



NEWSLETTER



Mrs Michelle Walsh – Headteacher

24th April 2020

Hello everyone. As you will be aware, the government have extended the lockdown measures for at least a further 3 weeks. This obviously means that school needs to remain closed for the majority of pupils for this time. We do however, continue to offer a limited number of places to children of key workers and vulnerable children. During this time of lockdown, we want pupils to feel as connected to school as possible so will continue to use the google classroom as our main means of communicating with them. We understand that this is a very difficult time for many families and are aiming to support in as many ways as we can. It is really important that as families and school staff we do all we can to support children academically, emotionally and spiritually. To try and ensure pupils continue to feel connected to their friends we would like to share photographs of pupils working and playing at home. Please send any photos you are happy for us to share to enquiries@st-elizabeths.staffs.sch.uk. We will then share them on the website and on future newsletters so children can see pictures of their friends. Thank you to all parents who have already been able to do this. The photos can be found on our website by clicking on the 'Our Parents' link and then following the 'Home learning gallery' link. There are also further ideas for home learning on the 'Home Learning' link. Please take care of each other at this difficult time and keep safe. Hopefully we will be back together in school very soon.

Home learning: Thank you to everyone who has continued to access the google classroom to find work for pupils which has been set by their teachers. Teachers have been very busy communicating with pupils and parents using the google classroom and have enjoyed receiving work and photos that have been submitted to them. This will continue for as long as we are unable to re-open school for pupils. For pupils whose parents requested a paper copy of work, a further pack will soon be sent to you to support learning at home. Preschool pupils should also have received their home learning pack. You may also have heard that the government have recently produced daily lessons for pupils. If you wish to look at these, they can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.thenational.academy/>. The BBC are also producing a large range of resources to support learning at home. These resources can be found here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>. Teacher may direct pupils to some of the resources on these sites as part of the work they set on google classroom but as parents you have access to these resources

Financial support: It is still possible to apply for free school meals for pupils if you find yourself in financial difficulty over this period of school closure. This might be particularly relevant if your employment has changed as a result of the measures put in place due to Coronavirus. If accepted, this will ensure you receive a food parcel to support you in providing lunch for your child during the closure and free meals for your child on their return to school. Please use the following link to see the criteria: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> You may also find it useful to contact the parish about the HOT foodbank if needed.

School app: Most of our communication is currently done via our school app which is also linked to our website. The app has recently been updated so you may have the old app installed on your phone rather than the most up-to-date one. To ensure you receive the most accurate communication, please go onto your app store and follow the steps on the attached instruction sheet put together by Mrs Dutton. Please note that there is no charge for installing the school app.

St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School and Pre School

Claremont Road, Tamworth, Staffordshire. B79 8EN. T: 01827 214 000

Email: office@st-elizabeths.co.uk and for Absence: attendance@saintelizabeths.co.uk

Catholic Life: Whilst children are unable to physically attend school, we want to continue to promote the Catholic life of our school. Father Michael is streaming Mass live from St John's each Sunday at 10am and I would encourage you to join the celebration with the Parish. Please use the following link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Z9T2_8zdrDGsPzUbe8jjw. In addition, the Parish are continuing to hold many of their groups virtually including prayer groups and other meetings. More information can be found in their weekly newsletter which can be accessed through their website: <https://tamworthrc.church/>.

Star worker: We cannot have star assembly at the moment in school to celebrate all the work our pupils are doing. However, we can really see how hard lots of children are working at home and we want to reward this with the continuation of start worker. Each week, teachers will choose 2 children in their class who they feel have been working really hard at home. The children's names will be announced on google classroom each Friday and their certificates will be posted out to them.

Letter for pupils: This week Mrs Colloff and myself have written to all pupils on the google classroom and via parent emails. Please share this letter with your child. We would very much like to create a bank of evidence which children of the future could use when learning about these strange times when pupils are having to stay at home to learn rather than coming to school. Please see the letter for further details. Thank you.

Pope Francis says:

"In the time of trial that we are presently undergoing, we experience our frailty. We need the Lord, who sees an irrepressible beauty beyond that frailty. With Him we rediscover how precious we are, even in our vulnerability"

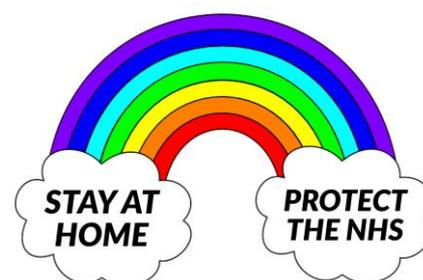


Prayer of the week:

**A prayer remembering
God is with us:**

Lord God, you are always with me.
You are with me in the day and in the night.
You are with me when I'm happy and when I'm sad.
You are with me when I'm healthy and when I am ill.
You are with me when I am peaceful and
when I am worried.

Today I am feeling *(name how you are feeling)*
because *(reasons you are feeling this way)*.
Help me to remember that you love me
and are with me in everything today.
Amen.



St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School and Pre School

Claremont Road, Tamworth, Staffordshire. B79 8EN. T: 01827 214 000

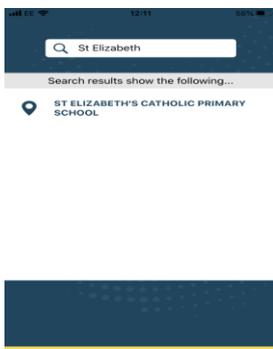
Email: office@st-elizabeths.co.uk and for Absence: attendance@saintelizabeths.co.uk

THE PARENT APP – INSTALL / UPDATE YOUR CLASS SETTINGS

Search 'The Parent App' in your usual app store. The App is free of charge.



In the search bar start to type the school name; 'St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School' will appear as an option – select this pin.



The school app will load with the option to select your child/ren's class/es – slide the toggle for each class you have a child in. Press 'save settings' to receive notifications for your relevant classes.



Remember to update your child's class each year as they move through school – press the settings cog, switch on / off to amend class notifications.

If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact the school office.