

Mrs Michelle Walsh – Headteacher

6th January 2023

I would like to welcome everyone back to school following the Christmas break. I hope you had a restful Christmas and I wish you all a happy new year. It has been lovely to welcome the children back into classes ready to learn. May God bless all our families in this new year. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs Byrne and her family on the birth of her baby daughter, Emily. I am sure you will join me in sending our very best wishes to them all.

Poet visit: It has been a privilege to welcome Andy Tooze, a published poet, into school today. The children really enjoyed hearing his poetry and he was very impressed with the way they wrote their own poems. Andy even wrote a poem as soon as he arrived inspired by the moon he had seen on his journey to St Elizabeth's.

Parent Overviews: Next week, you will receive a parent overview. This will provide you with information about your child's learning for the next term so you can continue to support at home. It will also provide you with any other important information for the term ahead. Please feel free to speak to your child's classteacher about any questions or concerns you may have.

School Uniform: It has been great to see our children returning to school after the Christmas break looking so smart in their uniform. Please remember that children should wear school shoes and not trainers other than on PE days. On PE days, pupils are able to wear either a school branded tracksuit or a plain unbranded dark coloured track suit. Thank you.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 10th January - Parent overviews to parents

Wednesday 11th January - Young voices concert

Friday 13th January - Mass led by Y1 (All welcome)

Wednesday 18th January - Poetry afternoon for children

Friday 27th January - INSET day (school closed for pupils)

Friday 3rd February - Mass led by Y5 (All welcome)

Sunday 5th February - Parish Mass led by school (10.30am St John's church)

Tuesday 7th February - Online safety day

Friday 10th February - Dress to express yourself day

Monday 13th February - Multi-faith day

Wednesday 15th February - Alton castle meeting for Y5 parents 3.30pm

Friday 17th February - Mass led by Y4 (All welcome)

Friday 17th February - School closes for half term.

Monday 27th February - School re-opens

Personal details: Please ensure that the school office have your most up-to-date phone numbers and e-mail addresses so you can be contacted in an emergency and to receive communication from school.

Social media: St Elizabeth's now has its own Twitter feed. Follow us @elizabeths_cp to keep up to date with news and other information. In addition, please also join our Friends facebook page by searching for the 'Friends of St Elizabeth's' on facebook as school info will also go on this page.

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Sticky Knowledge:

Why not try this week's 'sticky knowledge' questions with your children to see if they have retained this important information? It is crucial that we keep revising important knowledge with pupils to ensure they know and understand more as they progress through school. You could try the question for your child's year group and the ones for younger year groups to see what they can remember.

Pre-school - What do we need to wear to keep us warm in winter? How is this different to summer?

Reception - Who was Neil Armstrong and what did we learn about him? Would you like to go to space?

Year 1 - Can you name the four seasons? What season are we in now?

Year 2 - Why was the birth of Jesus so important?

Year 3 - Think about our maths work. What is the difference between sharing and grouping? Can you give some examples?

Year 4 - What is the difference between factor pairs and factors?

Year 5 - How many features of a non-chronological report can you name? Could you write one of your own?

Year 6 - What was the name of the scientist who created taxonomy and the classification system which is still used today?

Pope Francis says:

"The magi who set out following the star teach us that faith is a story of setting out and setting out anew. Faith does not grow if it remains static.

We need to bring it outside, to live it in a constant journey towards God and towards our brothers and sisters."



Prayer:

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Benedict, whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church, may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion, which he faithfully ministered on earth.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

Our special prayer intentions this week are for:

Alan Hopper
Jane Longstaff
Ivy Longstaff
Julie Martin