

From Mr Chappell

Supporting your children with their learning and working in partnership with school is crucial to your children's education, so I would like to say a huge thank you to every single person who attended parents' evening last week. As I was sitting in the entrance hall on 'door duty' on both evenings, it was a pleasure to have so many positive conversations with different parents and carers and hear children talk so enthusiastically about their learning.

Hopefully you will have seen all the great learning that your children are engaging in and heard from teachers about how they are striving to be 'Flying High' every day. As a school we pride ourselves on having open and honest conversations with you, please remember our 'open door' policy every day of the year. If you have any concerns or worries, please contact your child's class teacher and we will try to help as best as possible.

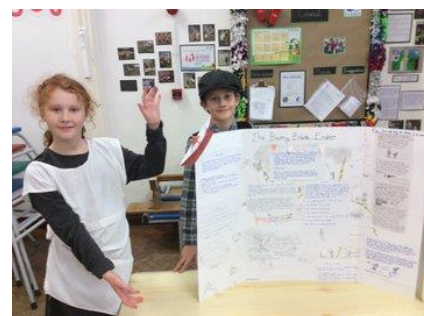


Sports Hall Athletics: A huge well done to the Year 5 and 6 children who represented the school last week at the Sports Hall athletics tournament at Yate Academy. It was great to hear that the children finished in an incredible 3rd place overall.



Year 5 and 6 Curriculum Showcase

A huge well done to all the children in Year 5 and 6 who have been working hard on their Victorian projects. We enjoyed seeing them present their projects to their family members in a huge showcase event in the hall. Well done for some outstanding projects!



DIY morning: A huge thank you to the parents and staff members who gave up their Saturday morning, despite the rain, to help with building our raised beds.



Mrs Thompson

It is with much sadness that we said farewell to Mrs Thompson, as she moves on to pastures new. Over the past seven years, Mrs Thompson has very much been a huge part of our 'Flying High' culture, getting to know many children in many different roles in school. She has worked tirelessly in her role as a Teaching Assistant and, over the last year or so, has also led our playground games at lunchtime. We said our goodbyes to her in a special assembly and she goes with our best wishes for the future. Thank you Mrs Thompson for everything you have done for us!

From Mr Spens - INSET Day – Monday 25th November

On Monday, staff from St Mary's and St Helen's held a shared INSET day focussed on 'Curriculum Design'. A curriculum working party with teachers from both schools has been working hard behind the scenes since September, alongside a teaching and learning consultant, developing a new approach to the curriculum at both schools. A huge amount of work has gone into creating a new 2-year rolling programme of topics for both schools, whilst also ensuring there is clear progression as children move up through the school. We want our curriculum to be rich, engaging and relevant to the children with lots of opportunities for them to engage with real life issues and make a difference to their school, their community and the world they are growing up in.

Teachers and teaching assistants worked together across schools, developing plans for the first new topics, which will officially launch in January. It's our aim that by partnering together as two schools, not only do we share the cost of the development work, we also pool the skills and experiences of staff from both schools, enriching the learning opportunities and experiences of the children. We look forward to sharing more of our plans with parents as the new topics launch in January!

Curriculum Showcase – Monday 16th December, 3pm. Come and find out about our curriculum plans.

Global School Climate Protest – Friday 29th November

A number of families made their voices heard about climate on the side of the A38 before school today along with millions of other children across the country. There were some fantastic banners made too, some of which are below!



FOSH News: Thank you to everyone who supported Movie Night, an amazing £450 was raised which will go towards new bookcases for each class reading area. All proceeds from the upcoming Christmas Fair will be spent on new books to fill the bookcases, so please put 13th December in your diaries! Donations of wine, toys, outgrown school uniform, tombola items and cakes will start to be collected from next week.

Out of school achievements

- Harriet in Ash class took part in 'Tapathon 2019', a world record tap dancing attempt, for Children in Need.
- Emilia in Cherry class has received her 15 metres distance swimming award.

Congratulations to our certificate winners for the last two weeks:

Cherry Class – Diago, Elsie, Everly and Sara
Holly Class – Emily, Edward, Harry and Bertie
Beech Class – Amelia, Neiva and Sebastian
Oak Class – Martha, Harry, Lacey and Hudson

Ash Class – Ellie, Levi and William
Sycamore Class – Alexander W, Max C, Ali and Charlie N.
Elm Class – William, Matthew, Caitlin and Katie T

