

From Mr Chappell What an incredibly strange end to the first spring term – with the closure of school today, following the red weather warning yesterday. Hopefully you have all managed to stay safe and wrapped up warm, in the confines of your home and that the children have been able to engage in some of the work that has been set by their class teachers. It has been a very busy term, with so much going on, but one thing that has remained constant is the great attitude and effort from all the children at St Helen's. This week, we have been interviewing for the Year 1 maternity job and it was a pleasure to hear from all the candidates, how impressed they were by all the children across the whole school, as they went from class to class immersing themselves in the St Helen's community. This was also something that Mr Cockle also reflected upon on his arrival, how the children contribute to a very purposeful, calm, working environment, behaving superbly and putting huge efforts into their work – working to our school vision: 'Excellence, Enjoyment and Achievement together.' Finally, I want to pay tribute once again to the amazing St Helen's staff – last week we had three teachers and a number of teaching assistants and lunch break supervisors out for the week, yet all the staff came together to ensure that everything carried on as 'normal' to ensure that all children continued to learn. A huge thank you to the staff at St Helen's, who now have a very well deserved half term break. Have a great half term everyone and I look forward to seeing you all on the playground on the first Monday back after half term.

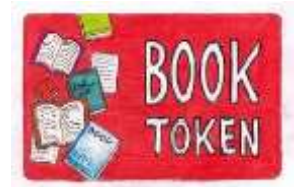
THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING BACK IN PERSON !

Please see information below from Mrs Kossmann about the upcoming events for the Book Fair

The Book Fair returns to St Helen's Monday 28th February until Thursday 3rd March and will be held in the school hall each day from 3.30pm to 4.00pm. However, in order to respect the Covid regulations, we would kindly ask you to follow the timetable below:

- Monday 28th February: Y6 and Y5 + siblings
- Tuesday 1st March: Y4 and Y3 + siblings
- Wednesday 2nd March: Y2 and Y1 + siblings
- Thursday 3rd March: Reception + siblings

Please come along – there's a wide range of books to choose from. The school receives books as commission on sales, so your support would be really appreciated. Entry will be through the Year 3 and 4 brown cloakroom door, straight into the hall and then out through the fire exit. School children in the UK are again receiving a free **£1 Book Token** which can be exchanged at all participating bookshops for one World Book Day book or against a book worth £2.99 or more. The tokens will be given to the children when they return after half-term.



WORLD BOOK DAY – Thursday 3rd March 2022!

Although **we are not dressing** up for World Book Day this year, we are still supporting the initiative! There will be different opportunities to share books during the day. This will have a real whole school community feel. Please help your child have their favourite book packed and ready to bring in to school on this day. Many thanks to all of you for your continued support.

Parents' Evenings – Tuesday 8th March and Thursday 10th March

Please note the dates of our Parents' evenings early in Term 4 this will be held via Zoom. Information on how to sign up will be sent out in the first week back.

FOSH News: Break the Rules Day:

As part of FOSH's ongoing fundraising for the school, Friday 4th March will be 'Break the Rules Day' where children can pay a small amount to 'Break the Rules' eg wear their own clothes, wear a hat, bring a teddy etc. This day has been very popular over the years and enabled FOSH to raise significant funding. Thank you for your continued support on this. A letter will be sent out about this on Monday 28th February.



A huge thank you to FOSH for contributing the funds to enable our brand new welly stands to be made by hand. Showing people around this week they were amazed by the fact that every class now has easy access to their own boots, which will enable staff and children to access the field even more when it is a little muddier than normal. Thank you to parent Barry S, who put together the fantastic welly stands and for his time with Alan, our site manager, for fixing them to the wall. This is a huge piece of work, which I know all staff and children are very grateful for.

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

Thank you to those who have made donations of duplo, construction and lego. This week look at the fun the children have been having:



THANKFULNESS
HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value **THANKFULNESS**. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

Value: Next term our Value is Thankfulness. Alongside this newsletter, is our Home School Values sheet, which gives a few ideas around some discussions that you can have with your children. Our Values shield winners for today will be celebrated in the next assembly.

Well done to those children who were awarded a certificate last week.

Cherry Class – Gabriela, Charlie St
Holly class – Marley, Ciara
Beech class – Willow, Logan
Oak class – Ocean, Harry

Ash class – Holly, Fred
Sycamore class – Charlie, Harry
Elm class – Oliver, Finley



Working in partnership with St Mary's Primary School,
Yate

