



JOY FORGIVENESS FAITH RESPECT SERVICE PEACE STEWARDSHIP

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 13th September
2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope you and your families had a great summer together. I know it's not quite the return to school we all expected with the recent changes to RAAC (the concrete in KS1), however, we have got the children from Reception, Y1 and Y2 settled into their new classrooms and things are going smoothly. We should be finding out the exact date of the next survey soon, a "Stage 4 Survey", and, as the experts guide us to take action, we will let you know more details as soon as we can. The results of the survey could have several outcomes including reinforcements in classrooms, toilets and corridors in the affected areas or even new ceilings. Until we know more, we will continue to keep our children and staff safe and stay out of the affected areas altogether.

New starters

We would like to say a welcome to all our new families and children, we welcome 16 new starters in our Reception Class and have had 9 new starters in the rest of the school – Keziah, Billy, Steven, Louis, Lottie, Daisy, Ezekiel, Sam and Lhola (with 3 more new starters in November) – welcome to our St Elizabeth's community!

SATs results

Some wonderful news to share - Our SATs results for Y6 (in July) were amazing, we are so proud of their achievement with 94% at expected level for their reading (national average was 73%), 97% at expected level for maths (national average was 73%) and 94% at expected level (national average was 72%). Thank you to all of you as parents and carers in our school community who help and support the children, both academically and emotionally, the children took the test days in their stride with a sense of purpose and calm.

Belper Town Youth Council

Each year a child is nominated by their peers in Y6 to be the school rep for the Belper Town Youth Council. This year I am pleased to announce it is James in Y6 who will be the representative and attend the Youth Council Meetings. School council members are being voted for this week in classes 2-6.

Goodbye!

We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Tomlinson at the end of this week who is going to retrain as a nurse. Mrs Tomlinson has been such a valued member of our school community (as a parent, a Governor and a member of the SEA) and has worked at St Elizabeth's as a Teaching Assistant and shared such kindness and dedication with staff, children and parents. We will miss her but wish Mrs Tomlinson every success as she moves into the next chapter of her life and starts her training next week.

Class welcome letters and meet the teacher events

Welcome letters from each class have been sent out this week so that you know class routines. We also have our meet the teacher events next week and invite each of you to come into your child's classroom at either 3.45pm to 4.15pm or 4.30pm to 5pm on Wednesday 20th September, we have doubled up on



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Company Number 7937154



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

meetings in case you have more than one child in school. The PowerPoint slides that the teachers will be using will be emailed out to all on Monday 18th September.

P.E. and Swimming - Jewellery

Please remember to remove all jewellery (especially earrings) for both P.E. and Swimming. Many thanks.

ADPR meetings

For our special needs children, we will be holding parent meetings on 27th September to discuss their individual plans, the ADPRs (Assess, Plan, Do and Reviews) for the coming term. These will be 20-minute appointments and can either be face to face in your child's classroom or on School Cloud virtually, all appointments for either of these will need to be booked via School Cloud, bookings will open on 18th September.

SEA

Thank you to our SEA, the St Elizabeth's Association, for their fundraising, as a result of which on Friday we will be having a noughts and crosses board and a maze board added to the trim trail area for children to access during their breaks, school council helped select these, thank you to you all for your continued support for the school fundraising.

Reception class drop off

Mrs Wilby and Mrs Eaton have been delighted at the way our new reception class have settled into school routines so far and can see they are ready to take the next step and join the school on the bottom playgrounds in the mornings. As of Monday 18th September, Mrs Wilby will be out on the playground meeting all reception class. This means that they will no longer be dropped off at their classroom door in the mornings (it will still be pick up point at 3.30pm). You can enter the bottom playground area to drop your child off from 8.45am until 8.55am, entrances are either via the electric gate near the bottom car park and walk up the path or by the gate near the Year 1 classroom.

Children's Absences

If your child is unwell, please call or email school (01773 822278, enquiries@eli.srscmat.co.uk) before the start of the school day, 8.55am.

Water bottles

We encourage all children to have water bottles in school to stay hydrated, these should only be filled with water (not flavoured water or juice). We have had children bringing in screw top bottles and a few have tipped over and spoiled work/resources. Please can we request that when you are buying children new water bottles that they have a sports cap to avoid these spillages.

Secondary School applications

Is your child in our Y6 class? If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you will be thinking about looking around secondary schools for their Year 7 place. All applications must be made by midnight on 31st October 2023 to secure a place. Applications are made online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions

St Benedict's CVA open evening for Y5 and Y6

St Benedict's CVA (also part of our St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust) are holding a parent and pupil open evening for Y5 and Y6 on September 28th from 5pm-8pm no booking or appointments needed. Their address is Duffield Road, Derby, DE22 1JD and their contact number is 01332 557032.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest festival this year is at 3pm on Tuesday 10th October, parents are welcome. We will start our collection for donations of food on Monday 25th September, these will be displayed in each classroom until Harvest Festival. We will be supporting Hope for Belper food Bank with Harvest donations.

School office

Mrs Hyde is our School Business Officer and is currently in the office on her own, please be reassured that she will be checking the answerphone and emails regularly. Contact details are 01773 822278, enquiries@eli.srscmat.co.uk

Parish website

The link to our Parish website for updates of times and services at Our Lady's on Gibfield Lane, Belper or St Joseph's, Ripley or St Margaret's, Duffield is <https://catholic-ambervalley.uk/parish/belper/>

Calendar of events

Please remember to scroll down and see the calendar of events, this does get updated regularly and some dates may change so please continue to check this throughout the school year.

Thank you all for your continued support and God Bless,

AJ Clemens

Mrs Clemens
Headteacher.

Calendar of Events for St Elizabeth's – 2023/2024

	2023/2024	
Monday 4 th September	INSET	School Closed.
Tuesday 5 th September		School Closed.
Wednesday 6 th September	Back to school	All pupils
Monday 11 th September	Voting starts for school council members	Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
Wednesday 13 th September	Roald Dahl Day	All pupils will complete an activity in class linked to Roald Dahl and his books.
Thursday 14 th September	3pm in the school hall, Chaplaincy team leading liturgical prayers	All pupils, parents welcome
Wednesday 20 th September	Meet the teacher events (sessions repeated to allow parents to attend more than one)	Session 1: 3.45pm-4.15pm Session 2: 4.30pm-5pm
Thursday 21 st September	Y5 leading liturgical prayers	All pupils, parents of Y5 welcome
Monday 25 th September	Start the Harvest Appeal	Begin collecting donations in classrooms for Hope for Belper Food Bank
Wednesday 27 th September	ADPR meetings	Review SEN support with teachers either face to face meetings or via School Cloud
Thursday 28 th September	Y6 leading liturgical prayers	All pupils, parents of Y6 welcome

Thursday 28 th September	Open evening at St Benedict's CVA, 5-8pm	For pupils and parents of children in years 5 and 6
Monday 2 nd October	Bike Ability	Y4 pupils
Tuesday 3 rd October	Bike Ability	Y5 pupils
Wednesday 4 th October	Feast Day of St Francis	
Thursday 5 th October	10am CAFOD assembly, "Young People Demand Change"	All KS2
Friday 6 th October	School Council Coat Swap Day	Coat swap, donate, collect.
Tuesday 10 th October	3pm Harvest Festival	All welcome
Thursday 12 th October	Y4 leading liturgical prayers	All pupils, parents of Y4 welcome
Tuesday 17 th October	Parent Consultation Evening	For all parents
Wednesday 18 th October	Parent Consultation Evening	For all parents
Thursday 19 th October	Y3 leading liturgical prayers	All pupils, parents of Y3 welcome
Friday 20 th October	Open afternoon for new starters 1.30pm-3pm	New pupils and their families
Thursday 26 th October	Y2 leading liturgical prayers	All pupils, parents of Y2 welcome
Friday 27 th October	Break up for half term	
Monday 30 th October to Friday 3 rd November	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 6 th November	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Tuesday 7 th November	INSET	School closed to all pupils
	Derbyshire admissions open for new starters to St Elizabeth's in Sept 2024	
Wednesday 8 th November	Back to school	All pupils
Wednesday 8 th November to Friday 10 th November	Y6 residential to Willersley Castle	Y6
Monday 13 th November	Maths week starts with TT Rockstars Day	Dress as a rockstar on Monday, all pupils – and staff too!
Tuesday 14 th November	World Diabetes Day	
Monday 27 th November	Lamda Exams	Lamda pupils
Monday 11 th December	Nativity performed to school	All pupils
Tuesday 12 th December	2pm KS1 Nativity performed to parents	KS1 and their families
Wednesday 13 th December	6.30pm KS1 Nativity performed to parents	KS1 and their families
Friday 22 nd December	Break up for Christmas holiday	
Monday 25 th December to Friday 5 th January	Christmas holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 8 th January 2024	Back to school	All pupils
Friday 16 th February	Break up for half term	
Monday 19 th February to Friday 23 rd February	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 26 th February	INSET	All pupils
Tuesday 27 th February	Back to school	All pupils
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	All pupils dress up as their favourite character from a book
Tuesday 26 th March	2pm Easter Play by Y3 and Y4 performed to parents	All Y3 and Y4 parents and family members welcome
Wednesday 27 th March	2pm Easter Play by Y3 and Y4 performed to parents	All Y3 and Y4 parents and family members welcome
Thursday 28 th March	Break up for Easter	
Friday 29 th March	Good Friday	School closed to all pupils

Monday 1 st April to Friday 12 th April	Easter Holidays	School closed to all pupils
Monday 15 th April	Back to school	All pupils
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 13 th May to Thursday 16 th May	SATs	Y6
Friday 24 th May	Break up for half term	
Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 3 rd June	Back to school	All pupils
Thursday 6 th June	Sport's Day	All pupils
Friday 28 th June	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Wednesday 3 rd July	Transition Day	All children move to next class
Monday 22 nd July	Leaver's Mass	Y6 pupils and their families
Tuesday 23 rd	Leaver's Assembly at 10am in the school hall	Whole school and Y6 parents
Tuesday 23 rd July	Break up for summer	Last day for all pupils