



JOY FORGIVENESS FAITH RESPECT SERVICE PEACE STEWARDSHIP

NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th March 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to start this newsletter with a few thank you messages!

Thank you to all our parents who joined our Parent Consultation Evenings via School Cloud last week, your supportive comments are very much appreciated! So many of you said how useful these appointments were to discuss how your child's learning, celebrate your child's successes and share their targets for the next few months.

Thank you to everyone who has shared the just giving page with their friends and families for our Lenten charity – CAFOD's "Walk Against Hunger". So far, we have raised £250.

Our just giving page is <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/StElizabetsWalkAgainstHunger>

Residential Trips for Years 5 and 6

We have successfully secured residential trips for our older Key Stage 2 pupils – another feeling of normality after the pandemic.

Y6 will be doing a 3 day/2 night stay at Mount Cooke at Middleton in glamping pods with outward bounds activities. Y5 will be visiting Ravenstor YHA, Millers Dale for a 3 day/2 night stay based on the Alex Rider novels based upon a spy theme.

Our SEA and 100 Club have agreed that money raised will support these trips, as well as other year group trips, in order to give back to our community. We thank all members of these clubs and all families who have supported them with fund raising, we recognise that trips, especially residential, are costly, however they are an exciting addition to the curriculum to places that offer experiences, experts and memories that enhance our curriculum.

Reminder: The SEA are the Parents/Carers involved in the St Elizabeth's Association (the same as a PTA Parent Teacher Association) who meet to plan fundraising activities. They are a dedicated team and are always looking for new members. If you would like to join this part of our community you would be very welcome, please contact the school office on 01773 822278 for contact details.

Staffing

At Easter we will say two goodbyes to long serving members of staff. Mrs Heath (year 2 teacher and SENCo) will be leaving teaching after a 23-year career to explore other avenues. Mrs Alton (year 3 teacher and English lead) will be able to fulfil her dream of becoming a full-time mum to her two children, William and Rose. We will be having a goodbye meal in school on the last day of our spring term and they will both officially leave at Easter. I know you will all support them in



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their new adventures, we will miss our colleagues, wish them well and thank them both for their hard work and dedication to serving our school, pupils and community.

After Easter Mrs Lawler will continue to teach Y3 on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Swain will teach Y2, also on a Thursday and Friday. We have welcomed Mrs White to our staff, who teaches small groups of children in intervention groups. Miss Hickling will be our new SENDCo.

These changes will ensure that your children have continuity with staff they know and staff who are familiar with our school.

Easter Performance

On Weds 6th and Thurs 7th April our Year 3 and 4 classes will be putting on a performance of the Easter story. The performances on both days will start at 1.30pm and last approximately 45 mins. We will not sell tickets, but will be having a raffle and you are also invited to stay afterwards for refreshments in the hall. The children in Year 3 and 4 will be holding a cake baking competition, to be judged by our canteen manager Mrs Slater and her staff, announcements will be made at the end of the show, for Y3 on Wednesday and Y4 winners on Thursday, the cakes will then be on sale for your refreshment. We hope that the parents and carers of our Y3 and 4 children are able to join us!

Ping Pong Ball Race

A tradition before COVID was to have a ping pong ball race on the school drive before Easter. The SEA have been able to organise this event once more! Children are invited to bring in 50p for one ball or £1 for 3 balls – or more if they wish and, of course, have your permission. The balls are all numbered and will be released for the children to watch the race. The race is for children to spectate and is held in the school day. Winners are announced immediately and Easter Eggs and cuddly toys awarded as prizes. If this is something you are happy to support please send your child in with their money by Thursday 31st March. The SEA team will then be allocating numbered ping pong balls to children before the race which will be held on Friday 8th April.

Punctuality

The whistle on the playground at the start of the school day goes at 8.55am. We open the school gates at 8.45am each day. If your child is late please ensure (regardless of the year group) that you escort your child to the school office so that we can sign them in, book lunch and get them to their lesson as swiftly as possible, please do not drop them off on the drive and allow them to walk in unsupervised. If your child is regularly late, please arrange an appointment with Mrs Clemens so that we can find a way to support you and your child to be at school on time.

Safety on the school driveway

Please take extra care driving up or down the school drive the **speed limit is 5mph**. This is politely requested to be adhered to by **all** as the safety of the children is paramount.



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Midday supervisors

We are currently advertising for both permanent and relief midday supervisors. The advert is available for further viewing on our Trust website <https://www.srscmat.co.uk/vacancies/> If you feel this is a role you could work in as part of our staff at St Elizabeth's then please consider applying. Middays work from 11.45am until 1.05 pm daily and are very much part of our team here at St Elizabeth's, they lead and supervise play activities outside as well as support children in the dinner hall. Enquiries about the role can be talked through with Mrs Hyde in our school office on 01773 822278, application forms can also be handed in directly to the school office.

COVID-19 Guide for parents of 5-11 year olds

Please access the following resource published by Public Health England as the latest guide for parents.

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/covid-19-vaccine/resources/covid-19-guide-parents-5-11-year-olds/>

In school we as a staff will continue to test as needed, although there are no government requirements to do so. If members of staff test positive then they will follow the same guidance of a minimum of 5 days and then 2 negative lateral flow tests. We will still ask that you keep children off if they are ill or test positive and please continue to inform school (email enquiries@eli.srscmat.co.uk or phone on 01773 822278) if your child is positive as we still report numbers to the Outbreak Response Team at Derbyshire.

Safeguarding information for parents:

Fake news and disinformation online

What's the problem?

Fake news is false or misleading information presented as genuine news.

Your child might have seen fake news online about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. There have been examples of old footage being shared as if it's new, or images being manipulated to present a misleading picture about what's happening. There's been lots of misinformation on TikTok in particular.

Fake news and disinformation have also been linked to radicalisation by extremists and attempts to skew people's world views. For example, extremist narratives relating to coronavirus include:

- Antisemitic conspiracy theories blaming Jewish people for the spread of the virus or suggesting it's a 'Jewish plot'
- Claims that British Muslims have flouted social distancing rules
- Anti-Chinese hatred
- Isis-inspired narratives about how coronavirus is a divine punishment for the 'sinful behaviours' of the west

- Extreme right-wing conspiracies that society is collapsing and far-right groups can accelerate its end

Reading information like this can upset or worry your child unnecessarily. Fake news also helps create a culture of fear and uncertainty, with children trusting reputable news outlets less as a result of fake news.

How can I help my child spot fake news online?

Tell them to ask themselves:

- **What's the source?** Is it a reputable news source, and are mainstream news outlets reporting it too?
- **When was it published?** Check the date an article was published, as sometimes old stories are shared on social media. This could be an accident, or it might be to make it look like something happened recently
- **Have you seen anything similar elsewhere?** What happens if you search for it on Google or check it using a fact-checking website like Full Fact?
- **Do the pictures look real?** Images might have been edited. They might also be unrelated images that have been used with the story
- **Why might this have been created?** Could someone be trying to provoke a specific reaction, change your beliefs, or get you to click a link?

Encourage them to **read beyond the headline** too. Many people share stories having just read the headline, then discover the actual story is quite different.

Point them to the government's SHARE checklist (<https://sharechecklist.gov.uk/>) and advice from Childline (<https://bit.ly/3oYfsgd>) too.

What signs of radicalisation should I be alert to?

It's worth knowing some of the signs to be alert to, just in case. If you do see these signs, it doesn't necessarily mean your child is being radicalised – it could be nothing at all, or it could be a sign that something else is wrong.

- Becoming more isolated from friends and family
- Not being willing or able to talk about their views
- Becoming more angry
- Talking as if from a script
- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
- Being more secretive, especially about their internet use

If you're worried about your child, contact school, we will be happy to talk through any concerns.

Diary Dates

Don't forget to scroll down to see the most up to date events taking place in our school community, the calendar of events gets edited and up-dated regularly so please refer to our latest edition.

God bless,
Mrs Clemens.

Calendar of Events – 2022

Friday 1 st April	Y1 class liturgy with Fr Michael	Y1 pupils
Monday 4 th to Wednesday 6 th April	Y5 class residential trip to Ravenstor YHA	Y5 pupils
Wednesday 6 th April	1.30pm Y3/4 Easter Production for Y3/4 parents – please stay afterwards for refreshments in the hall	All Y3/4 pupils on stage
Thursday 7 th April	1.30pm Y3/4 Easter Production for Y3/4 parents– please stay afterwards for refreshments in the hall	All Y3/4 pupils on stage
Friday 8 th April	Ping Pong Ball Race (SEA)	All pupils
Friday 8 th April	Break up for Easter holiday	All pupils
Monday 11th-Friday 22nd April	Easter – School closed	School closed to all pupils
Tuesday 26 th April	Ascension Day Celebrations	All pupils
Monday 9 th -Friday 13 th May	Y6 SATs	Y6
Tuesday 17 th May	Class photos	All pupils
Thursday 26 th May	Break up	All pupils
Friday 27th May	School closed - Holiday to Celebrate Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee	School closed to all pupils
Monday 30th May-Friday 3rd June	Half term	School closed to all pupils
Monday 6 th June	Return to school	All pupils
Monday 6 th June	Stewardship Day (to celebrate World Environment Day)	All pupils
Wednesday 22 nd June	Sports Day	All pupils
Wednesday 29 th June	St Peter and St Paul Mass	
Friday 1st July	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Wednesday 6 th July	Transition morning	All pupils visit new class
Thursday 7 th July	Transition afternoon	All pupils visit new class
Friday 8 th July	Transition day	All pupils visit new class
18 th -22 nd July	Health week	All pupils
Thursday 21 st July	2.30pm Y6 Leaver's Mass followed by tree planting and coffee and cake in hall	Y6 with Parents/Carers
Thursday 21 st July	SEA school disco 6pm – 7.30pm	All pupils
Friday 22 nd July	Break up for summer holiday	All pupils
Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September 2022	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Monday 5 th September 2022	Return to school	All pupils