St Helen's CE Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 Week 7

Message from Mrs Evans

Welcome to the final newsletter of term 1. I can't believe how fast it has gone by! The days are getting colder and the nights are drawing in, and I am sure everyone is looking forward to all the festive excitement next term will bring. All our children have worked exceptionally hard this term and have produced some incredible work. Displays are beginning to go up around the school to celebrate all the amazing things our children have been doing.

As we go into the October half term, we hope everyone can have a refreshing rest and return to school next term ready to hit the ground running! Teachers have already begun planning lots of fun and engaging lessons, and we are really looking forward to seeing what the children can do! As a reminder, school will finish on **Wednesday 21st October**. Thursday and Friday are INSET days. We will return to school on **Monday 2nd November**.

Harvest Foodbank Collection

This is the final opportunity to contribute to our food bank collection. We are still collecting donations for the North West Bristol and St Paul's Foodbanks. If you are able, please send in donations of tins or dried foods by the end of this term. Thank you for your support!



New school rules – Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Ready

After half term, we will be simplifying our school rules to three, easy to remember but all-encompassing rules: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Ready. Teachers will do some sessions with their classes in the first week back exploring these rules, what they mean, how we can follow them and what happens if we don't. We are hoping that simplifying the rules in this way will allow all our children to really understand and live the expectations at St Helen's. We would love for you to discuss these rules with your children so that we can work together in partnership to continue to ensure our school is a safe, supportive and happy place for all children to attend.

Cygnet Fine Art Club half term workshops

Cygnet Fine Art Club are running some exciting half term workshops. You can book on using this link: https://bookings.cygnetsartschool.com/public/workshops/699/2727 There is a flyer attached with a 15% discount code. These workshops are open to all children, regardless of whether you are currently attending the Wednesday club.

Uniform reminder

Please see below a reminder of our uniform expectations.

Uniform Expectations:

Jade jumper or cardigan for children	Jade or white polo shirt
Black or Grey shorts for children	Grey or Black skirt or pinafore dress
Grey or Black trousers for children	Grey, Black or White socks
Appropriate black shoes NOT trainers.	Boots ARE NOT allowed.
PE Kit is a school house coloured T shirt or a plain white T shirt. NO patterned / football shirts etc is allowed.	Plain black shorts for indoor gym and Dance work. Plain black short or joggers for outdoor work.*
PE daps / trainers	*Plain black joggers will be allowed during winter months but this will be communicated directly by the class teacher.

Our PE kit is as follows:

- House colour T-shirt
- Black shorts/skirt
- Black non patterned tracksuit bottoms
- White or grey socks
- Daps

Hair should be tied up for PE and earrings should be removed or covered. Please remember that nail polish is not part of our school uniform. We have also noticed an increase in necklaces and other jewellery – this is not permitted as part of our school uniform policy. For safety reasons, the only jewellery we permit are small stud earrings.

Reception Tour Dates

We are currently doing tours for prospective reception parents. If you have a child starting reception in September, please feel free to book onto a tour. Similarly, if you have friends or family looking for a school, please let them know our tour dates.

Tuesday 20th October - 1.30pm

Wednesday 4th November - 11am

Thursday 19th November - 9.45am

Monday 7th December - 11am

Wednesday 6th January - 9.45am

Cyber bullying

We are noticing an increased number of incidents concerning cyberbullying within our school community. Please can you discuss with your children how to stay safe online and what to do if they see something that makes them feel unsafe, anxious or upset. There are lots of resources online to support with this, including through the NSPCC. https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/

We have also noticed instances where children's TTRS accounts have been logged into and items purchased or avatars changed by another child without the user's consent. We treat these as instances of cyberbullying and will deal with them according to our

behaviour and bullying policies. Please remind your children they should only be logging into their own account. If your child is concerned that someone has logged into their account, please inform their class teacher. They can refund any purchases and change passwords if needed.

Term dates and INSET dates

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Tuesday 1 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
Term 3	Monday 4 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027
Term 4	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027
Term 5	Monday 12 April 2027	Friday 28 May 2027
Term 6	Monday 7 June 2027	Wednesday 21 July 2027

INSET dates: Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October 2026, Monday 22nd February 2027, Friday 25th June 2027.

Please note that the last two days of **this term** are staff INSET days, and so our last day in school before October half term is Wednesday 21st October.

Upcoming dates for the diary

Term 1

Tuesday 20th October	Reception Tours for prospective parents at 1.30pm
Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October	INSET - School closed to children

Term 2

Wednesday 4th November	Reception tours for prospective parents at 11am
9th – 13th November	Y6 Camp
Thursday 19th November	Reception tours for prospective parents at 9.45am
Monday 23rd November and Wednesday 25th November	Parent's Evening at 3.30 – 6pm
Monday 30th November	School Pictures – individuals and siblings
Friday 4th December	FOSH Wreath making event
Monday 7th December	Reception tours for prospective parents at 11am
Wednesday 9th December	FOSH Christmas Fair 3.30 – 5pm