



St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

Let Your Light Shine...



20th July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers, children, staff and Governors,

I have written many, many letters to parents over the years but this is without doubt one of the hardest. To try to begin to put into words what St. Elizabeth's means to me and all that has been achieved in my 18 years as Headteacher is no easy task!

I have had quite frankly, an amazing 18 years at St. Elizabeth's. Throughout my time here, I have been fortunate to work with some wonderful people, a brilliant staff team and some highly talented children. It is watching our children grow and develop, achieve their potential, helping them to recognise their talents and realise their dreams that drives every teacher; it has been a great pleasure to contribute to making this happen for so many over the years.

To all the shining stars, that are the children of St. Elizabeth's, past and present, you will always hold a special place in my heart. You have made each day a joy to come to work. You are all amazing children, full of love and life. You live out our Mission Statement every day by valuing, respecting and loving each other. You have always made me extremely proud to be your Headteacher and I know you will go on to achieve great things in life. I will continue to feel great pride when I hear about your future achievements.

To the wonderful staff of St. Elizabeth's again both past and present. I would like to thank you all for your tireless dedication and commitment to the children and families of St. Elizabeth's. Each and every one of you work incredibly hard to ensure our children are able to '*let their lights shine*'. Thank you for your support and friendship and the fun and laughter we have had along the way.

To the parents and carers over the years, thank you for your continued support and friendship in all school matters and for choosing St. Elizabeth's as your school of choice. Thank you for trusting me as your Headteacher and I hope you know that every decision I have made has always been with your child's best interest at the heart. Thank you for all the many kind words and gifts that I have received over the past week it has been overwhelming.

I would also like to thank the Governors for their support, dedication and commitment over the years. They have been the critical friend and also supported key decisions I have made. Thank you for having the belief in me in the first instance by appointing me back in 2004. Your commitment to our school is outstanding and both I and the staff appreciate this important volunteer work.

While my thoughts are with you all right now, I would like to pay a special tribute to our Year 6 class of 2022. This group of children have been an outstanding group. They have worked incredibly hard to produce amazing results both academically and in all other areas of school life. They have been a great support to each other, have been wonderful ambassadors and role models and have developed into young people that I am very proud of. Year 6, thank you for everything you have contributed to St. Elizabeth's. I look forward to hearing great things in the coming years. We all wish you lots of luck as you move on to your new High Schools.

It is with sadness that St. Elizabeth's will say goodbye to the following families:

Corris family, Doyle family, Georgiou family, Kavu family, McCabe family, McNally family, Nunes family, Pieszczyk family, Renshaw family, Spilsbury family, Sumit family, Walker family, and the Wright family.

My heartfelt thanks to you all for your wonderful support over the years.

The end of a school year also allows the opportunity for us to take stock of what has been achieved. It has been lovely to finally feel like the lively, busy and fun place of learning that St. Elizabeth's has always been. This year I find myself reflecting back on so many cherished moments in 18 years.

I have had the opportunity to; visit a link school in China, create a fabulous outdoor learning environment for our very youngest of children, achieve Gold status as a Rights Respecting School, achieve the school games Gold Award, develop the school grounds by adding a Trim Trail and Mile track, accompany children on various school trips and residential. Enjoy countless school productions and beautiful assemblies. Make significant improvements to the school building. Joined a Multi-Academy Trust. Received very positive reports from both Ofsted and our Section 48 inspections. My favourite quotes being the following:

Pupils' broad smiles, warm handshakes and eagerness to talk to visitors, signal their pleasure in belonging to St Elizabeth's. They are proud to be part of the warm and loving community you have created.

Staff have the utmost confidence in your strong leadership. Morale is high across your united team, because you nurture and support everyone to be the best.

It has been my absolute privilege to lead such a special school and I will miss working with such a great group of staff, children and Governors.

Although I am very sad to be leaving, I am also excited about my next challenge. I have no doubt that the school will continue to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Miss Simmons. I know you will continue to give her the support that you have given to me and I look forward to popping back from time to time.

I wish you all a relaxing summer break.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Kelly
Headteacher

*It is with courage
and a whole lot of guts
that we trust God to take
the next step forward
towards new beginnings*

To our wonderful Year Six

To each of our Year 6,
I wanted you all to know,
What a truly amazing year I've had,
In watching you all grow.

Starting the year back in September,
It was more than clear to me then,
How grown up you were after the summer
holidays,
"How could this be?" I'd often say, "they're
only ten!"

Before I could blink,
It was like you'd never been away,
Your hard-work and determination,
Made me come to school smiling each day.

And on this matter how lucky I am,
Having on my face; a reason to smirk,
That because I've been able to teach you all
year,
It's been easy not to call it "work."

When it comes to work,
You've really been up to the test,
Not to mention your homemade shields and
Titanics,
My oh my, you're simply the best!!

We've been on our adventures far and wide,
From a tram to the Marist and into town,
To the Maritime Museum in Liverpool,
Where a seagull gave Corey a...frown!

Moving closer to Christmas,
The wonderful time of year, a sheer delight,
When you sang those songs on the
playground,
During Carols by Candlelight.

After Christmas your true colours shone
through,
You had a knack of making me smile,
I knew I'd never have a class like you again,
For such a long long while.

Come what May, it was time for SATs,
You smashed those test papers into shatters,
Some advice for your scores and results, put
them down,
It's what's in your heart that matters.

After the Whit break we had even more fun,
You showed me you weren't scared of a thing,
Going to PGL in Shrewsbury,
When you enjoyed that giant rope swing!!!

When it comes to acting,
'You're sensational...a fitting message to send,
Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies,
A show truly worthy of the West End.

We've had our laughs, our cries and oh so
much joy,
Value, love and respect – so amazing you've
always been,
I'm relieved our year wasn't cut short,
Due to Covid-19!

Let's look back at this year with fond
memories,
And not with sadness or fatigue,
It's important to think of it with a smile on
your face,
Even though Man City did win the league.

I guess what I'm trying to say,
This year, you've really got me through,
And this is something I'll never forget,
And I just want to say, thank you!

As you're moving on to your next step in life,
And you're leaving here, I want to say,
To think back on your time here happily,
And maybe come back one day.

Some of you may be scared or worried,
But deep down I know you'll be fine,
Just one more bit of advice I can give to you,
Always Let Your Light Shine!

