

From Mr Spens:

A big 'welcome back' to all of the St Helen's community to Term 5 or what is traditionally known as the start of the 'summer' term! It certainly hasn't felt much like summer, or even spring this week with the weather, but the children have arrived back enthusiastically and made a great start.

In Reception class it is great to also welcome Mrs Boffin back after her maternity leave and to have Miss McClelland join us working alongside Mrs Boffin.

I hope that you have a great weekend!

SATS information sessions for parents – Tuesday 24th April – 4.30pm (Year 6) and 5pm (Year 2)

We will be holding information sessions for Year 2 and Year 6 parents on Tuesday 24th April. These will be for no longer than 30 minutes and will take place in the Y2 and Y6 classrooms. We'll be sharing information about the upcoming SATS assessments. The Year 6 parents' session will be at 4.30pm and the session for Year 2 parents will be at 5pm.

Two new ActivPanel smartboards installed thanks to the FoSH!

Over the Easter holidays, two of our oldest interactive whiteboards in the school were replaced by brand new 'ActivPanel' smartboards. These are amazing pieces of touch-screen technology which really help to make learning interactive in the classroom. These were generously funded by the FoSH (Friends of St Helen's). Over the next year, we hope to gradually replace each of the other interactive whiteboards in the school with the new technology. We'd like to say a huge thank-you to the FoSH for their ongoing fundraising and support.

Further good news!

We have also just heard from 'Merlin Housing' that following our digital leaders' fantastic presentation in their 'Dragon's Den' event in Chipping Sodbury last term, they have agreed to donate over £2000 to pay for one of the next ActivPanel boards that we will be looking to install.

We'd like to say a big thank-you to Alex, Torin and Lola (Y6) for communicating so passionately to Merlin Housing and also a special thank-you to Merlin Housing who will be visiting St Helen's in the next few weeks to present the children with a cheque for the school.



Cake Sale – Monday 16th April – 3.30pm in the Hall

Please don't forget our Cake Sale on Monday to raise funds for the Bristol Wallace and Gromit's Grand Appeal. There will also be a raffle at the Sale with some great prizes and children will be able to purchase raffle tickets during the day on Monday from the school office (20 pence each). Contributions of cakes to sell would be most welcome.

Thank you! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/babylance>



Parking outside of the school

Please could we politely ask that parents take care to park responsibly before and after school. These are busy times of the day, with over 300 people moving in and out of the school playground in a short space of time. Please do avoid parking on the pavements outside of the school and only park in designated parking places. This helps to ensure that parents and children can safely cross the road into school and that we avoid any accidents and injuries. A number of local residents and also some parents of pupils at St Helen's have raised concerns with us and we are also aware that the local parking attendants have been issuing tickets to cars that are not parked appropriately. Thank-you for your support with this.

Year 1 and 2 WOW Day Photos – Animals and their habitats



From Miss Kitching: “we have been investigating samples sent in by a leading animal expert to find out what animal type the samples have come from (herbivore, carnivore or omnivore).”

St Helen’s vs Bromley Heath Juniors in the Quarter Final of the Cup

Our Year 5 and 6 boys’ football team’s fantastic unbeaten run came to an end in the quarter final of the South Gloucestershire Schools’ Cup. Like the cup game before, this game went into extra-time and was eventually decided by a nail-biting penalty shootout after the game finished at 1-1. Unfortunately this time, the penalties didn’t go our way, but we wanted to congratulate the whole team for a fantastic cup run and for their hard work and commitment through the season. As we’ve seen this week in the Champions League, anything can happen in a cup game where even the best teams can sometimes come unstuck!

Calling all DIY experts!

Our caretaker, Mr Richards, is hoping to find a couple of parents who could help him for an hour or two to re-assemble a garden shed which we’ve taken down to move its position. Ideally this would take place after school one day, from around 4pm. Please can you let the office know, either in person or by calling/e-mailing, if you would be happy to help!

Attendance update and attendance of the week!

Our school attendance this week was 97.4% and Holly class (Year 1) achieved 99.7% attendance.

Congratulations to our certificate winners this week:

Cherry Class – Imogen S	Ash Class – William and Jack
Holly Class – Frankie and Seth	Sycamore Class – Jaden and Tommy
Beech Class – Sam and Max	Elm Class – Jackson and Alexis
Oak Class – Evelyn	



Out of school achievements

- Evie T in Ash class achieved her 600m distance award and Bronze Level in swimming.
- Bonnie in Cherry class achieved her Stage 2 swimming award.



FRIENDS OF ST HELEN’S - FAMILY BINGO NIGHT
Friday 20th April - 5pm – 7.30pm
Entry £5 per family of four, or £2 for adults and £1 for children



*Hotdogs and other refreshments will be on sale from 5pm and Bingo will start at 5.30pm.
A fantastic fun filled evening for all the family – lots of prizes to be won! Come along and try your luck!*

This is a ticket only event, please use Eventbrite to reserve a ticket for every person attending.
Payment to be made ‘on the door’.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/family-bingo-evening-tickets-44989163800>



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