

## St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

[www.st-elizabeths.manchester.sch.uk](http://www.st-elizabeths.manchester.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

What an amazing first half term we have had at St. Elizabeth's! The children have settled back into school life and although a little strange at first with all the new routines they were soon taking it all in their stride after their first few days back. They are now working hard and are rising to the challenges that have been set by the staff.

It has been really enjoyable for both Miss Simmons and I to get into each class to see the work they have been completing. They have excitedly shared with us aspects of their learning. We saw some fantastic maths taking place and were very impressed with Mr McGinn's Y6 group who were working hard on long multiplication! Keep up all the hard work everybody.



The Governors have appointed Mrs Lucy Luff, to cover Miss Dwan's maternity leave. She has been in to school this week to meet the children and work with Miss Dwan. We are very much looking forward to her joining our team and I am sure you will make her feel very welcome as you get to know her in the coming weeks.

Finally, I would like to thank all the wonderful staff team at St. Elizabeth's who have worked so hard to ensure the children's return was seamless. I hope they and everybody have a lovely half-term break and remain safe and well.

**Mrs L Kelly**

## A Special Thank You

### Harvest Appeal

We are grateful to all the families who have donated food over the past few weeks; this will be distributed to people in our local area and given to Wythenshawe food bank. It was a shame we were unable to meet for our usual Harvest Mass however; we have continued to sing our Harvest songs with spirit and enthusiasm at our weekly virtual assemblies.



Thank-you also for your fantastic donations as part of the "Family Fast Day for CAFOD" and we were delighted to raise £198.40! This money will go a long way towards supporting our pledges to live in "a world we want".

We were delighted to receive a reply to our Tweet from CAFOD who thanked us for our generous offering.



**CAFOD Schools** @CAFODSchools · 9 Oct

Replying to @stelizabethsm22 and @CAFOD

Thank you! Your #FamilyFastDay fundraising means so much to us and will make a difference to families around the world this year, and your pledges will make a huge difference to our world too!



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**CAFOD Schools** @CAFODSchools · 9 Oct

Just to add, you have raised enough to install permanent handwashing stations in two villages under lockdown, and three tippy tap handwashing points in rural villages - thank you! 🍷🧼💚



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**CAFOD in Shrewsbury** @CAFODShrewsbury · 9 Oct

Replying to @stelizabethsm22 and @CAFOD

A big thank you to everyone at @stelizabethsm22 for your support this #FamilyFastDay 🍷



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**CAFOD** @CAFOD · 9 Oct

Replying to @stelizabethsm22

Thank you so much for your incredible support this #FamilyFastDay 💚



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## Nursery News

Our topic this half term has been 'Happy to be me!' We have been learning all about ourselves and talking about our families. We used mirrors to see what we looked like and made our own self-portraits.



We have also been learning about Autumn and have been using our senses to explore the Autumn season. We went on a leaf hunt and have made lots of super Autumn pictures in our creative area using a variety of different techniques, including our very own 'Leaf Men!'



We have also been learning our classroom rules and routines, learning to listen to others and been trying to become more independent. We have been making new friends at Nursery and learning to share with others! Alongside learning to count to 10 through songs and rhymes and enjoying singing nursery rhymes together too! We have certainly had a very busy and fun first half term!

## Reception News

We have been very busy, learning all about ourselves in our topic of 'Marvellous Me'. We talked about our appearance, our family and created self-portraits. We enjoy our daily 'Speed Sounds' lessons and have been practicing writing our name every morning. We went on a chilly Autumn walk and collected lots of Autumn materials to help us to learn all about pattern. The



children love the reading nest outside and race to read a book with a friend.

## Year 1 News

The Big Bad Wolf, Cinderella, Three Pigs, Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood and the Jolly Postman all joined us in Year 1 this half term for our topic 'Happily Ever after'. We acted out, sequenced, wrote letters and retold the stories in our own words.



The Gingerbread man we made was scrumptious. The little clay trinket pots for Cinderella were colourful and brightened up the classroom. The children let their textiles skills shine when sewing a Gingerbread Man.

We also tackled big questions for example, "Do all fairy tales end happily ever after?" and "Is the big bad wolf really bad?"

Number bonds, one more, one less, addition, subtraction, shape and solving problems were covered in Maths.

In Science we learnt about wild plants and trees in our environment. We collected the plants and the leaves from the trees and found out their names. Together we made up a tree song to remember the different parts of the tree.

Next half term's topic is, 'NEVER EAT SHREDDED WHEAT.' I wonder what we'll be learning?





## Year 2 News

In our topic lessons about 'The Media' we have looked at 'Colour Splash' photography and created some of our own eye-catching artwork. We also discovered who invented the television.



We have been developing our writing skills as we retold the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears and explored writing in character.

In Science, we investigated different materials and their uses. We made Venn Diagrams using nature.

'Abraham and Sarah' and 'Daniel in the Lion's Den' were stories we focused on in Religion. These stories taught us about people who were chosen by God.

We are looking forward to our next topic 'The Spirit of Christmas'.

## Year 3 News

In our Topic lessons about Film and Animation we have created our own flip book designs, comic book characters and have analysed different types of animation like the 'zoetrope' and 'stop motion' film.



Place value with three digit numbers has been our Maths focus and we started to add and subtract three digit numbers together.

Our Writing has been focused on fairy-tale stories where the children retold Snow White and then created their very own fairy-tale.

We became Scientists investigating light and dark. Working scientifically, we enjoyed many different investigations where we used different materials to test how reflective they are.



In Religion we learned all about what it means to belong to the Christian Family. We retold stories about Jesus and John the Baptist and touched on understanding the meaning behind the signs and symbols of our own Baptism.

In Art we created sea creatures using oil pastels and practiced blending and shading.

The children have made some very inquisitive guesses about our next topic called 'May the Force Be With You'

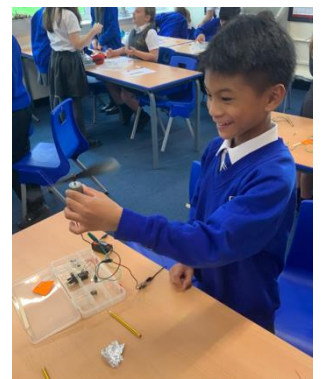
## Year 4 News

We have had a very busy half term. In Maths, we focussed on place value and working with 4-digit numbers. They learnt about rounding, roman numerals and negative numbers.

Reading 'The Iron Man' proved to be popular and inspired us to write fantastic newspaper articles based on this novel in Literacy.

Many 'Eureka' moments happened in Science as we learnt all about electricity and made simple circuits, investigated conductors and insulators of electrical current and designed our own switches. Our Science work linked to our topic 'Lightning Speed' which was all about the internet and how it connects people around the world.

In Religion, we heard the stories of Abraham, Moses and Joseph and thought about how they showed their trust in God.



## Year 5 News

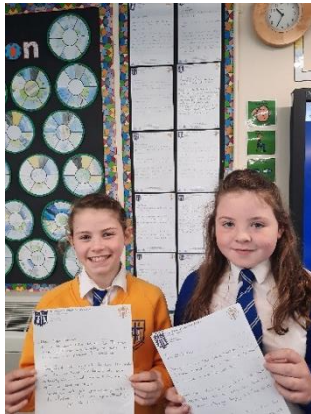
What a return Year 5 have made! Every single one of the class has worked so hard and with excellent behaviour. In fact, all three of our visiting teachers for Spanish, Music and Gymnastics have commented on how enthusiastically they participate and what outstanding behaviour they have.

So far, the children have completed various genres of writing. We started using figurative language (such as similes, metaphors and alliteration) to describe different settings.

Some of their atmospheric pieces about the colours, smells and heat of the Australian bushfires have been displayed around the classroom.

In the last two weeks, Year 5 have been writing diary entries, learning how to use subordinate clauses and fronted adverbials to up-level their writing. Letter writing is another genre they have enjoyed. The children have written individually to Pope Francis, as part of our RE topic about God's creation, to tell him how they will help to recycle, prevent climate change and be kind and caring citizens.

In Maths, we have looked at place value and in particular large and tricky numbers up to one million. We are continually trying to become better problem solvers and are tackling tricky word problems each week.



As we finish the term, we are using the column method for addition and subtraction of 4 – 5 digit numbers.

Our Science topic about Space has been great fun. We loved researching about different planets and learning about the Apollo 19 trip to the moon with Neil Armstrong. We produced some stunning chalk drawings of the solar system which have decorated our classroom.

## Year 6 News

This half term, Year 6 have been incredibly busy. They have loved learning about Inventions in our topic work where they have been able to explore different inventors and how their inventions became useful and popular.

In addition to this, the children have been working hard in Maths, furthering their knowledge in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In English, they have particularly enjoyed writing Diaries and have very recently started descriptive writing. The children understand the importance of entertaining the reader and are using a variety of imagery to do this.

One part of this half term that I know all of the children are very proud of was when they applied for the Year 6 Roles and Responsibilities, where our new fantastic Junior Leadership team was appointed.





## Y6 High School applications for 2020-2021

Parents of all current Y6 pupils must apply for a secondary school place by the closing date of **5pm on Monday 2nd November 2020**. The application portal is now open at [https://lealive.manchester.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://lealive.manchester.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

Information about secondary school open mornings and evenings are available at [www.manchester.gov.uk/schools](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/schools)

## October – The month of the Holy Rosary

In the Catholic tradition, October is 'the month of the Rosary'. In the words of Saint John Paul II:

*"To pray the Rosary is to hand over our burdens to the merciful hearts of Christ and His Mother; the rosary does indeed 'mark the rhythm of human life', bringing it into harmony with the 'rhythm' of God's own life, the joyful communion of the Holy Trinity, our life destiny and deepest longing."*

If you're someone who possesses a rosary but, for whatever reason, have stopped using it or have never done so, why not make a fresh start? Grandparents, and some parents, may remember a time when it was the custom every day to gather to pray the rosary as a family. For some this was an experience that became an important part of their faith journey; for others the memory is not that positive perhaps because it was 'rattled' through at great speed or because the presence of each child was far from voluntary! Whatever your past experience of the rosary, why not spend some time during half-term to renew this special prayer.



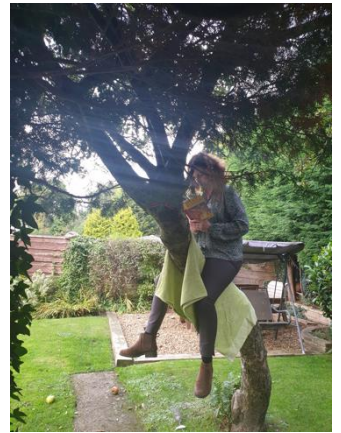
## Extreme Reading Challenge

This half term we're challenging the children to take part in our Extreme Reading Challenge.

Where is the most exciting place you have read a book? Whether it's up a tree or in a swimming pool we want your photos!

Our staff have had a go, can you be more extreme with your photos?

You can email your photos to [reading@stelizabeths.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:reading@stelizabeths.manchester.sch.uk) or upload your photos to Tapestry. There will be prizes for the most extreme readers! Good luck!



## Twitter

We currently have over 300 followers on Twitter. Our Twitter page is full of exciting daily updates giving Parents a daily glimpse of school life. Please follow our Twitter @stelizabethsm22 and help us reach more followers.



## Parents' Evening

Due to current restrictions we are unable to host Parents Evening in our usual format. We will however arrange telephone appointments so class teachers can update you on how your child has settled and give targets relating to their learning and answer any queries you may have.

## Data Sheet Collection

Our fantastic Admin Team have been very busy updating our records. Thank you to everybody who has already completed your child's data collection sheet. If you haven't completed the form please return it to the office on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

## Key Reminders

### SCHOOL JOTTER



**School Jotter** is an essential app to download as it's our primary source of communication. We share news, notices, newsletters and we also share our school calendar with you

too. All Coronavirus updates, Local Authority and DfE information are also available on the Newsletter section of the app.

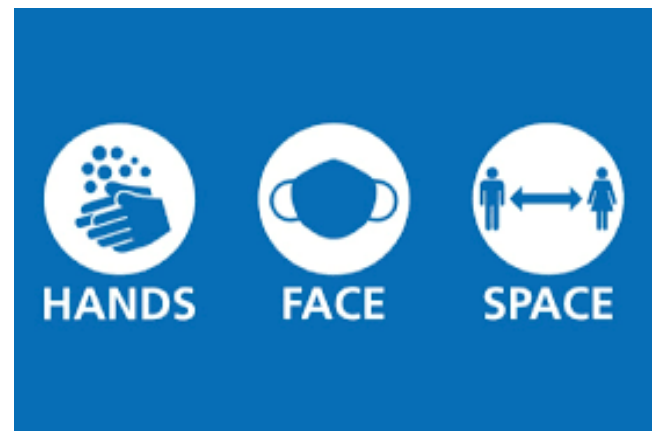
Follow this link to find out how to download the app for Android and Apple users: <https://www.schooljotter.com/school-jotter-mobile-app/>

A reminder that Tapestry is also a useful form of communication and we will continue to use this should we have to send home further classes. Please remember to activate your account. follow the link: <https://tapestry.info/>



## COVID-19 Tier 3

As you are aware Greater Manchester is now in Tier 3 - Our local COVID alert level is now 'very high'. This means new measures have come into effect from midnight last night, **Thursday 22 October**. These measures include a ban on households mixing indoors and outdoors. You must not meet with people outside of your household or support bubble in a private garden or in most outdoor public venues. There will also be closures of some businesses in Manchester. I know this will be difficult for us all as we enter the half-term break however, in these challenging times we must all do our bit by following the rules in order to keep our school community safe and minimise the spread of infection.



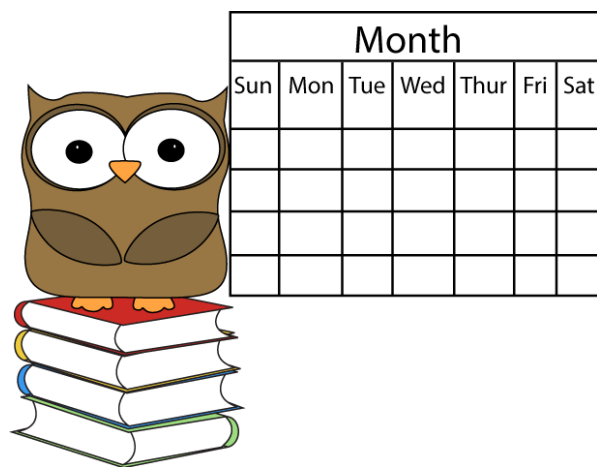
NHS COVID Line: 111 for advice on symptoms

To find and book a test: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>



During school holidays please email us immediately if you receive any **symptoms** or **positive test results** within your household:

[covid@st-elizabeths.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:covid@st-elizabeths.manchester.sch.uk)



### Diary Dates

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November: **Inset Day- School Closed**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November: Year 6 High School Applications deadline

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: **School Opens**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November: St Elizabeth's Feast Day

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November: World Diabetes Day- dress up like a superhero and donate £1!

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December: School closes for Christmas Half Term

### Useful Contact Numbers

Manchester Council Customer Service Centre:  
0161 234 5000

Council Tax Support: 0161 234 5002

Wythenshawe Community Housing Group: 0800  
633 5500

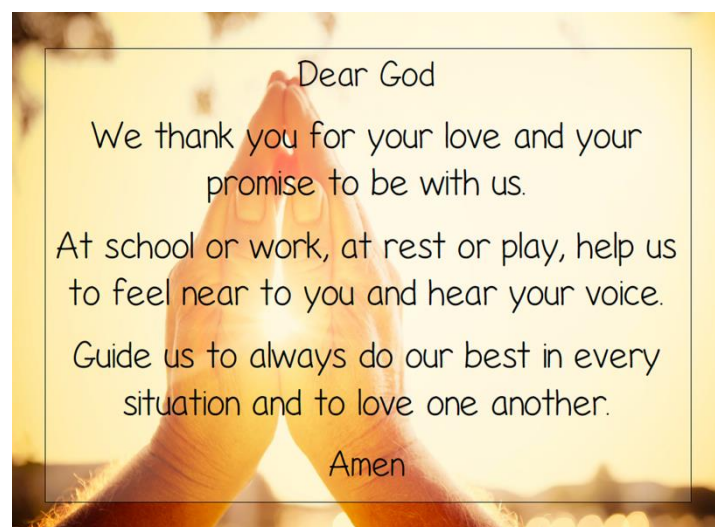
Wythenshawe Food Bank: 07410 943 950

Greater Manchester Mental Health Trust: 08009  
530 285

Manchester Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0161 636  
7525

Childline: 0800 1111 or text "shout" to 85258

Samaritans: 116 123



*Have a wonderful*

*Half Term*

