'Excellence, Enjoyment and achievement together in a nurturing Christian Community' 'They will soar on wings like Eagles – Isaiah 40:31'



Newsletter 14

Friday 21st April 2023

From Mr Chappell. Welcome back to Term 5. Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the parents/carers survey prior to the Easter break. As we stated, this was a really important piece of work that enables us as SLT (Senior Leadership Team) and Governors to look at areas that are working well and identify areas that need to be developed further. We had an amazing 82 responses to the survey, which is the most we have ever had when conducting our parent/carer's survey previously - so thank you. Next week we will send out the full set of results, complete with answers to some of the developmental points you made. There were lots of positives and I was able to take some of the most frequent words and phrases and develop a piece of word art – see below.



Thank you so much for all your thoughts and next Friday you will receive the full findings.

Strike Days; Sadly the DFE (Department for Education) and the NEU are still to resolve the issues, which has led to the recent strikes. Over Easter as you would have probably seen, two more strike days have been announced. Like before it is important to reiterate that I completely understand and support teachers right to strike. We have again been working on a plan to stay open and will make further contact early next week, but in case we need to close a class it is important to know the two dates that have been given for strikes so far: Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. If a class has to close we will endeavour to inform you as soon as we can, but it is important to know, that this could be as late as 7:30 am on the morning of the strikes.

Staffing Update: We are edging ever closer to May 1st when Julie Simpson arrives to be the new executive head of our federation. Today I have been out of school to meet with Julie and Mrs Scriven, the head of school at St.Mary's. This is the third time that we have met in person to discuss our own individual schools, share our strengths and development points and work on the stragtegic vision for the federation. Julie is really looking forward to getting started and is looking forward to meeting our school parent and carer community after recently meeting our staff again at our last staff meeting. I am sure that in the next newsletter you will hear from her further. In other staffing news we have the return of Miss Adams from Maternity Leave to work in year 5 alongside Mrs Hardy and Miss Pearce who has also returned from Maternity and is working in Year 3 alongside Mr Daniels. Miss Hurd will also return at the end of this term from Maternity leave. However this week we have said a very sad goodbye to Mrs Jenkins, who has been covering one of the maternity leave roles but she will be back in school over the next few weeks covering different classes.

Value: Our Value for this term is compassion. Alongside this newsletter please find the compassion home school sheet to enable you to share it with your child/ren.



FOSH: Message from FOSH:

FOSH are delighted to be hosting a grown ups only Quiz Night on Saturday 13th May. Test your knowledge in teams of upto 6, and see who's really been doing their homework and who will be the teachers pet! Parkys Chippy have food available to pre order and there will be a cash bar available on the night too.

Tickets are now available to book https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/quiz-night-hosted-by- fosh-tickets-620150485797

Federation: After a very successful partnership with St.Mary's, last night our newly formed federation governors board met for the first

Working in partnership with St Mary's Primary School, Yate 'Growing together, pursuing life in all its fullness'

time to look at roles and repsonsibilties and to form their first sub-committees. One governing board is now in place for both schools and in the next newsletter we will share a little more about this and who these governors are, as it a mixture of people associated previously with both St. Helen's and St. Mary's. On behalf of all staff I would like to say a huge thank you to all the people, who have given up their time to serve as a governor at St. Helen's, over the last seven years or so, as they have very much have played a huge role in the success of the school and the rapid improvements that it has made. Thank you.



AiP - Alliance in Partnership: This week we have seen the start of our new caterers AIP. Thank you for bearing with us, as they looked to introduce the new payment and ordering system. This week I have spoken to a number of children, who have really enjoyed the food. Because of the short notice to find a caterer after Christmas, AIP are very conscious that they have not had the chance to meet parents/ carers in person to show what they have to offer. Over the next week or so, we hope to confirm a time where you can come into school to see the changes that have been made and for you to experience the new menu.

Dates for your diaries: One of the suggestions made in the parent/carer survey was more notice on forthcoming dates. Pleaase see below some key dates over the next term and beyond.

Friday 5 th May	FOSH Coronation afternoon for children
Week Beginning 8 th May	KS2 SATs assessments
Saturday 13 th May	FOSH school quiz 7pm to 9:30 pm
Saturday 24 th June	FOSH Summer Fair 12 pm to 4 pm.
Thursday 6 th July	Sports Day KS1 9:30am to 10:30 am approx
	KS2 10:45am to 12pm approx
Friday 7 th July	Sports Day reserve day in case of bad weather.
Friday 14 th July	FOSH End of Year Discos
Tuesday 18 th July	End of year reports to Parents.
Friday 21st July	Last Day of Term

Well done to those children who were awarded a certificate and awards today and last term.

Cherry Class - Prithvicka, James, Lili, Lakshan.

Holly class – Georgie, Luna, Bethany, William.

Beech class – Freya, James, Tessa, Holly.

Oak class – James, Becky, Sara, George.

Ash Class – Cole, Peaches, Sophie, Mia. Sycamore class - Charlotte, Nithilan, Fernando, Seth

Elm class – Will, Katlyn, Isabel, Jonathan.







