



JOY FORGIVENESS FAITH RESPECT SERVICE PEACE STEWARDSHIP

# NEWSLETTER

Thursday 12th December 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

## Applications for primary school

If you know anyone who is looking for a place for Reception Class for September- 2025, please ask them to book in for a tour of our school. We know that recommendations from parents are always held in high regard by potential new parents, so please let any friends or relatives know about our school! If you would like a leaflet/poster to let others know about our school, please come and collect a few from the school office.

The window for applications is now open, application closing date is midnight on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025. The application process is quick and easy, the application website is [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions)

## RAAC

I know you will be just as delighted, as the entire staff team, to hear that contractors start work on the Key Stage 1 classrooms during the Christmas holidays!

This will mean there is no parking at the end of the day for collection from school on the top playground area for the duration of the work which is possibly going to last until March/April. I understand that the driveway is already a very busy area, however, the work must get completed and we need to work together to enable this to happen. If you do not have to use a car to collect children, please could you consider walking? There are also spaces on both the Ripley and Belper buses, please feel free to contact the school office for further information regarding these on 01773 822278. Alternatively find a convenient location offsite that you and your family would consider walking to/from the car. I know all these solutions are a short-term inconvenience, but long term we will be back in the correct classrooms for every year group, something everyone in our school community has been waiting for - for what feels like a very long time!

## Christmas Fayre

Please remember our Christmas Fayre is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, it starts at 2.30pm and lasts until 4.30pm, Santa will also be in school! The school day will still close at 3.30pm, so children should not leave the school site before this time (school buses and Kidzone will still be running at the usual times), however, if you would like to sign your child out to go "shopping" in the hall together just come to the main porch door to the hall. There will be the raffle, tombola, games, refreshments as well as a treasure hunt to see Santa and then stalls of books and toys. Come along and enjoy!

## Parental questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our parent questionnaire. We do appreciate your input, and we do respond to your suggestions for improvements. It takes approximately 2-3 mins to complete. Recent work around school has been because of this (and as budget allows), for example the tarmacking of the school drive, our Governors communicating with the local council to reduce the speed limit on the A6 for the school drive, free lunch time clubs and improvements in communication.

Please click here to tell us your views <https://forms.office.com/e/tn22SrFJ1b>



DIOCESE OF  
NOTTINGHAM

St Elizabeth's Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Matlock Rd, Belper, Derbyshire, DE562JD  
[info@st-elizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-elizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
Company Number 7937154



St Ralph  
Sherwin  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

## **Communication**

Currently we communicate the events in school and content of learning as well as pupil progress in a variety of ways.

We have parent consultation evenings in Advent and Lent times with a full written report in the summer, these are supported with evenings for parents of children with SEND 3 times per year.

We communicate learning at meet the teacher evenings and in class newsletters, newsletters are on the website and any PowerPoints used at meet the teacher evenings are emailed home.

Newsletters are sent home via email on a regular basis, if anyone needs a paper version of this then pop into the school office and we will print one off. The newsletter always has a clear list of events and dates for the rest of the school year. Each week the office sends out an email sharing the following week of events, this is then followed up with reminder texts. Each class uses Tapestry (Iona) or Twitter to also share learning and events.

If there is anything specific that you feel would improve communication, please either send an email to the school office or come and have a chat to either the office or the staff on duty at drop or collection.

## **Donation Station**



We have a very small food bank area in the foyer next to the school office (not really grand enough to be called a food bank), so referred to as our "Donation Station".

Please donate if you can and collect whenever you need.

If the food does not get collected by our families, then our group called "Faith in Action" check and send to Hope for Belper Food Bank no food is ever wasted.

## **Car park next to Long Row School**

When walking through the car park next to Long Row School please ensure that children do walk with you and always remain on the pavement. Long Row have raised this as an issue, and we need to ensure all children stay safe.

## **Our Parish News**

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, the Parish of the Epiphany, Amber Valley 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. Please note that dates for the academic year 2024-25 have begun to be added.

Thank you all for your continued support and God Bless you and yours this Christmas time.

Mrs Clemens.  
Headteacher.

### Calendar of Events for St Elizabeth's

	Calendar for 2024-2025	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre 2.30pm-4.30pm	Afternoon, all welcome
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December		
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner day and Panto!	All pupils
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	10am Advent Mass in school	All pupils and parish welcome
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Break up for Christmas holidays	All pupils
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December -Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Christmas holidays	School closed to all pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Back to school	All pupils
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	3pm Y5 Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Y5 pupils
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	3pm Y6 Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Y6 pupils
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	3pm Y4 Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Y4 pupils
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	3pm Y3 Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Y3 pupils
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Our Lady of Lourdes – Mary Pilgrimage led by Faith In action group	All pupils
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	3pm Y2 Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Y2 pupils
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for half term	All pupils
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February -Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Back to school	All pupils
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	3pm Y1 Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Y1 pupils
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Shrove Tuesday	Pancakes on the dinner menu
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Wednesday	
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day At 9.15am there is World Book Day Assembly in the hall, all invited, including a parade of all costumes	All pupils dress up as their favourite book character
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Science week begins	All pupils
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	3pm Reception Class Celebration of the Word and class assembly	Whole school and parents of Reception Class pupils
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Big Lent Walk	All pupils, wear active uniform and appropriate footwear
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Y3/4 Easter Performance at 2pm in the school hall	All invited
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Y3/4 Easter Performance at 6.30pm in the school hall	All invited
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Break up for Easter holidays	All pupils

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter holidays	School closed to all pupils
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Back to school	All pupils
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week	All Y6 pupils
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	1.15pm Marian Celebration of the Word in school hall, afterwards all donations of flowers will be delivered on King Street, Belper	1.15pm Marian Celebration of the Word, all welcome
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Break up for May half term	All pupils
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term holiday	School closed to all pupils
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Back to school	All pupils
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	3pm Corpus Christi Celebration of the Word led by Joe and the Chaplaincy Team with Adoration	All invited
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET	School closed to all pupils
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	3pm St Peter and Paul Celebration of the Word, Chaplaincy team leading.	All invited
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm Y5/6 Performance	Parents invited
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	6.30pm Y5/6 Performance	Parents invited
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	10.15am Y6 Leaver's Assembly	Y6 parents invited
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Break up for summer holidays	All pupils
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> July until 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Summer holidays	School closed to all pupils
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	INSET days	School closed to all pupils
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Back to school	All pupils