

From Mr Chappell

It has been another really busy week, with more clubs starting up in KS2 and children becoming more settled to the routines of their classroom. Whilst we all know it has been an unprecedented 18 months or so, the way children have settled back in can vary from child to child, as they get used to being in the wider community of the school. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher to talk through your questions. Whilst the children are working extremely hard in school, do not underestimate your role as parents to ensure that the core basics that children are learning in class are replicated at home to reinforce and consolidate their learning. At the recent 'Meet the Teacher' evenings, all teachers emphasised the importance of children reading daily, learning spellings and rehearsing multiplication facts and number facts through our 'learn its'. Children in Year groups 1 to 6 should continue to use Times Tables Rockstars and learn multiplication facts and the importance of phonics and reading. In the early year groups it is fundamental to give children the grounding that they need to 'Fly High' at St Helen's. Over the next few weeks we will be looking at our homework policy to ensure there is clarity around our expectations and hope to share this with you early in Term 2. Thank you for your continued support.

Reception: Cherry Class

I cannot believe that we are nearly five weeks in and how well our Reception children have grown in to the family of St Helen's already. I have visited them many times in their classroom and it has been great to see the children 'Flying High'. Well done all children in Reception!



Harvest Festival

It has been a very long time since the children of St Helen's stepped foot inside St Helen's Church and we are really looking forward to our Harvest Festival. This year we will be holding the services in separate Key Stages and Rev David will host them.

Donations of harvest goods would be appreciated; we are collecting for the charity Community of the Sisters of the Church (Loaves and Fishes Ministry) in Bristol. Your contributions of the following items would be welcome:

Tinned food (meat, fish, vegetables, baked beans, soup, custard or fruit), cereal, tea bags, packets of pasta or rice



FOSH (Friends of St Helen's)

The FOSH AGM will be on Monday 1st November. It will be held at The Ship, starting at 7.30pm. This will be an opportunity to review how fundraising worked last year, set plans for this year and for people to stand for election to committee roles, including Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. Everyone is very welcome to join us, it would be wonderful to see some new faces in addition to those parents who have been active on FOSH for many years. If you have any questions then please get in touch through the FOSH Facebook pages.

PE Kit



We know that many of you have had to contend with uniform issues and the sourcing of specific uniform like PE kit. Whilst we appreciate that the school PE kit might not be available at this time, teachers are reporting that a number of children are wearing branded T-Shirts and football tops for PE. During PE and Games lessons the only desirable kit is the school PE kit (one of the house colours T-shirts) or a plain white T-shirt. We appreciate that a number of children are trying to match their house colour with another shirt, but a plain white T-shirt

will suffice. This is alongside black shorts and appropriate trainers. Please ensure that your children have the correct kit for their PE days.



New Governors wanted – message from Neil Martin, Chair of Governors

Hopefully you will have seen the email sent to parents and carers on Wednesday, seeking applications for our vacant parent governor position. Please consider putting yourself forward. There is lots of information in the letter about being a governor and links to further information. The letter also contains information about our ongoing recruitment of people to other governor positions, so if you know of somebody who you think might be interested, please let them know. Applications for the parent governor position close at 4pm on 22nd October, but we can consider applications for other positions after that date. For further information, contact the school office or email the governors on governors.sthelensprimary@gmail.com

Nasal Flu Immunisation

We have been advised by the school nurse team that nasal flu vaccines for primary school children have been postponed to Term 2. We will advise parents and carers of the date the team will be visiting St Helen's, together with information about giving consent for your child to receive the vaccine, as soon as possible.

Lunchtimes

We are trying to vary the range of different activities that we provide the children with at break times and dinner times. One of the things the children have loved is the construction area with lego and duplo. If you have any of this type of activity that you would be able to donate, please contact us and we will take it from you for our children to enjoy. We are also looking for more loose parts play such as guttering, barrels and pipes. Again, please contact the school if you have anything to donate.



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

Holly class –Obi, Scarlett, Amelia-Rose, George
Beech class –Bronnie, Seb, bea, Oliver
Oak class – Cole, Pixie, Harry, Sophie

Ash class – Isaac, Charlotte O, Holly, Evie
Sycamore class – Liam, Laura, Dexter, Hudson
Elm class – Harley, Charlie, Harry F, Bouthayna



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