

From Mr Chappell Welcome back to a new academic year at St Helen's. It has been very strange writing this newsletter, as I am writing it, the reality of the very sad death of The Queen is still sinking in. The values that she has demonstrated over her reign is something that we try to instil in all our children and it made me think again about all of our school values that we work really hard to develop, alongside you, to enable our children to live and aspire to, within the Christian ethos of our school. The value of service, is something that she will be fondly remembered for, and is a value that we work tirelessly on in school, as we encourage the children to think about others first and to help and support those less fortunate. Over the next few weeks, as a community, we will pay our respects to The Queen in lots of different ways and below you will read how the local community can send their condolences, through the St Helen's Church.

The children have come back to school in such a positive way and there has been a real buzz of learning right across the school as I have moved from class to class throughout the week. It has been great to see the children come back with our ethos of 'Flying High' and I have been very impressed by the attitude and effort that our children have started the year with. As always, we will be encouraging the children to aim for 'Flying High' and with your continued support, I am sure that we can make it another very successful year at St Helen's- following the values and Christian ethos –that The Queen adhered herself to for many years.

Message from Rev David:

Remembering HM The Queen The death of Her Majesty, The Queen

Our prayers are with the Royal Family at this sad time. A Condolence Book is available to sign at St. Mary Olveston and St Helen's Alveston 9am – 4pm Friday, Saturday, and following the services on Sunday.

Special Commemoration Services will be held at: St. Helen's Alveston at 8am, 9am, and 10.30am. The 9 am Breakfast Service is for families and children. The church's social diary has been put on hold out of respect for the Royal Family at this sad time. There will be no Church Fair at Alveston on Saturday but tea and cake will be served in church and no Concert at St. Mary's Olveston next weekend. Rev. David Moss MA



Library: I am sure that all the children were really excited to see the diggers at the front of the school as the work to lay the foundations for the Library Plane edges ever closer. There is still a bit of time to go and a lot of hard work ahead (a huge thank you to all parents/carers involved in this process) but we are getting closer – so much so that the plane has its own livery. It is still a bit of time away -unfortunately for lots of reasons we do not have exact date – but we are getting closer.

12 Sep
Mon / 15:30



St. Helen's - After School Club - Term 1 - Monday

Running every Monday for 6 weeks from September 12th until October 17th / Forever Sport

Bristol Sport Clubs: A reminder that there are still spaces left to sign up and join the range of Bristol Sport Clubs for next week. Please click the link below to access the sign up page.

<https://tickets.bristol-sport.co.uk/en-gb/categories/after-school-clubs>

This week we have been delighted to be joined by Coach Miss McGlone, who has taught the children PE this week. In all PE sessions as a lead coach she is joined by an expert coach from Bristol Sport, for example this week Year 5 and 6 had a specialised basketball coach, alongside Miss McGlone for their basketball lessons.

Good luck Miss Hurd Today we said goodbye to Miss Hurd as she embarks on her new adventure of becoming a parent. I am sure you will join me in wishing Miss Hurd and her partner all the very best. Best wishes and good luck from the whole St. Helen's community.

Year 6 Trip to Dean Field Studies Centre

Next week, our Year 6's head to the Forest of Dean for the annual camp. They will be doing all sorts of exciting activities while they are away from canoeing to orienteering, to climbing. We hope that they have a really fantastic time away as a class! Technology permitting, we'll be sharing photos and updates from the trip via Class Dojo!

Prospective Parents 2023: If you have any younger siblings due to start school in September 2023, please visit our school website with details of the dates for tours around our school. Likewise if you know any parents, who are considering our lovely school please pass on the website link and encourage them to look at our school website.

<https://www.sthelensprimary.org.uk/admissions/prospective-parents/>

Back to school night

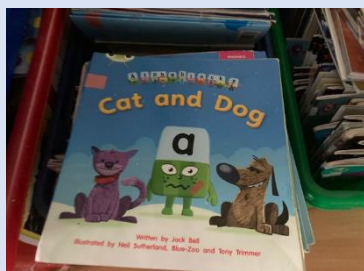
There's a lot of information to communicate at the beginning of the school year and so we would like to invite all parents and carers to our 'Back to school' evening on **Wednesday 21st September, 6pm - 7pm**. We will be talking about some of our plans for the new academic year including our plans for developing early reading, we will hear from Miss Paul, our reading lead, all about our new scheme 'Read Write Inc' and also our other plans for the academic year. There will then be an opportunity for you to visit your child(ren)'s new classroom to have a look around and meet their teacher. Unfortunately we do not have space to allow children to attend with their parents. The evening will consist of a 20 minute information session in the hall followed by two 20 minute 'Meet the Teacher' sessions, this will hopefully enable you to meet both teachers if you have more than one child attending school. Apologies to those parents/carers who have more than two children, we are unable to offer a third session. However, teachers will also be posting information on Class Dojo.

Perseverance:

This term the children will be exploring the Value of **Perseverance**. Alongside this newsletter you will have received the home school sheet relating to this Value.

Our target for school attendance

Last year our whole school attendance was a fantastic 93.6% which, considering the factors we faced with Covid, was a good achievement! As with all areas of school life, including pupil achievement, we want to set ambitious targets for the year ahead and are again setting the high target of 97%. We will also be continuing to monitor the number of 'broken weeks' that children are having and are looking to improve this for the forthcoming academic year. Research shows that great attendance makes a real impact on learning and so I'd like to thank-you in advance for your support with this.



Reading: We love reading at St Helen's and every staff member is looking forward to hearing all about the great books, magazines and comics that the children have been reading over the summer months. We have started to move towards our new Phonics scheme Read Write Inc, which means we have had a bit of a sort out of older reading books. With this in mind we have a range of 'older' reading books that no longer fit our reading scheme that we would love for parent/carers and children to take home. Next Friday in the hall for a small donation you will be able to take home a number of different books.

Well done to those children who were awarded a certificate today.

Holly class – Tilley, Arlo

Beech class – Rosa Harrison

Oak class – Ruben Poppy

Ash class – Bear Sophie

Sycamore class – Bonnie Nithilan

Elm class – Dexter Cerys



Working in partnership with St Mary's Primary School, Yate

'Growing together, pursuing life in all its fullness'

