



## St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

### ***Weekly Update* from Jane Hines, Headteacher** **24<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy and exciting week in school with educational visits and workshops in many classes. These enrichment activities are valuable as they broaden children's knowledge and they make learning memorable. We would like to thank you for your voluntary contributions which allow us to offer such a rich and varied curriculum.

#### **Educational Visits and School Visitors this week**

On Tuesday, Y5 pupils took part in a 'Midsummer Night's Dream' workshop with an actor from the Orange Tree Theatre as part of the Primary Shakespeare programme. The children are looking forward to seeing the performance of the play at the Orange Tree Theatre next week and feel that they now have a very good understanding of the characters and themes.

On Wednesday, Y5 pupils had a fantastic afternoon at the Barnes Children's Literature Festival and participated in a workshop with the author Onjali Q. Rauf who wrote the book 'The Boy at The Back of the Class', one of the Y5 class texts. The story focuses on a child who has had to leave their country as a refugee. Our Y5 children told us that they found hearing about the author's passion for supporting refugees inspirational.

Reception visited an allotment on Wednesday morning and saw for themselves what is growing there, and learnt about what conditions are needed for fruit and vegetable to grow well.

On Thursday, our school hall turned into a mini zoo! Our Reception, Y1 and Y2 children were delighted to take part in an insects and bugs workshop as part of their learning in Science. Children were able to hold a 'millipede with over 200 legs', a giant snail and a cockroach, amongst other animals. Of course, they were particularly excited to see the tarantula!

This term, Y6 are preparing for their transition to secondary school. Today, Y6 pupils took part in a 'Choices' workshop, run by 'Wizard Theatre', where they explored the impact of peer pressure and peer preference, and learnt through role play and drama how to make choices that are healthy and safe.

Also this week, our Y5 and Y6 children took part in a workshop with volunteers from the NSPCC, which provides pupils with important skills and safeguarding information as they start to make their transfer to secondary school.

There is a Safeguarding page on our school website with information and links to information sources. To visit our Safeguarding and Child Protection page, please click this link:

<https://www.st-elizabeths.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding+and+Child+Protection&pid=22>

### **SEND Coffee Morning with Achieving for Children (AfC)**

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the SEND Coffee Morning this week as we welcomed Rob Harris, Achieving for Children Parents Liaison Officer, into school. These coffee mornings are a very good opportunity to receive valuable feedback from parents about SEND provision, and we intend for these to continue in the Autumn Term.

If parents would like information about the SEND provision at school and the AfC SEND Local Offer, please visit the SEND (Supporting Children with Special Needs) page on our school website with links to sources of information.

This term's SEND parents' meetings, where learning plans of pupils with SEND are reviewed, will take place on Thursday 7th July and Friday 8th July. Mrs Said, our SENDCO, will send confirmation of appointment times shortly.

### ***Next week ...***

On Wednesday, we will be celebrating Mass in school for the feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. This is a holyday of obligation, honouring the lives of two of the most important leaders of the early Christian Church. Fr Brian from St Winefride's will be celebrating the Mass.

On Friday, we wish our Y4 Battle of the Books team well as they compete in the Richmond Battle of the Books competition. The children compete against other local schools in drama, quiz and arts activities based on a chosen set of books.

### **'Walk to School Week'**

Next week, is our annual 'Walk to School Week' and we are asking all children to reduce their car journeys to and from school and use other means of travel. Our Y6 Junior Travel Officers will be totalling up the number of non-car journeys next week in every class and the winning class will be awarded the 'Golden Boot' trophy. Thank you for your support with this initiative.

### **Key Dates for your diary**

KS1 Sports Day – the morning of 6th July in school. Parents invited.

KS2 Sports Day – the afternoon of 15th July on Christ's School field. Parents invited.

*Amended dates* – Y6 Production of 'Chitty Bang' will be taking place on Monday 18th July and Tuesday 19th July.

Y5 and Y6 children will be taking part in the performance and are needed to attend on both evenings. Details of how to order tickets will be sent out soon.

## Values Awards

Congratulations to our children who have received a 'Values Award'.

The following children were given their award on Monday.

Well done to Valentina and Harry in Reception, Olivia and Yoma in Y1, Isabella in Y2, Cameron in Y3, Leyre in Y4, Nora in Y5D, Dylan FM in Y5BC, Olivia in Y6A and Valeriia in Y6T for receiving a Values Award this week.

These children received their Values Award today.

Amelie and Daisy in Reception, Sebastian and Antonia in Y1, Dearbhla in Y2, Patrick in Y3, Olivia in Y4, Carter in Y5D and Oliver in Y5BC. Congratulations, to everyone.

Finally, our School Eco-Warriors would be very grateful for donations of large plant pots or planters that you have at home and no longer need for their school garden project. Please bring these to the school office if you have a plant pot for outdoor use to donate.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Jane Hines