



NEWSLETTER



Mrs Michelle Walsh – Headteacher

5th June 2020

Welcome to a new half term everyone. Although things remain very different, I hope that we can begin this final half term with a version of the 'new normal' which includes some pupils returning to school and some continuing with their online and home learning. I would like to thank all parents who have brought children back to school this week for their patience and support in following the staggered drop off and pick up times and the one way system around the school site. This is helping to try and keep everyone safe. Please also see the attachment to this letter which shows photos of what our pupils have been up to at home. Please keep the photos coming! Thank you.

Returning to school: It has been lovely to welcome some pupils back to school this week after a long period of school closure. Pupils have been welcomed back into pre-school, reception, Y1 and Y6. Please note however, that no parent will be penalised for choosing not to send their child back to school. If the government make further announcements regarding the return of other year groups, we will contact parents once we have made decisions over how and when this might be possible at St Elizabeth's.

Learning at home: Online and home learning will continue for pupils in year groups who are as yet unable to return to school and for pupils whose parents are choosing to keep them at home. The majority of this will be done via google classroom but paper packs of work will also be sent to parents as requested. Thank you for your support with home learning. We understand that this is difficult, especially when parents are also trying to work from home but we really appreciate everything you are doing to support your child's learning.

INSET Day: The INSET day planned for Friday 19th June will go ahead. This has been on the school calendar since the beginning of the Autumn term and will be used for staff training. Therefore school will be **closed** on this day for pupils in pre-school, reception, Y1 and Y6. If your child is in a key worker group we would very much appreciate alternative arrangements also being made for your child on this day. However, if you have been unable to arrange for your child to be safely cared for on this date, please contact the school office and we will try to support you to find care. Thank you.

Financial support: We are very aware that this period of lockdown has had a major financial impact on many families. Please note that applications for free school meals are still being made which would entitle you to a food hamper each week whilst school is closed and a free meal each day for your child once they return. For more information, please contact the school office or use the following link.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Friday afternoons: A reminder that school will continue to close on Friday lunchtimes to allow additional cleaning of the premises. This was part of the measures that allowed us to assess that it was safe to open school for all the year groups suggested by the government. Thank you for your support with this and for collecting children promptly.

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 not all children are able to physically attend school, we want to ensure that the Catholic life of our school remains strong. Father Michael continues to stream 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_8zdrDGsPzUbe8jiw. The Mass ends with a virtual coffee morning. I also know that there are Parish events such as Alpha and a weekly quiz happening virtually. More details can be found on the parish newsletter which can be found on the website. <https://www.tamworthrc.church/>

Pope Francis says:

"The Holy Spirit assures us that we are not alone, that God sustains us. Dear friends, we must give in turn the gift that we have received: we are called to share the comfort of the Spirit, the closeness of God."



Reflection for Pentecost / Prayer of the week:

When Jesus went back to His Father in heaven, He promised to send us the Holy Spirit to be with us forever. The Holy Spirit is here for us, teaching us how to live a loving life. The more that we pray, the more we will hear His encouragement. Remember that we know the Holy Spirit is at work in us when we feel generous, patient, kind and loving. Close your eyes and let yourself relax in the presence of the Holy Spirit who is always with you.

A prayer to the Holy Spirit:

Come Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and they shall be created and you will renew the face of the earth.

Amen



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