Friday 3rd March, 2023

Dear Parent / Carers,

I am pleased to inform you that the Section 8 Inspection Report from our two-day inspection in January is now available on the school website and will be published on the Ofsted website in the next few days.

St Elizabeth’s remains to be a ‘good’ school; however, inspectors are recommending our next inspection to be a graded inspection to check that the school development work we are currently undertaking is resulting in improving standards.

Despite our phonics screening and reading results being in line with the National average, Ofsted quite rightly want us to be even more ambitious for our children. With this in mind, we are aiming for our Phonics Screening results to be 90%+ this year. Since September, we have fully endorsed the ‘Read Write Inc’ Phonics programme, provided training for all staff, have further invested in quality reading books for all children and ensured all children have frequent opportunities to read throughout the school day.

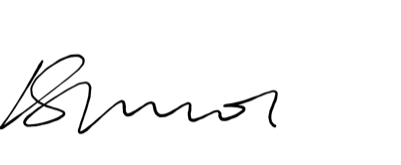
The second area of development identified in the report was in relation to the curriculum: Inspectors have recognised the hard-work undertaken in mapping out our ambitious curriculum; showing progression from Nursery to Year 6. To improve our curriculum further; we must now add further detail. An example of this is in Design Technology, in which the inspector felt it was important for the curriculum to specify which stitches were taught in which year groups to ensure the children learn simpler stitches, such as running stitches, before progressing to learning more complicated skills such as using back stitches. We look forward to further developing our curriculum and implementing these changes over the next year.

Finally, the report also highlights pupil attendance as an area to develop. Despite our school attendance being in line with National average figures, Ofsted and the Department for Education understandably recognise school attendance to be a national issue post-pandemic and, therefore, want us to focus on this area too. As you know, school attendance is a key priority at St Elizabeth’s and already forms part of our school improvement plan. We are confident that the new initiatives in place, along with your continued support, will ensure that whole school attendance and punctuality will improve to above National levels.

It is also important to highlight the hard work undertaken by the whole school community which has been celebrated throughout this report. It comes as no surprise to read that our children are happy and feel safe in school, pupils appreciate having someone to talk to and our children were proud to talk in detail about opportunities to serve in our local community including the climate change event and the invaluable work of our Mini Vinnies celebrating our distinct Catholic identity.

I am extremely proud of our school; we look forward to continuing to drive school improvement at St Elizabeth’s and look forward to showcasing our school during our next inspection.

Yours sincerely,



Miss E Simmons

Acting Headteacher