



## St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

### ***Weekly Update* from Jane Hines, Headteacher** **14<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

Dear Parents & Carers,

This week is a long Weekly Update as there is quite a lot of news to share.

In school, within our RE curriculum we teach the children about other faiths and this term, the children are learning about Judaism. We have arranged for a Rabbi to visit school virtually, and talk to the children in assembly and in class. This is a valuable experience for the children to learn about the Jewish faith, and to encourage them to grow in appreciation of other cultures.

Our highlight this week was our Y4 classes visiting the Twickenham & Thames Valley Beekeepers' Association. The staff and pupils have all reported that this was a fascinating visit. The children were able to get very close to the bees and the beekeepers, they tried on the beekeepers protective clothing and even held the stingless drone bees. This was our first visit to the Beekeepers' Association and we will certainly be going back there with another class in future!

Our class assembly this week was prepared by Y5T. The assembly can be viewed by Y5T parents and is posted in Y5T Google Classroom.

Next week, Y1 will be visiting Kew Gardens on Monday and the children will be taking part in a 'Seasons and Weather' workshop. On Wednesday, our school hall will be transformed and our Y2 children will be participating in a workshop on the 'Great Fire of London'.

Next week is 'Walk to School Week' and we encourage all our pupils, parents and staff to participate in active travel in this week. Each day, we will ask the children how they came to school. Did they walk, scoot or cycle? Did they use public transport or Park & Stride from Sainsbury's on Manor Road? The class with the most non-car journeys will receive a prestigious award - a golden boot! Thank you to our Y6 Junior Travel Ambassadors, Patrick and Maryclare, who spoke to the children in our Values Assembly this week and explained the benefits of walking to school.

#### **Government Guidance for Symptoms of Coronavirus - Please Read**

The government guidance, and guidance from the Department for Education, has not changed with regard to the requirement to isolate and arrange a test immediately if any child or household member is displaying a symptom of Covid-19 - a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

As the children have returned this term, some children have developed coughs and colds. If your child develops a cough, as government guidance specifies, they will be required to take a Covid-19 test. This is not the lateral flow test you may have at home, but the PCR test that you arrange via the GOV.UK website. Please do not send your child into school if they have any symptom of Coronavirus, and please arrange for your child to be tested immediately. Please also do not send any siblings into school as they are required to isolate with the rest of the household until a negative result is received. Currently, test results are coming back very quickly, and children once well enough are returning to school. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

From Monday next week, we will no longer be taking children's temperatures on arrival at school and will no longer be sanitiser hands. This infact was a decision that we took at school at the beginning of the pandemic as we applied the highest level of caution in our risk assessment. Children will continue to wash hands at regular intervals throughout day.

### **After School Provision – New Provider after Half-Term**

We are excited to share that we are in the process of introducing a new after school care provider at St Elizabeth's. This is NSSport, who offer after school care and holiday camps, and they have been recommend to us by other schools in the area. We will share more information shortly, but we are hoping to start this new provision at school after half-term on Tuesday 8th June. Please do visit their website if you will be interested in after school care: <https://www.nssport.co.uk/>

### **Values Awards**

This week, congratulations to our children who have received a 'Headteacher's Award'.

Well done to Yoma in Reception, Freya in Y1, Zac in Y2, Thomas in Y3, Nyore in Y4B, Rory in Y4S, Gabriel in Y5D, Abigail in Y5T and Jack in Y6 for receiving a Headteacher's Award this week.

And today, our Y6 children helped to plant a very special tree in memory of Arturo. This tree is a beautiful gift from our wonderful Y6 children and families and will be a very special place for us in school. The tree is visible from the Queen's Road gates and is next to the orange bench.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Jane Hines