

St. Elizabeth's Catholic Primary

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Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

Welcome to the first weekly update of the new academic year.

We are very proud of the way the children have settled back into our school routines. Today, Mr Knight and I looked at some books from across the school and it is clear to see all of our children have made a truly wonderful and positive start to their learning. We are very excited to share this at our, 'Come and See Me Learn' event on Thursday 29th September.

Last Monday, our first assembly focused on 'Talents' and recognising that we are all unique and special. We all thought about the ways in which we can 'Let our Light Shine' both in school and at home. I am sure it is going to be another extremely successful year at St. Elizabeth's.

The Nursery staff have enjoyed getting to know the new children this week and I have been very impressed with how well they have settled.

On Monday, we had our first PTA meeting of the year. The PTA were delighted to welcome some new members to the association. They are looking forward to this evening's disco and have already given some more dates of events for the school calendar. If you would like to join the PTA or help at future events please email: stelizabethspta@yahoo.co.uk

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Simmons

Congratulations to our Gold Award winners!



Reflection

The loss of Her Majesty the Queen is deeply sad, we continue to hold the Queen and her family in our prayers.

The Queen dedicated her life to public service, championing many causes to help the most vulnerable during her reign. The young Princess Elizabeth made clear her intentions: "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

Who would have thought that fulfilling this promise would involve a reign that stretched for 70 years, thus becoming the longest serving monarch in our history?

Who would have imagined that the late Queen would have visited 117 countries, travelling over one million miles in keeping that promise?

Who would have believed that Queen Elizabeth would still be working to make good that vow just two days before she died at the age of 96?

May we remember the service she gave to our country and be forever grateful to Her Majesty.



In the Spotlight

Year 6 have had a fantastic first two weeks of the year. They have already started to show that they are capable and ready for the new challenges and responsibilities they will face this year.

We kicked off our new topic 'Invaders and Settlers: The Romans' with a bang! There we were, enjoying our guided reading lesson, when we were rudely interrupted by Romans! Year 3 had decided to come and invade our classroom. We were evicted and had to stand on the playground. When we were eventually allowed back in, we were able to discuss how we felt when we were invaded and how people in war-torn countries must feel.



Science has been exciting learning about 'Electricity'. So far, we have recapped our learning from Year 4, revising what we already know about circuits and switches. We have also investigated adding more power to a circuit and observing the effects.



Finally, we have all been busy applying for our Year 6 school jobs. Next week, we will find out who our new Head Boy and Head Girl are and are very excited to embrace our new roles and responsibilities.



Sporting Update

Cross Country

On Wednesday, our Cross-Country runners took part in the first School Games Cross Country Competition of the academic year. The event took place at Wythenshawe Park where lots of schools joined the race. Over 60 children took part in both the girls' and boys' race.

Our children excelled in the event all placing extremely highly. We look forward to next week's race and are hoping to have some runners in the Manchester final.

Good luck for next week!

Congratulations to: Rowan, Thomas, Harrison, Alex, Sreehari, Otis and Betsy. A special mention must go to Rowan who finished in first place despite losing a shoe during the race!



Badminton

Yesterday, children from Year 4 and Year 5 took part in a Badminton Competition alongside other South Manchester schools. Badminton is a new sport for St Elizabeth's. Mrs Williams is extremely proud of the children who took part and reported that their sportsmanship shone out throughout the tournament. Well done to our badminton players.

Attendance WC 12th September

Year	%
Nursery	99%
Reception	94.5%
Year 1	94.3%
Year 2	99.3%
Year 3	95.9%
Year 4	97.7%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	96%

There are 204 pupils with 100% attendance this week. Well done!

Congratulations to **Nursery & Year 3** with the best punctuality; all children were on time every day!

Congratulations to **Year 2** with the best attendance this week. The whole school attendance this week was 96.6%.

Library Corner

Last week, all children were sent home with a selection of reading books. We ask that reading records and your child's reading folder is brought to school **every day**.



Reading Facts

Reading is fundamental to every child's success. We expect every child to read for 10 minutes every day and have their reading record updated each day.

Children who read for at least 10 minutes a day are exposed to almost 1 million words per year.

Reading increases emotional intelligence.

Reading fiction can make you a better decision-maker.

6 additional minutes of reading per day can significantly improve your child's reading performance.



This term we will be awarding classes who have their reading records in school and signed every day!



Article of the Fortnight



Article 1 makes clear that everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention.

Article 4 states that governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children's rights.

Article 41 states that if a country has laws and standards that go further than the present Convention, then the country must keep these laws.

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



Pupil Parliament

We are very excited for our annual Pupil Parliament elections. Miss Simmons has been into each class today to remind the children of the responsibility being a member of St Elizabeth's Pupil Parliament brings.

Pupil Parliament promotes pupil leadership opportunities, enabling children to develop valuable communication, organisation and debating skills through key roles of responsibility and new experiences.

Pupil Parliament allows Pupils in Year 1 – Year 6 to be actively involved in the way our school is run. Pupil Parliament benefits the whole school family because it provides opportunities for pupils to communicate their opinions as well as influence the decisions that are made on their behalf.

If you would like to be a member of St Elizabeth's Pupil Parliament, please write a short speech giving reasons why you would be the best candidate and bring your speech to school on **Tuesday 20th September** so you can present to your class. Each class will vote for two Pupil Parliament class representatives.

Birthday Celebrations

As you know, our children love to celebrate their birthday each year and enjoy sharing the celebration

with their classmates. This year, we are continuing to ask children not to bring sweets into school; instead children are invited to wear their own clothes on their birthday.

If you would like to send a treat into school you could donate a book to your child's class library.



Healthy Schools

As a healthy school we are committed to ensuring our children receive a balanced diet and maintain a healthy lifestyle whilst in our care.



Children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with fruit each day for their morning snack.

Children in KS2 are allowed to bring in a healthy snack for morning break.

Confectionary, such as chocolate bars, chocolate coated biscuits, sweets and crisps are not allowed as a morning snack.

If your child has a packed lunch, please ensure you are providing a healthy balanced variety of foods for your child.

Packed lunches should not include: Confectionery such as chocolate bars, sweets, sweet or fizzy drinks.

Our school meals have some delicious new recipes and cooked freshly each day. Why not consider encouraging your child to try them?

Children must only bring milk or water to school.

Water fountains are placed around the school so children can refill their water bottle with fresh, cold water throughout the day.



Dates for your diary:

September



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

Wednesday 21st – International Day of Peace

Thursday 22nd – SENSitive Coffee morning

Thursday 22nd – Year 4 Swimming

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

Thursday 6th October – SEN Parent Workshop

