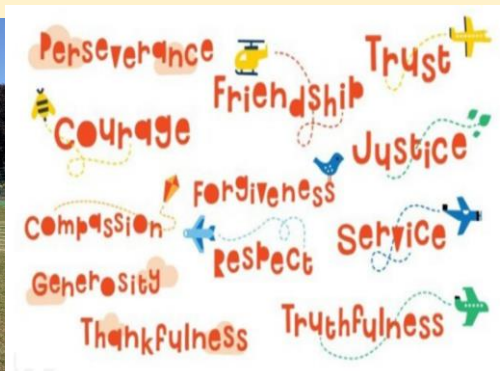


From Mr Chappell: Wow! What a week of lovely weather we have had! Thank you, for all your support in ensuring that the children have suitable hats for their time outside. The children have also been great in finding shade throughout their break times.

One of the things I have been reflecting on this week is once again our amazing extra-curricular offer provided by staff and volunteers.

About ten years ago, during a tour of the school, Mr Spens, the previous headteacher, spoke about the lack of clubs running at the time, the very small number of sports clubs and the lack of participation in competitive sport against other schools. As someone who has played, coached and watched sport all my life, I firmly believe that participation in sporting physical activity is essential, not just for health and well-being, but to help children develop vital social skills through clubs like cooking and choir. Equally important is opportunity for children to compete. Taking part in competitions teaches valuable life lessons, such as coping with both winning and losing. Taking part in school sport and clubs directly reflects with our school values, and those values have been clearly demonstrated just this week through our students' sporting achievements!



KS1 children, who for some are making their first steps in football, showed great courage and friendship working with children they haven't worked with before. They also showed truthfulness and integrity while refereeing their own mini games.

Our Year 4's at Asthon Gate showed great friendship, service, and trust as they embraced a range of activities including dance - some for the very first time. Meanwhile, our Year 4 Cricket team demonstrated tremendous respect for the opposition and perseverance, even in the face of disappointment after a tough semi-final's loss! These moments remind us how sport and extra-curricular clubs play a role in developing well rounded children. School sport (and sport outside of school) really does help our children to learn skills and values that will stay with them for life. It's something I feel especially proud of, particularly when I reflect on Mr Spens' comments from years ago about a lack of clubs at St. Helen's. Today, thanks to our dedicated volunteers, we offer a rich variety of clubs – whether sporting, musical, cooking or dancing. It's a huge part of what makes this school so special! That's why I was so proud when OFSTED recognised that 'sports' and 'clubs' are something our children take pride in. The sheer number of children participating is a clear sign of their enjoyment and engagement. Have a great weekend and enjoy the sunshine!

FOSH Fair Thank you! What an amazing School Fair last week! Those of you that were able to attend would have experienced a wonderful day. It takes a huge amount of time and effort to put on events like this, and I wanted to say thank you again to all the people who gave up some time to run a stall or help out in some form or other. Especially some members of the school staff, who were able to make it. Likewise I would like to say a huge thank you to Emma Gordan and Claire Gregory-Smith, who have ensured that FOSH stays intact in one form or other, not just for this event but throughout the whole year. The immense effort they put in to organising this event should not be overlooked. Thank you to everyone who helped set up and put things away, and also to Clare Pratley, who stayed around, to ensure the inflatable company were able to get out! Thank you all, without FOSH, there are so many things that we would not have in school. The next FOSH event will be the End of Year discos on Friday 11th July. (See dates below) We do need support for events next year! Please contact FOSH and give your time to help.



Governors Recruitment: Please see message from Mrs Simpson- Executive Head:

Dear School Community

We are currently recruiting new governors for the Federation Governing Body. Our governing body has a number of parents/carers who volunteer their time, and we are now hoping to attract applicants from local businesses and organisations who would like to contribute to the continuing success of the schools.

There may be some willing family members or friends who have a valuable skillset to bring to the Federation.

If you know of anyone who would like to come and have a discussion about the role of a school governor, please ask them to contact the school office in the first instance.

School Day Changes: A reminder of the information sent a while ago about the changes to the school day. The gates will be opening at **8:40 am** ready for children to be in class by **8:45 am**. Breaktimes and lunchtimes are unchanged. The school day ends at 3:15 pm. This will be a change for all our school community but please be aware that there is no more 'phased time in' in the morning to arrive. You should have also received a separate letter about breakfast club starting earlier to accommodate these timings.

Please remember that we have had to move back the reserve day for Sports Day. We hope that we will have a glorious, sunny day on Monday 7th July for our Sports Day, this year being organised by Mrs Derrick, PE lead and Year 5 teacher. Please note if it rains, we will be having our reserve sports day on **Wednesday 9th July**.

Monday 7 th July	Sports Day KS1: 9:15am to 10:30am KS2: 10:45am to 12:15pm Reserve Day: Wednesday 9th July.
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 5 and 6 Production 5 pm start
Thursday 10 th July	Year 5 and 6 Production 5 pm start
Friday 11 th July	FOSH Disco KS1 5 pm -6pm KS2 6:15pm -7:15pm
Tuesday 15 th July	School Reports out to Parent / Carers
Friday 18 th July	Leavers Service to Parents 2 pm start in Church Traditional Flyig High Walk out the front door: 3:20 pm approx
Monday 21 st and Tuesday 22 nd July	Inset Days

Academic Year 2025-26

Term	Starts	Ends	St. Helen's INSET Days:
Term 1	Monday 1 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025	Monday 1st September
Term 2	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025	Friday 24th October 2025
Term 3	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026	
Term 4	Monday 23 February 2026	Thursday 2 April 2026	Monday 23rd March 2026
Term 5	Monday 20 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026	
Term 6	Monday 1 June 2026	Tuesday 21 July 2026	Monday 20th July 2026 Tuesday 21st July 2026

