



Friday 9th September, 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year!

I hope you have all enjoyed the summer break, the children have certainly enjoyed telling us about all the adventures they've had and the time they've spent with their family and friends.

I would like to begin by thanking you all for your support in my first week as Acting Headteacher at St Elizabeth's. Your kind wishes have been very well received each morning whilst at the gate.

It has been a joy to watch the children skip into school, eager to meet their new teachers and ready to begin a new phase in their learning journey. The children have settled very quickly and have already produced some excellent work. Well done children!

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to our new staff members this academic year and I am sure you will too as you get to know them over the coming weeks. Mrs Leonard, Miss Styles and Mrs Gandy have joined us as teaching assistants. Miss O'Hara is our new administrator working in the school office. Mrs Sands is our new Safeguarding Caseworker and Family Support Worker and Miss Box is our Year 5 class teacher. We hope they will be very happy and soon feel part of the St Elizabeth's family.

The new nursery children are settling in well and are delighted to welcome them and their families who join us this year, alongside a number of families who have joined us in other year groups. We hope you settle in to life at St Elizabeth's.

It's a Girl!

Congratulations to Mrs McCaig-Luke, who yesterday became a grandparent, after her daughter gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. After much deliberation, Mrs McCaig-Luke has decided to be called Nannie McCabe!

Attendance

Attendance this week was 97.36%, 14 children were late before registers closed. Attendance continues to be a whole school focus; on Monday we will be introducing a new attendance initiative.

Attendance and punctuality are a key element in the success rate of children's learning. Therefore, we request that medical and dental appointments should be made outside of school hours and children should not be collected early from school unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Child Protection

The whole staff attended Safeguarding training on Thursday 2nd September. This was to review the law, our duty as a school, and some of our internal procedures, through the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, we endeavour to ensure that all child protection issues, or where there are reasonable grounds to suspect an issue, will be dealt with appropriately including reporting to the duty social services officer, who will act on the concern. We are legally bound, in our duty of care, to make referrals. Mrs Sands is responsible for supporting the school community with child protection issues. She has an open-door policy and is there to help and support parents and carers with any concerns.

Please make an appointment if you would like to chat informally to her. Her working days are predominantly Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

School Uniform

Please ensure you write your child's name on all uniform and PE kit.

The correct PE kit must also be worn – this hasn't changed from last academic year: plain white t-shirt (no sports tops or logos) and black shorts or jogging bottoms.

Children in Year 1 – Year 6 must come into school wearing their school PE kit every Wednesday.

Children will also need their PE Kit in school to change into for their second PE lesson each week as follows:

Year 1: Friday
Year 2: Thursday
Year 3: Thursday
Year 4: Swimming kit every Thursday
Year 5: Friday
Year 6: Friday

School Meals

The cost of a school meal is £2.30 per day and £11.50 per week. This must be paid via Parent Pay by Thursday prior to the coming week.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club resumes on Monday 12th September. This can be booked via Parent Pay as a cost of £2 per session. Breakfast club is open from 8am, parents must accompany their children to the school office when coming to breakfast club.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 14th September – Welcome Back Mass, in school at 9:30am

Thursday 15th September – Year 4 Swimming begins

Friday 16th September – Welcome Back Disco, 6pm – 8pm

Wednesday 21st September – International Day of Peace

Thursday 29th September – Come and Watch Me Learn, 3:15pm OR 4pm

Thursday 6th October – SEN Parent Workshop

Next week, our usual weekly newsletter will resume with our 'In the Spotlight' section keeping you up to date with all the fabulous learning that takes place in school.

Finally, as a school family we were saddened to hear the news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This morning, we gathered as a school family to reflect on her life. Our children shared memories of our Platinum Jubilee celebration, recalled the great service she has shown towards our country and laughed at Her Majesty's appearance in the Paddington Bear film. We prayed for Her Majesty and the Royal family and we will continue to keep them in our prayers over the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,



Miss E Simmons
Acting Headteacher



A prayer on the death of Her Majesty The Queen

Gracious God, we give thanks
for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,
for her faith and her dedication to duty.
Bless our nation as we mourn her death
and may her example continue to inspire us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

