



BE LIKE JESUS. BE YOUR BEST. BE SAFE. BE CARING.

Welcome Back

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a delightful Christmas and New Year and we are looking forward to having the children back in school for our Lent 1 term.

R.E.

We have started our fourth topic of the term, 'Mission', in which we will be thinking about our local church, diocese and community. We will investigate what it means to have a mission in life, referring back to Jesus' mission and how he sought to achieve it, referring to ecumenism and Christian unity. Following this, we will begin our fifth topic, Memorial Sacrifice, in which we will learn all about the significance of the link between the Eucharist and the Last Supper. We will investigate transubstantiation and consecration and how we remember Jesus' ultimate sacrifice today. These Knowledge organisers can be accessed on the class webpage.

On the afternoon of Tuesday February 6th, we have CAFOD presenting a workshop on Catholic Social Teaching (the idea that God built his kingdom on love, peace and justice). We also have a class retreat with Chaplain Joe in the morning on this date.

Excitingly, on Tuesday 13th February (Shrove Tuesday) Mardi Gras day is returning to St. Elizabeth's! The children are invited to wear purple, gold and green and may bring in whistles, maracas etc. for our parade. Our bright gold P.E. kit is a great costume if you are stuck for ideas! The children will spend the day learning about the history and significance of Mardi Gras... and of course there are pancakes for lunch!

Year 5 are also leading our Ash Wednesday mass on Wednesday February 14th at 9.30 with Father Colin Patey (our visiting priest). All are welcome to join!

RODSLEY LENT 1

English

Writing: Following our balanced discussions last term, this half term we will be writing our own myths! Linking nicely with our current Ancient Greeks history topic, the children will create their own myth, based upon our model text of Perseus and Medusa. To build action and suspense within this topic, the children will be encouraged to integrate writer's tricks such as onomatopoeia, repetition, dramatic fronted adverbials, direct speech and short sentences. We will also be reading other myths to help build up our story bank, such as the Legend of Troy, Jupiter and the Bee and Pandora's Box.

Reading: The children's reading in Year 5 is coming along splendidly, and we are really noticing the impact of home reading! As a reminder, the children should continue to utilize their reading bookmarks at home, on which they are to write down any words that they are unfamiliar with or have struggled to pronounce. Your child is expected to bring their home reading book into school once a week, on a set day (which the children are aware of). This is so that teachers and teaching assistants can listen to them read and track their progress. If your child fails to bring their book two weeks in a row, you will receive a letter making you aware of this.

This half term, our class read is Funky Chickens by Benjamin Zephaniah. Each day we read one of Zephaniah's fantastically funky poems, alongside which we read 'The Story and Life of Benjamin Zephaniah', to learn all about his life and works. Did you know he hails from a town in Jamaica called St. Elizabeth's?

In our Talk for Reading sessions this half term, we will be covering extracts, lyrics and videos from texts such as The Black Amulet, Song for a Whale, Foreign Lands and FARThER.

Maths

In Maths this half term, we are now moving forward with Multiplication and Division. This includes short multiplication (multiplying larger numbers by a one-digit number), long multiplication (multiplying larger numbers by two-digit numbers) and bus stop division (dividing larger numbers by a one-digit number). Practice on TimesTablesRockstars will help with this greatly! Once completed, we will then move onto our first fractions unit of the year. We will begin with a recap of equivalent fractions, moving onto converting mixed and improper fractions before ending with comparing and ordering fractions and using fractions to divide.

P.E.

The children will have two P.E. lessons each week; **Wednesday** and **Fridays**. This term, they are doing dance on Wednesdays and football on Fridays. Children are to come to school in their active uniform on these days. Outdoor kit should include plain black tracksuit bottoms, yellow polo shirt, yellow sweatshirt and outdoor trainers. Please ensure all items are fully labelled! For convenience, I politely ask that long hair be tied back, and earrings removed on P.E. days. Whilst we advise against it, if your child's earrings are new and unable to be taken out, they must be taped over with surgical tape, brought in from home.

Foundation Subjects

To see a breakdown of our foundation subjects this half term (History, Geography, Art, D&T, RSE, P.E, Spanish & Computing) please see the curriculum overview on our class webpage.

Homework

The children have been fantastic with their homework so far this year! I am fully aware of the support from home this requires so would also like to thank parents and guardians for their support with this. As requested, our school calculation policy, along with some tutorial videos, has been uploaded onto the homework tab of our class page to help you support your children with homework.

Twitter

As a reminder, our class Twitter page is @StLizClass18. I strongly recommend following this page to be kept up to date with all things Year 5. Think of it as a virtual noticeboard!

Valentine's Disco

The children are all invited to join our SEA's Valentines' Disco on Friday 9th February from 6-7.30pm. Entry is £1 per child and they are welcome to bring small amounts of change for the tuck shop and some exciting games!

Brass Lessons

For music, Year 5 will be continuing our brass lessons. These will fall on a Friday afternoon, so please ensure that the children **bring their instruments in on Thursdays**, ready for our lessons. There have been lots of children regularly forgetting their instruments, and this is really hindering their ability to keep pace with the rest of the class. As part of their instrument home contract, children are expected to take their instrument home each week to practice.

Compass Mental Health & Wellbeing

On the afternoon of Monday 5th February, the children are attending a mental health and wellbeing assembly ran by Compass (a mental health support service for children and young people in Derby and Derbyshire). They will introduce children to the '5 ways to wellbeing': connect, give, learn, be active and notice. Ask your children if they can verbalise to you what this means and what steps they are taking to protect their own mental health at home and in school. As always, if you ever have any concerns about your child's mental wellbeing, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Upcoming events in the Lent 2 term

- **Monday February 26th**: INSET Day. School closed to all pupils (with the exception of KidZone).
- **Thursday February 29th**: Year 5's Celebration of the Word. Y5 parents and family welcome to attend in the hall from 3pm.
- **Thursday 7th March**: World Book Day. Further information to be sent home before February half term.
- **Wednesday March 20th-22nd**: Our residential to Lea Green. Kit lists, parent and child information and consent letters to be sent home before February half term.

If you have any quick questions, please feel free to speak to me at the end of the school day, once all of the children have been dismissed. If, at that point, you feel you require a longer appointment, we can arrange a meeting via the school office (01773 822278). We are really looking forward to an exciting half term and a fun-filled year!

Thank you in advance for your support.

Miss Holmes, Miss Booth & Mrs. Plastow

Dates For Your Diary

05.02.24	3-3.30pm	Mental Health and Wellbeing Assembly KS2 children Led by Compass: Changing Lives
06.02.24	2.05-3.05pm	KS2 CAFOD Catholic Social Teaching Workshop
13.02.24	All Day	Mardi Gras Day All pupils – wear green, yellow or purple – or all three together!
14.02.24	9.30-10.45	Ash Wednesday Mass Led by Y5, all members of the school community invited to join.
w/c 19.02.24	FEBRUARY HALF TERM	
26.02.24	INSET Day School closed to all pupils (KidZone remains open)	
27.02.24	Children return to school	