

## From Mr Chappell:

Welcome back to what we hope will be a great Term 4 and the rest of the school year. As we edge ever closer to the return date we cannot wait to see all the children back in school. This week we have spent a long time, as a leadership team and a staff team, thinking about the children's return to school and what this looks like practically and for the work that is being planned in the classroom. Early next week, we will let you have details about our plans and, although a 'road map' has been given by the government for trying to return to normality in the summer months, the reality is that we are very much still working within very tight guidance to keep everyone - children, parents, and staff - safe. Procedures that we currently have in place, such as the one way system and staggered times, will remain. However, following our review, some of the times for different year groups may change.

Although we cannot wait for the children to return, whilst we are awaiting further restrictions to be lifted, it is important for us all to remember that we should still follow the rules of lockdown outside the school gates. We know it could be very exciting to see friends again outside the school gate (and especially in the park when the sun is shining) but, whilst we are doing everything we can to keep staff safe in school (including four different staff rooms as staff cannot mix), we need everyone – children, parents and staff - to still be following lockdown rules that are set to keep us safe. Please play your part by following the rules on the playground, outside the school gates and in the park, all areas where there is potential for 'mixing' when the children return. Thank you for your support with this.

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

## Partnership 'Guiding Principles' for return: 3 principles:

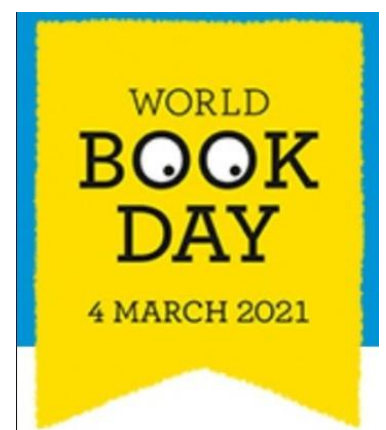
<b>Learning</b>	Prioritise identifying gaps and re-establishing good progress in the essentials (phonics and reading, increasing vocabulary, writing and maths) whilst keeping learning broad and balanced
<b>Culture</b>	Build back better - 'Flying High' and 'Be amazing'. Re-connect as a community, re-establishing relationships and expectations, re-building good learning habits, collaborating together
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Supporting health - Emotionally, mentally and physically

## Information on school return:

Early next week we will be communicating in more detail about our return to school. We have again decided to build our return and the next phases of learning on three key areas: learning, culture and well-being. These three guiding principles will shape the work that we do in school for the remainder of this term and into the summer. Look out for more information next week.

## World Book Day - WOW day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March

After the great success of our previous WOW days, we are really looking forward to another one, this time built around World Book Day. The reading leaders across the partnership have worked hard over the last few weeks to put together some really exciting activities linked to the pleasure of reading. We will have assemblies for the different year groups in the morning, where we are inviting the children to come **dressed as their favourite book character and to bring their favourite book along**. Throughout the day, different activities have been planned that children can engage in at home and in school, including a live zoom chat, alongside St Mary's School, with the author Duncan Beedie. We are planning to send you all the details next Monday so don't forget to check your emails!



**This will be such a great day, but we must remember that it is important to be reading every day!**



**Times Table Rockstar Carlton Van** says a huge well done to every child who has made an amazing effort over the lockdown to learn their multiplication facts. A few weeks ago we introduced the first ever TTRS trophy. Well done to the following classes that won the TTRS trophy to keep in their classroom for the week.

Week Beginning 1<sup>st</sup> February: Year 6 – Highest average minutes played - an amazing 9 minutes a day!

Week Beginning 8<sup>th</sup> February: Year 4 – Highest number of children playing - 100% (all 30 children)!

Week Beginning 15<sup>th</sup> February: Year 1 - Most improvements in all areas!

Today we started a new challenge that will run until 6pm on 8<sup>th</sup> March, with the winning class not only having the trophy delivered in person by Carlton Van, but also winning extra play! Try to play TTRS as much as you can, quick recall of Times Tables helps in so many different areas of Maths.

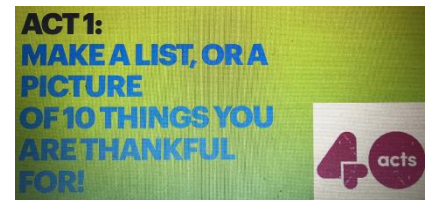
### Trust

This term our school value is Trust. Alongside this newsletter is the home school values sheet that you can share with your children. Please do complete some of the activities to think about this very important value.



### Kindness

Well done to all those children who have been completing the 40 acts of kindness challenge. Look out for more kindness challenges coming next week.



**Safeguarding:** During the period of school closure, I will continue with my reminder about safeguarding: It is imperative that if you have any concerns you contact the school or South Gloucestershire’s Access and Response Team. Our greatest priority is to always ensure the safety, well-being and happiness of all our children. We will continue to support our families through different means: whether by frequent phone calls, class Zoom meetings, emails and, when necessary, face to face house visits (with social distancing protocols). Please note that we are also continuing to work with external agencies during this period of closure. With this in mind please remember that if you have any safeguarding concerns regarding our children, please contact us as a matter of urgency. I am the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Mr Spens is Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). We are contactable at all times via the school email. South Gloucestershire Council’s Safeguarding Access and Response Team (ART) is also available to report concerns about a child: 01454 866000 Monday to Thursday 9.00am – 5.00pm (4.30pm on Friday) and 01454 615165 out of hours and at weekends.

### Congratulations to these children on winning a certificate today.

Cherry Class – Marley and Clara  
 Holly Class – Willow and Chloe  
 Beech Class – Viola and Ethan  
 Oak Class – Charlotte O and Darcey

Ash Class – Sophie and Liam  
 Sycamore Class – Bede and Oliver B  
 Elm Class – Charlie N and Alex W



**Working in partnership with St Mary’s Primary School, Yate**

**‘Growing together, pursuing life in all its fullness’**

