths continues to be a strength of our school and the children have a very positive attitude towards their maths lessons.

We have gained our Bronze award in the Primary Science Quality Mark and are on target to soon achieve the Silver Award.

First Holy Communion

One of the most important and privileged opportunities in our school year is to share in the faith life of our children as they embark on their sacramental journey. This year saw 18 children receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We were very proud of all the children and it was a wonderful home, school and parish celebration.

Attendance

Attendance remains a high priority for St. Elizabeth's and I thank you for your continued support with this. We have seen a huge improvement in our attendance figures and the children have been keen to be in school in order to take part in the 100% termly reward trips. I wish to remind you that holidays taken in term time will result in a penalty notice. In recent years, Headteachers are no longer able to authorise holidays in term time and must follow DfE and LA guidelines.

- Our reported attendance figures are **96.4%** in comparison to the previous year which was **94.1%**
- **Year 5** had the best overall attendance with **97.8% - congratulations!**
- **40** children had **100%** attendance since September, in comparison with only 17 last year – **amazing!**

Many thanks for your continued support with our attendance!

PTA

As usual, I must take this opportunity to thank the very small but dedicated team of parents who make up the PTA. They willingly give up their time to provide wonderful fundraising and social events for the benefit of our children. These have included; Discos, Talent Show, Breakfast with Santa and the recent Summer Fair. The funds raised this year have funded our new and well needed sensory room. We thank them for their continued efforts. If you would like to get involved please look out for notices of meetings on the weekly update. We are always looking for new ideas and new recruits. As previously mentioned, Paula Tudsbury our Chair, is stepping down and we will be electing new members in the autumn term.

Local Governing Body

Alongside the wonderful staff team, I have here at St. Elizabeth's, I am very fortunate to work with a highly skilled and dedicated team of Governors who work tirelessly to constantly improve life at St. Elizabeth's. They give up their time willingly for numerous meetings, review days, support events and join me in recruiting the best possible staff for St. Elizabeth's. They monitor the curriculum, review and challenge our developments, ensure policies are adhered to and ensure St. Elizabeth's remains a safe place for all our children and staff through regular Health and Safety walks around school.

The highlight of the year for them was finally seeing our plans for the Foundation Stage outdoor development come to fruition and they are rightly proud of this development. On a personal note, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for allowing me the opportunity to take on the Executive Headship roles this year.

Year 6


All our Year 6 children have worked incredibly hard this year towards their statutory tests and we remain so proud of them. As you have seen they have maintained our record of excellent results. As you know these results do not just happen and take a lot of hard work and commitment from both home and school to help our children achieve. Year 6, you are all ready to spread your wings and fly as you move on to your Secondary schools and they are lucky to get you. We will miss you and I am incredibly proud to have been your Headteacher for the past 8 years and to have shared a part in your journey.

In the countdown to the end of their time at St. Elizabeth's, Year 6 joined the other Year 6 classes from our family of Catholic schools for a lovely open-air Mass at St. John's. We also held our very own open-air Leavers' Mass on Wednesday which was a beautiful celebration. Their end of year performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean' was truly outstanding and had us laughing and delighting with them all the way through. Their enjoyment was contagious! We look forward to their final assembly tomorrow which I'm sure will see tears of a different kind. I would like to thank you and your families for everything you have contributed to St. Elizabeth's. We wish you all the very best of luck as you move to your new High Schools.

Finally, not only do we say goodbye to our Year 6 children and some families but we say goodbye to staff members too. We held a special assembly on Wednesday where the staff were presented with cards, gifts and a song. We thank Miss Ford, Mr Brown, Mr Jenkinson and Mr Sugden for all their hard work and send them our very best wishes for the future.

We look forward to welcoming Miss Pearson as our Y3 teacher and also our new School Business Manager, Mrs Johnson. Mrs Bambrick will be reducing her hours from full time to 3 days. She will be continuing in her role as SENDCO. Miss Dwan has been appointed as Early Years lead and will work closely with Mrs Bambrick to ensure a smooth handover. We thank Mrs Bambrick for her many years of experience and expertise within our Early Years children and staff team and our fortunate that we still have her invaluable experience on hand! All that remains to say is a very special thank you to all our staff, children, governors, parents and carers who help to make St. Elizabeth's the wonderful family school that it is. I hope you all have a fantastic relaxing summer holiday.

With very best wishes,



Mrs L Kelly
Headteacher

Reflection to share at home

Father, Creator of all, thank you for summer. Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.

Thank you for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to you this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of your presence and light my path with your Word and Counsel. As I enjoy your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for you.

Amen



Let Your Light Shine