

From Mr Chappell: It has been a great 'first' week back and to walk around the corridors hearing the buzz of the classrooms has certainly been something I have enjoyed and I know the teachers have loved having all the children back. Nothing beats the personal relationships and interactions that being together creates and the friendships that are cultivated, when in each other's company. Whilst our value this term is Trust, I certainly know that every staff member is reminding children of the important value of Friendship. In all classrooms, we are helping children to re-engage with their friendship groups and to remind children of the need to be respectful to each other. We know that for the vast majority of times this is successful but we do know that sometimes things can go wrong; when this happens and you feel there is a concern about your child, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher.

The value of Friendship shown across the school this week.



The St Helen's community, children, families and staff - 'Flying High - Soar on Wings Like Eagles.'

Timings for arrival at school - staying safe:

The local news yesterday reported that four new cases of the Manaus coronavirus variant have been identified in England and three of them are in South Gloucestershire. This is a strong reminder that we should not be relaxing our behaviours and breaking social distancing protocols. We are doing everything we can in school to keep your children and staff members safe, by working in very secure bubbles and having many measures in school limiting contact.

As much as it can be difficult, please ensure that around school and other areas, such as the park, social distancing protocols are maintained. Please also keep to our timings for dropping off and collecting your children. Following a review with governors today, and in response to feedback from parents and staff, we have decided to slightly change the timings for some classes and have sent this information in a separate email.

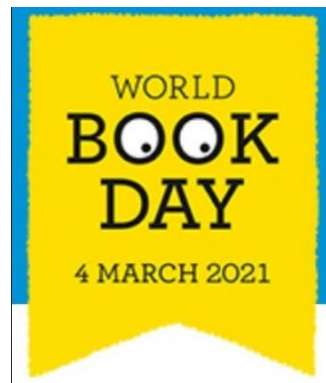
Reminders:

- Please keep to social distancing protocols when walking on the playground and also when you are outside classrooms and waiting to come into school.
- Please keep to the appropriate time for the drop off and collection of your children.
- Children in the same family can be dropped off at the earliest time and collected at the latest time.

Many of our staff couldn't help but notice when they left school on Monday that a large number of parents and children were gathered together at the park. Whilst we want the children to be active and enjoy themselves, if you are in the park, please can we ask that all parents ensure that the current social distancing rules are adhered to. We have all done a fantastic job as a local community in trying to keep to the rules in place nationally and in school, so please continue to follow these closely. Thank you for your support in this.

World Book Day - WOW day

World Book Day was a great success and we saw some fantastic examples of work, great costumes and brilliant questions to the author on our live stream. We are today pleased to distribute the WBD £1 book tokens to all children and these are valid until 28th March. A full list of participating booksellers is on www.booksellers.org.uk/wbd (this includes Tesco and WH Smith). Full details are on the back of the token.



We must remember that it is important to be reading every day! Please also complete your child's reading journal. The importance of spending up to twenty minutes a day reading, cannot be underestimated. Please help compliment what is being taught in class, by reading everyday with your children.

Inset Day reminder: Monday 15th March

A reminder that this Monday is an Inset Day, when teachers will be developing their writing provision for the summer terms and looking at the next part of the Connected Curriculum on the theme of Global Neighbours.

Charity Fundraising Events

As a school, we will be supporting two forthcoming national events, Red Nose Day and World Down Syndrome Day. On these special days, the children are invited to dress differently (see below) for a donation to the charities. We will donate half of the money collected to each of the charities - Comic Relief and The Bristol Downs Syndrome Trust.

Comic Relief - Red Nose Day – 19th March

Next Friday is Red Nose Day and, for a donation to the charities, the children are invited to attend school dressed as a Superhero! From Wonder Woman and Superman to Air-Guitar-Girl and Bakes-Brilliant-Cakes-Boy, choose or create a superhero - or alternatively be your own superhero and wear the clothes you feel most comfortable in.



World Down Syndrome Day – 22nd March

To mark World Down Syndrome Day, we are encouraging children and staff to wear odd socks to school on **Monday 22nd March**. World Down Syndrome Day is a global awareness event and is marked by the wearing of odd socks, to enlighten and educate pupils, professionals and parents about Down syndrome, with odd socks

representing an additional chromosome. For more information please click on the links below.

All over the world people will be wearing #LotsOfSocks socks to raise awareness of World Down Syndrome Day.

<https://www.wouldntchangeathing.org/resources/>

<https://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org/>

<https://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/for-people-with-downs-syndrome/world-down-syndrome-day/>



Congratulations to these children on winning a certificate today.

Cherry Class – Freya and Helen
Holly Class – Kai and Logan
Beech Class – Sophie and Aryo
Oak Class – Evie and Luca

Ash Class – Huw and Charlotte
Sycamore Class – Logan and Maddie
Elm Class – Poppy and Yasmin

