

From Mr Chappell: As we come to the penultimate week of Term 3, it is worth stopping to reflect on what has been achieved this term by different people in our community. The staff have achieved so much, creating their very own online bank of pre-recorded video lessons from scratch. The children have achieved by adjusting to different routines and trying to work with 'new' teachers at home and parents/carers have achieved the amazing feat of juggling the multi-faceted nature of the home environment. With that in mind I think everyone deserves great recognition and credit for what has been achieved over this term, to enable everyone to be Flying High.

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

'Space' WOW day – Thursday 11th February

A couple of weeks ago, we held a fantastic 'Under the Sea' WOW day that saw a whole range of different activities being developed right across the school. This was a huge success and we are looking at developing two more WOW days to celebrate the end of Term 3 and all our great achievements. On **Thursday 11th**



February we will hold a WOW day based around 'Space'. A grid of activities will be sent out to parents and a page developed on the school website, to share the activities that you can pick to do with your own children. For the older children in KS2 there will also be an opportunity, whether at home or in school, to be involved in an online **Live Planatarium** workshop held by the Royal Museum Greenwich. Details on how to access this on zoom will be sent out early next week, alongside details of the other activities. As part of this 'Space' day we are also encouraging families to get creative and film their own rocket blasting off! You could use BBC DIY Tech (see link below), carefully following the instructions.



Please note adult supervision is a must for this activity and parents will need

to work alongside their children. Watch out early next week for some very special videos showing some examples of rockets in action.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/terrific-scientific/KS2/zr63d6f>

'Non-Screen' WOW day – Friday 12th February

The second WOW day on 12th February will focus on non-screen activities. A number of activities will be suggested and developed, as a way of refreshing children after a very different Term 3. We hope these days at the end of term will develop the children's interest in the fascinating subject of Space and for them to take stock and consider what an amazing effort that everyone has put in this term and to have time away from a screen.



Well Being Links

We have started a well being page on the website (please see link below) with recommendations we have received for helping with our well being.

<https://www.sthelensprimary.org.uk/our-curriculum/lockdown-home-learning/well-being-links/>

Parents Evenings: Hopefully by now you have signed up for one of our Parents' Evenings in the first week of next term (23rd and 25th February). These meetings will be a great opportunity to meet your child's class teacher via zoom and to reconnect with them. We would love the children to join you for this session, as we talk together about the achievements that they have made and any home learning that they are particularly proud about. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Remote Learning: Last week we held a very successful meeting with parents to review our home learning provision. From this session there were a number of questions that were raised about our provision and so we have created another 'Frequently Asked Questions' document to answer some of the questions that were raised; a copy of this is attached. We appreciate that to get the balance right for all parents and carers is tricky and difficult as for every parent that wants more work for children, there are those who may think it is more than enough. Some parents want structure every day and others would prefer flexibility in the afternoons. Many love the pre-recorded lessons but others may feel that they are too long prefer live lessons. What we have tried to do with our remote learning provision is to find a balance that we feel works best for the children in school and those at home and also works for the capacity that we have in our staff team. If there are any further questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Great work in school this week!



Fitness with Mr Cox



Phonics Hero



Times Tables Rockstar

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.

School uniform: Monkhouse, our uniform provider, have new premises at Unit 1 Simmonds View, Stoke Gifford, BS34 8HR. Although the shop is currently unable to open, uniform can be ordered for collection or delivery. www.monkhouse.com, telephone 0161 476 7216 or email web@monkhouse.com.

Congratulations to these children on winning certificates last week and today:



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| Cherry Class – Lizzie, Parker, Scarlett C and Finley | Ash Class – William, Lacey, Dexter and Cerys |
| Holly Class – Bea, Taamiran, Elizabeth and Elsie-Lou | Sycamore Class – William, Ellie, Max and Harriet |
| Beech Class – Henry, Emily B, Lucia and Edward | Elm Class – Cameron, Ella, Ali and Paige |
| Oak Class – Neiva, Amber and Fred | |



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

'Growing together, pursuing life in all its fullness'

