

From Mr Spens:

This week, on Tuesday, we had our SIAMS school inspection. This is an inspection that takes place every 5 years for Church of England Schools and is particularly focussed on the ethos of the school, community involvement, the ways that the school values permeate schools life and the overall Christian distinctiveness. Unfortunately I am not able to share the result of the inspection with anyone until the report is officially public, but I wanted to say a huge thank-you to all of the staff, children, parents, governors, 'Open the Book' team and our reflective garden team for their ongoing hard work and commitment to the school and also for their support on the day.

Inspections are always quite strange days for a Headteacher, but on Tuesday it was a great reminder for me to see what a fantastic community we have at St Helen's. As ever the children of St Helen's were such a credit to our school and showed such pride as they talked to the inspector about their school and what it means to them. We look forward to sharing the report with you in the coming weeks.

Staff changes

It's been great to welcome back Mrs Boffin this week from maternity leave. She has started back in Reception class and has a two-week handover period with Miss Hodson who will be leaving us at the end of Term 4. Miss McLelland will be joining us after Easter to work alongside Mrs Boffin in Reception class during Term 5 and 6.

In Term 5, we will also be making some changes to our PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) cover time and Mrs Murphy, who has been teaching music for one day per week, will be leaving us at the end of Term 4 too. We'd like to say a huge thank-you to Miss Hodson and Mrs Murphy for all of their hard work at St Helen's and wish them every success in the future.

Prayer Spaces:

Next week, our 'Open the Book' team from St Helen's Church will be running a 'Prayer Space' in school, based around Easter. Each class will have a chance to visit the space, giving children the opportunity to stop during the busy school day and take some time to pause and reflect.

About Prayer Space: 'A prayer space is usually a classroom sized area that has been transformed for a few days or a week, with a range of creative activities that encourage personal reflection on issues such as forgiveness, injustice, thankfulness, big questions, identity and stillness.'

Flamboyant Flamingo Fiesta - Sat 24th March to Sat 7th April

The seventh annual Easter Trail organised by The New Room and retailers from The Shopping Quarter will take place over the Easter break. The flamingo decorated by our Year 2 children, called Darcy, will be among the 52 flamingos hiding in the shops in Broadmead, the Galleries and Cabot Circus. Find Darcy by following the Easter trail and maps, available from The New Room or visit www.bristolshoppingquarter.co.uk/Easter. There will be a chocolate treat for all those taking part! There are also free craft sessions running at The New Room on Wednesday 28th March and Wednesday 4th April from 10.30am until 1pm.



Young Enterprise Club

Last week the newly formed Year 6 Enterprise Club held their first sale. After spending about eight weeks designing and making their own Mother's Day mugs, they were overjoyed with a profit of £78 from their first enterprise idea, which will now go towards the next idea! Many thanks to those who bought a mug and we hope the recipients enjoyed their presents! The next venture is already being discussed with the hope of having something ready for our Summer Fair.

Sport at St Helen's

Yesterday the girls' football team played Crossways Junior School in the South Gloucestershire Primary Schools Cup quarter finals. The girls have played extremely well this season and were unfortunate to lose their unbeaten record, losing



narrowly 2-1. The girls were a real credit to us and played superbly; the game was very exciting from end to end! Our 'Girl of the Match' was Lola for some 'wonder' saves! There was also a fantastic goal from Alexis after Evie had hit the crossbar from 20 yards out! Well played girls! The team was Lola, Sidonie, Evie S, Lily, Maisie, Isis, Marni, Jamie, Alexis.



Congratulations also to our Tag Rugby team who finished third in their tournament last

week – and good luck to the boys this afternoon as they play their quarter final match against Bromley Heath.

Cake Sale

Monday 16th April – 3.30pm – School Hall

Please come along!

I have organised a Cake Sale to raise money for Bristol Wallace and Gromit's Grand Appeal in memory of my friend's baby son. If you'd like to find out more then please visit the page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/babylance>



Please could you help me by baking lots of cakes so we can raise as much money as possible for such a worthy cause. Please bring cakes in on the Monday morning (in named cake tins please, so we can ensure you get your tins back!).

Thanks so much, Mrs Boffin

Attendance update and attendance of the week!

Our school attendance this week was 97.7% and Oak class (Year 3) achieved 99% attendance.

Our school attendance last week was 97.8% and Ash class (Year 4) achieved 100%

Congratulations to our certificate winners last week:

Cherry Class – Mia, Charlotte O, Fendi and Rory

Holly Class – Oliver H, Madison and Ava

Beech Class – Ellie, Alfie, Harriet and Oliver

Oak Class – Tom, Katie, John and Dakota

Ash Class – Isla, Jack, Nathanael and Joe

Sycamore Class – Logan, Jack, Ellie and Olivia

Elm Class – Daniel, Sophie, Rylee and Beck



Out of school achievements

- Olivia in Sycamore class joined other members of her Brownie group to take part in the recent Rotary Club Swimathon, raising money for charity. The team swam 94 lengths between them.
- Bea in Ash class has moved up to stage 5 in swimming.
- Bonnie-May in Cherry class has achieved her 5 metres distance swimming award.
- Laura in Holly class has achieved her 5 metres distance swimming award.
- Lucy in Sycamore class was awarded a distinction in her recent tap dancing exam.
- Charlotte in Sycamore class has achieved her 800 metres distance swimming award.
- Emelia in Holly class has achieved her Level 6 swimming award.
- Sophia in Cherry class has achieved her Level 6 swimming award.
- Isaac in Holly class has achieved his Level 1 swimming award and completed Water Skills level 1.

Tytherington Maypole Dancing

Saturdays, 4pm, the Jubilee field

Starting 23rd March, Performing at Fair on 7th May

See Facebook or call 07905 237259

St Helen's Pre School - Little Stars

Easter Egg Trail - 24th March to 8th April

£2.50 for the map & trail sheet

from Alveston Parade Stores



ST HELEN'S CHURCH - EASTER SERVICES 2018

Maundy Thursday, 29th March, 7pm - Agape Fish and Chip Supper

Good Friday, 30th March, 10.30am - Hot Cross Bun Service

Easter Eve, 1st April, 8pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Day, 2nd April - 6.30am Fire Lit Service for North Severnside Churches at Olveston

8am Holy Communion - St Helen's : 10.30am Holy Communion - St Helen's



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