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



Newsletter 2

Friday 22nd September 2023

From Mr Chappell Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teachers meeting on Wednesday of this week. It was great to see so many people attend to find out about what is expected in each year group and the standards that we are looking to maintain in all areas of school life. One of the things you may have heard about is a slight tweak to our school's behaviour policy which you can read about in a little bit more detail below. One thing that would have stood out from the meetings is about how valuable your support is, in enabling your children to do as very best as they can. When things are sent home such as reading books, spellings etc please find the time to spend with your children going through what is expected and helping to consolidate what they are learning in school- that way we know that all children will be aiming for Flying High. Have a great weekend.



Prayer Spaces: A huge thank you to Mrs Baxter, who has given up her time this week as part of our amazing Church Open the Book Team to deliver prayer spaces in all classes from Year 1 to 6. The title of the prayer space was 'Flying High this year!' In these sessions Mrs Baxter related it to our Flying High houses and the children considered what it meant to them to be Flying High? All children produced some thoughts that will make a prayer space display in our hall. Watch this space for when it is completed! For those of you who have never been to a prayer space, prayer spaces enable children and young people, of all faiths and none, to explore life's questions, spirituality and faith in a safe, creative and interactive way. Over the

weekend if you have some time and some quiet space why not try to consider some of the questions the children were considering this week?

| Brabazon (Red) | Resilience | The Brabazon had to fly long distances, so it had to be resilient. Firstly: How are resilient are you 2: How can we help others become more resilient? | Fill in a coloured round dot with a number 1-5. 1 being not resilient and 5 being super resilient. On a rectangle write a word or draw how you would help others be more resilient. |
|---------------------|------------|---|--|
| Blenheim (Green) | Be Still | The Blenheim was a war plane but because it was the first to be made entirely out of metal as the war progressed lighter and speedier planes were made so the Blenheim was only utilised for night time missions and reconisance (looking out/ finding out information) | 1) What are you really good at in school or at home. Write it on the sticker 2) What would you like to be really good at by the end of your school year (is there a new skill you want to learn) – write it on the sticker |



School Behaviour Policy:

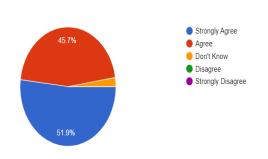
Over the last six months or so, we have been reviewing the school's behaviour policy and considering how we can best align it with our Thrive principles of supporting children's development through relationship. With this in mind, and

having taken advice from the Local Authority behaviour and social & emotional health specialists, we have made some adjustments to our policy. In previous years, each class has had a behaviour chart that visualised staff's use of the behaviour policy. Last year, some classes trialled applying the behaviour policy without the visual chart and found this to be effective. Positive reinforcement continues to be the most important element of our behaviour policy, so we will continue to praise children for Flying High in every area of school life, through verbal conversations, stickers, postcards, certificates and shields. We of course want all our children to be Flying High, but on occasions when this does not happen, we will continue to address this by redirecting children and providing warnings and time outs if this behaviour continues, in order to support the children to learn how to behave appropriately and to enable the rest of the class to continue to learn. Staff will discuss children's behaviour with them and encourage them to reflect on how they could behave

differently. These conversations will sometimes need to happen in break times and lunch times, according to the stage of

4. The school tries to make sure that its pupils are well behaved.

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the behaviour policy. We have tried to develop consistency in the language that staff use in these conversations, in alignment with the Thrive training we have all had, although staff will also use their own knowledge of the children and relationships with them to adapt this.

We take physical behaviours very seriously and any physical behaviours (hitting, kicking, spitting, etc.) will result in a red card, with immediate intervention by members of the Senior Leadership Team.

Parents will be contacted if their child has needed intervention from the Senior Leadership Team, either through a red card or

through repeated poor behaviour in class. We appreciate your support and hope we can work together to support your children in this way. Specialised support and advice is sought from external services for children whose needs require an alternative approach. We are very privileged to have fantastic children at St Helen's and we are glad that in the March parent/carer survey, the vast majority of parents/carers felt that as a school we tried to ensure that our children are well behaved. We aim for all children to be Flying High in all areas of school life, from behaviour to uniform, attendance and home learning, so we will continue to ask for your support with these areas. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss anything.

The behaviour policy can be found on the school website and if you have any comments, please email the school office.

Camp: Talking of behaviour, one group of children who were certainly Flying High were our Year 6 children who had the most amazing year 6 camp. Their behaviour and attitude was fantastic last week and was commented upon by a number of the Deanfield Camp workers. Well done Year 6 a brilliant week!



Attendance: After three weeks it is great to see that school attendance is a fantastic 97.9% which is where we would like it to stay! Good attendance is vital for a child's education and again we will be following very closely with our EWO (Educational Welfare Officer) any children's who attendance shows signs of decline, especially below 90% which is classed as persistence absence. Our EWO is in next week, so please do not be offended if we send a letter about your attendance or contact you to meet you, if it is felt your child's attendance is not what it should be or has been? We are really looking to push our attendance up this year after last year's lower than normal average so please support us in this.

Bristol Sport Clubs: Bristol Sport Clubs. Please click the link below to access the sign up page. https://tickets.bristol-sport.co.uk/en-gb/categories/after-school-clubs

Well done to those children who were awarded a Celebration Certificate!

Holly class – Fraser, Lili, Annabelle, Reya-Mae Beech class – Noah, Tilley, Rufus, Quinn Oak class – Harrison, Freya, Finlay, Tessa

Ash class – Avah-Grace, Everly, Bea, Poppy Sycamore class – Michael, Willis, Abigail, Sophic Elm Class – Evie, Richard

