

**From Mr Chappell:** The last few weeks have been another incredibly busy time, with new topics to learn, new clubs and progress to be made in all areas. This term is very short, and it's hard to believe that we only have twenty days left! It's not a lot of time, so it is important to ensure that children make the most of the opportunities that they are given. Lets see how much we can achieve in this short space of time! Have a great weekend.

**Young Voices:** The only place to start this week's newsletter is the amazing Young Voices trip. A huge well done to all the children, and of course the school staff, who took part in the brilliant Young Voices trip to Birmingham this week. The feedback I have heard from everyone I have spoken to is that the event was a truly memorable experience. A huge thank you to the staff who supported the event: Mr Daniels, Mrs Woolford, Mrs Oakey and Mrs Sindujha. Without their time, commitment and support, opportunities like this simply would not happen. This is true of all our clubs, so a sincere thank you to all our staff for giving their time to run them. Just this week, we have also seen the launch of Musical Drama Enrichment club and the cooking club.

#### **Pupil Voice about Young Voices:**

Bea Year 6: 'It was really fun and I really enjoyed the dancing. It was probably the best trip I've been on. I loved the singing.  
Emily GS Year 3: 'We got to sing with lots of other children. It was so much fun. I would love to do it again soon! I wish we could do it every year!'

Belle Yr 6: 'It was an incredible experience. The 'vibe' was so upbeat and joyful. There were lots of singers and dancers that performed that we didn't even know about.'

Ava Yr 3: It was the best experience of my life! There were lots of people watching but I just loved it!

Berry Yr 3: It was very inspiring but very loud! I had the most fun..you had to stand up and sing and there were thousands of people of watching.'



**Reading support – Help required!** A strength of St Helen's has always been the children's love of reading and the high standard of their reading work. This has been reflected in our excellent Year 6 reading results over the last six years, with both the expected standard and greater depth in the Year 6 SATs consistently above local and national averages. Although results are great to see, our priority is that every child becomes a confident and competent reader. This ensures they move onto secondary school well equipped for the demands of the curriculum, and most importantly, with a genuine love of reading.

Reading Year 6 SATs Attainment:

Year 6 Attainment:	2025	2024	2023	2022	No Tests 2021 / 2020	2019	2018
READING EXS:	83%	96%	79%	77%		93%	81%
READING GDS:	47%	37%	32%	26%		50%	52%

Having said this, we know that there a number of children in school who would benefit from daily reading in addition to their current classroom work. With this in mind, we are aiming to provide a dedicated time at the end of each school day, for selected children to read one-to-one with an adult. To make this possible, we need some parental support. If you feel you could spare around 30 minutes, starting from 2:45pm, and then be on hand to collect your own child/ren, we would love to hear from you. We are hoping to build a bank of volunteers so that more children can receive this additional reading support! Please contact the school as soon as possibel if you feel you could help.

will now be a period where the legal actions will be carried out by the solicitors appointed by the Severn Federation Academy Trust and school, which will include:

- Land and building arrangements
- Asset and property transfer arrangements
- Review governance arrangements
- Complete TUPE arrangements for transfer of staff contracts

We continue to hope for a conversion date of 1.9.26 and this will depend on the smooth completion of legal requirements. I have been attending leadership meetings with the Severn Federation Academy Trust, and I am looking forward to working closely with the Trust leaders and the head teachers at the Trust schools to identify exciting opportunities for the children and staff of the school.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions you would like to discuss.

**FOSH Disco:** A reminder about the New Year disco on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. KS1 5 pm to 6 pm and KS2 6: 15 pm to 7:15 pm. Information on how to purchase tickets can be found on the link below:

[FOSH January disco 2026](#)

**FOSH: AGM:** As a school we are really appreciative of our FOSH Friends of St Helen's. All the members work tirelessly to be able to put on events to raise funds which go directly into school. With this in mind please find attached with this newsletter information about FOSH's AGM to be held on **Tuesday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. Please see initial message below from FOSH: All parents, carers and friends of the school are welcome to attend.**

The meeting will last for 1 hour and is essential for the continued running of the charity. We must have sufficient people on the call for the meeting to be effective and for any appointments to be made official. Without this, the charity cannot continue to operate.

FOSH do any amazing job for us – but we need more support throughout the year. The AGM is one way you can be there in the first instance so why not attend just for an hour?

**Parent/ Carers Evening:** A huge thank to everyone for their support at this week's meetings for Years 1 to 6. It was wonderful to hear some of the conversations between children and their family members as they shared work that they were particularly proud of. As discussed previously, please continue to reinforce the basics at home by supporting your children with their reading and helping them to learn their number facts.

Key Dates:	
<b>Parents / Carers Meetings: Year 1 – Year 6</b>	<b>Term 5: 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Curriculum Showcase – all classrooms open to all parent / carers.
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June Sports Day	KS1 9:15 am KS2 10:45 am (Reserve Day Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June.
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports to Parent / Carers
<b>Inset Days:</b>	
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	
<b>20<sup>th</sup> July 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	
Key Statutory Dates – all pupils to undertake.	
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Year 6 SATs assessments week</b>
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Year 1 Phonics Tests and Year 2 Phonics re-tests</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check</b>

**Well done to those children who were awarded a certificate today:**

**Holly Class:** Harry & Mack

**Beech Class:** Freddie & Lainee

**Oak Class:** Theo B & Fraser

**Ash Class:** Eva & Max

**Sycamore Class:** Rosa & Willow

**Elm Class:** Everly & Logan

**Mr Chappell's award:** Bella & Kai

