



12th February 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We have now reached the mid-point of our school year as we break up for half term today. When we look back to the same point last year it is hard to believe what lay ahead and very soon we will have been living in this new way for an entire year. It is remarkable how everybody has adapted to this way of working and we are so proud of all the children both in school and at home. I also continue to be amazed by how well the staff have adapted their teaching methods to ensure ALL children continue to learn. However, now is the time for us all to have a well-earned break and a good rest and although we can't travel far it will be nice to enjoy a slightly more relaxed routine and hopefully some nice local walks!

New Appointment

I am pleased to inform you that we have appointed Carmen Stott as our new Caretaker. Many of you will have seen Carmen working around school over recent weeks and we are all delighted she is now to become a permanent member of staff.

This week we welcomed Miss Gavin, our new Admin Assistant, into school for a visit and she is very much looking forward to joining us after half-term.

Lenten Season

Next week marks the beginning of the Holy season of Lent, a time when we teach our children to think of others less fortunate than themselves and think about promises they can make during Lent to become closer to Jesus. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and if you are unable to attend Mass in person why not take the time out with your children to watch a service online. I am sending out a video assembly from TenTen which the children will be able to watch via Tapestry or from our website. The assembly talks about a 'Lent Adventure' and we will be focussing on this following the half-term holiday.

https://spark.adobe.com/page/REapS6cTFMjHG/?ref=https%3A%2F%2Fspark.adobe.com%2Fpage%2FREapS6cTFMj HG%2Fembed.html&embed_type=overlay&context=expand

Screen Free Day



As part of our Safer Internet work, we all enjoyed a screen free day and we have received some lovely feedback from parents of the home learners who took the opportunity to get outdoors and complete some creative activities such as den building, baking, scavenger hunts and some lovely family game time such as bingo and completing jigsaws. I definitely think we should all make an effort to do this a little more often!



World Book Day

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 4th March. We are busy planning activities for both children in school and at home. Please look out for a separate letter outlining our plans.

Holiday Dates 2021-2022

Please also look out for the holiday dates for next year.

Important Reminder

As you are aware, we continue to be in a national lockdown. This means **YOU MUST NOT** meet socially indoors or in most outdoor places with anybody you do not live with, or who is not in your support bubble. This includes in any private garden or at most outdoor venues.

Please do not go into anyone else's house and do not allow anyone into yours (unless they are in your support bubble). By following these rules, we are all helping to suppress the spread of the virus. If any member of your household develops Covid-19 symptoms then you **MUST** book a test immediately. If any member of the household has symptoms then **ALL** members of your household must isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

As we break up for the half-term holiday, for those children who have been in school please be aware we must still follow Track and Trace procedures up until Sunday evening. Please email us immediately if your child develops any **symptoms** or has a **positive test result**. Please use the Covid email address below. covid@st-elizabeths.manchester.sch.uk

NHS COVID Line: 111 for advice on symptoms To find and book a test visit: <u>https://www.gov.uk/get-</u> <u>coronavirus-test</u>

Nursery and Year 5 class Bubbles

Following the letter, you received on Tuesday, please be reminded that your child must isolate until Monday evening. They should not leave the house and if they develop symptoms please follow the above guidance.

Finally, we are hoping that very soon we will all be back together and that school will re-open for everybody on Monday 8th March. An announcement will be made on Monday 22nd February and I will write to you again once we have confirmation of this.

I thank you all for your continued support, patience and understanding during these difficult times. Please enjoy a lovely half-term holiday with your families. We re-open for our key Worker children on Monday 22nd February.

Yours faithfully,

L. belli

Mrs L Kelly Headteacher

Time for testing and for changing. Time to recognise holy presence

Time to trust the word of God



Time for forgiveness and for healing. Time to watch and wait with Jesus Time to turn our lives again to God Time to transform our world with love. Amen.



