



JOY FORGIVENESS FAITH RESPECT SERVICE PEACE STEWARDSHIP

# NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 14th November 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Straight after half term we had a very successful residential trip to Willersley Castle with our Year 6, the children had a fantastic time grass sledging, climbing, on the zip wire as well as learning survival skills and bushcraft. We are so proud of them all! The compliments from the instructors at Willersley Castle on the behaviour, team work and positive attitudes of our children were wonderful to hear and were shared with children in our whole school celebration just yesterday.

## Admissions for Reception Class 2024

Do you have a child (or maybe know a friend/neighbour/family member) who needs a place in Reception Class for September 2024? If the child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 it is time to apply to Derbyshire County Council for a primary school place. The admissions process has begun and closes at midnight on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Full information is available in, "How to apply for a place at primary school – a guide for parents 2024/5" you can read the guide at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions). If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) you can contact the county council's SEND Central Team at [Education.SENAdmin@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:Education.SENAdmin@derbyshire.gov.uk) or ring 01629 537479.

All application forms are available online at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions) which is quick and easy to do. A telephone application can also be used if you are unable to apply online, using the number 01629 537479. **Supplementary forms can be collected from the school office at your convenience.**

If you apply online you can log in to change or update your application up until the closing date. You can log in to get the result of your application on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024, you will also be emailed on that date by Derbyshire CC to be notified of your child's school place.

Please recommend our school as we know verbal recommendations from our parents to others is far better than seeing leaflets and posters.

## Teams 4 U Christmas Shoebox Appeal - reminder

Our annual shoebox appeal has begun. If you are new to this charity they support children in parts of Europe and Africa in order for them to receive a Christmas present. You and your family may want to donate a shoebox with gifts for a child or provide a homeware box for a family. Please, take a look at the link below and your family can make a decision as to the contents of your box.

[Teams4u](#)

Thank you for your support with this, the last day for donations will be **23<sup>rd</sup> November**.

## Science STEM roadshow visit

We are very proud to be inviting into school BAE Systems, The Royal Air Force, and The Royal Navy to deliver an engaging theatre roadshow celebrating STEM on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. This workshop is aligned to the National Curriculum, includes a 50-minute performance to inspire and engage our children, and we can offer this at no cost in order to enhance our science curriculum and speak about career



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St Elizabeth's Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Matlock Rd, Belper, Derbyshire, DE562JD  
[info@st-elizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-elizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
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**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

opportunities with children in KS2 to inspire them to consider their future jobs. The theme of the show is 'From the depths of the oceans to outer space.' We will be examining the engineering challenges that are faced when travelling to the most inhospitable places and discover some of the innovative solutions to these problems.

### **Maths escape rooms for KS2**

On **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** we have organised maths escape rooms for KS2 classes from a visiting educational company, which should be great fun as well as motivational, engaging and an exciting way to learn maths. For this event we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £5 from each child in KS2 (years 3, 4, 5 and 6) in order to support this event. This payment will appear on parent pay.

### **Safeguarding - mornings**

Please remember bringing children to school and collecting children from school is a parental responsibility. If you are running late in the morning please ensure you escort your child to the school office and speak to Mrs Hyde so that we can establish a reason for lateness and also order a dinner. Children are not allowed to be dropped off on the school drive and left to find their way to the office when they are late.

The school gates open at 8.45am and school starts at 8.55am. If you need support with child care before this time please contact our before school breakfast club – KidZone. KidZone opens from 7.30am each weekday, for further details contact Marie on 07738 353094.

### **School meal prices - reminder**

We have held our price for school meals at St Elizabeth's very successfully at £2.30 per lunch. However, despite our best efforts this no longer allows us to cover the total cost of the meals, resulting in us having to subsidise the cost of these meals from other areas of our already stretched budget and it is no longer viable. This means that we have now reached a position where we must raise the cost in order that the money available for teaching and learning is not impacted.

As a result, we have taken the decision that the **price of a school meal will increase to £2.85 per meal from December 4th 2023**. This is in line with other local schools within our Trust and is lower than the other local Derbyshire schools who charge £3.25 per meal.

This change will not affect those who are entitled to free school meals through the Universal Free School Meals programme in Reception, Year 1 and 2. It will also not affect children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who have access to free school meals. If you are unsure about your eligibility for this, please speak to the School Office who would be happy to assist you.

If your family would be entitled to free school meals but you have chosen not to register your eligibility, there are many benefits to making an application and we would encourage you to do so. Again, if you would like to know more, please contact the School Office.

As previously stated, this decision has not been taken lightly and we will continue to try to keep our costs for school meals as low as possible for as long as possible in order to be able to support our families.

### **SEA Events**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November - Movie night doors open at 5.45pm, film starts at 6pm, admission £1, refreshments will be on sale for 50p, collection time 8pm.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Non uniform day to support the SEA and Christmas Fayre in return for anything chocolate.



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Wednesday 6th December -SEA Christmas gift sale for children to attend during the afternoon.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Non uniform day to support the SEA and Christmas Fayre in return for anything in a bottle (eg juice, shampoo, bubble bath, wine etc...)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas disco 6pm-7.30pm

### 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,

Mrs Clemens.  
Headteacher.

### **Calendar of Events for St Elizabeth's – 2023-24**

	2023/2024	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	World Diabetes Day	
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Y1 leading Celebration of the Word	3pm in hall, Y1 parents welcome
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Maths Escape Rooms	KS2 children (Please see parent pay for payment)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	SEA movie night	All children welcome doors open 5.45pm, film starts at 6pm, collection 8pm.
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	3pm Compass assembly on anxiety	Whole school
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Y5 trip to Justice Museum in Nottingham	Y5 pupils
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Reception leading Celebration of the Word	3pm in hall, Reception parents welcome
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Lamda Exams	Lamda pupils
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Science STEM roadshow visit "From oceans to outer space"	KS2 pupils
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Faith In Action children leading Celebration of the Word	3pm in hall, Faith in Action children's parents welcome
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Trust Feast Day of St Ralph Sherwin	All pupils
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Non uniform day to support the SEA and Christmas Fayre in return for anything chocolate.	All pupils
Wednesday 6th December	SEA Christmas gift sale	Children to attend during the afternoon
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December –	Non uniform day to support the SEA and Christmas Fayre in return for anything in a bottle (eg juice, shampoo, bubble bath, wine etc...)	All pupils
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas disco 6pm-7.30pm	All pupils

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity performed to school	All pupils
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm KS1 Nativity performed to parents	KS1 and their families
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm KS1 Nativity performed to parents	KS1 and their families
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Christmas dinner	All pupils are welcome to order a dinner on this day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime	All pupils
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Break up for Christmas holiday	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Back to school	All pupils
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	2.45pm Whole school Celebration of the Word with Jon Grattidge from CAFOD introducing the Big Lent Walk	All pupils
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras celebrations (Building the Kingdom)	All pupils
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	10.15am Mass	All pupils and Parish welcome
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for half term	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET	All pupils
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Back to school	All pupils
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day	All pupils dress up as their favourite character from a book
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm Easter Play by Y3 and Y4 performed to parents	All Y3 and Y4 parents and family members welcome
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm Easter Play by Y3 and Y4 performed to parents	All Y3 and Y4 parents and family members welcome
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Break up for Easter	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Good Friday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays	School closed to all pupils
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Back to school	All pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs	Y6
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for half term	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Back to school	All pupils
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Sport's Day	All pupils
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Transition Day	All children move to next class
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Leaver's Mass	Y6 pupils and their families
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Leaver's Assembly at 10am in the school hall	Whole school and Y6 parents
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Break up for summer	Last day for all pupils