

From Mr Spens:

This week I've been out and about in the classes, talking to the children and looking at their books, seeing some of the fantastic learning that is going on. It's always an amazing privilege for me and the very best way for us of identifying our strengths and areas to keep improving as we aim to make learning at St Helen's the very best it can be.

The commitment that teachers, teaching assistants and the children put in every day to their learning is clear to see and the children's approach to their learning and behaviour for learning is consistently great across the school. We had a focus on maths this week, particularly looking at how children are getting on in problem solving and reasoning and we have a number of plans that Mr Leeming and Miss Hurd will be leading over the year to ensure we keep developing this important area of teaching and learning.

Have a great weekend!

Captain Gas sabotages Y5 PE lesson

Mr Chappell is still recovering as one of his worst nightmares became a reality on Wednesday afternoon when Captain Gas, the Bristol Rovers mascot burst out of the hall doors, ran onto the playground and sabotaged his Year 5 PE lesson, even joining in with some of the children's games of handball!

On a more serious note, the children had just completed a term's worth of free sports coaching run by the Bristol Rovers Community Trust and we are extremely grateful for the coach's hard work delivering an exciting programme of sport, which the children have really enjoyed.



A rather exciting week coming up...

The second week of next term, the week beginning 12th November, is looking like it will be a bit special! Four different events have collided into what will be an action packed experience for the children. We think they are all important things to do, so we're going to attempt to do them all!

Anti-Bullying Week: 12th – 16th November 2018

The theme for the week is 'Choose Respect'. All children are invited to wear odd socks to school on Monday 12th November to celebrate difference.



Recycling Week: 12th – 16th November 2018

The school 'Arts Team' is holding a recycling week giving children the chance to think and learn about recycling, and also create some amazing recycled art during the week. We'd love your help in collecting and bringing in objects we can use so please start collecting... bottle tops (any size), flexible scrap materials (fabric, netting, plastic), wool, plastic bottles, shoeboxes, cardboard castle building materials (tubes etc), can tops, netting, etc and we're asking Year 5 & 6 to bring in an old t-shirt we can recycle too! **Please bring these objects into school w/c Monday 5th November.**

Book Week: 12th – 16th November 2018

Our book fair will be available for parents to visit after school each day. More information to follow!

Children in Need: Friday 16th November – Children can come to school in non-uniform for a £1 donation for this charity.

Year 3's keep Alveston blooming

Some of our Year 3 children headed up to the parade of shops last week to help out with some bulb planting. Look out for the flowers in the spring! Thanks to the Alveston Community Forum for organising.

Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child

We are pleased to be supporting 'Operation Christmas Child' again this year. This is an initiative of the Christian relief agency, Samaritan's Purse. Gift-filled shoeboxes are wrapped and packed in the UK and sent to under privileged children around the world. The children receive a box based on need, regardless of their background or religion. We want to fill as many shoeboxes as we can and will be collecting donations **until 16th November**. Your donation of gifts to go in a box would be really appreciated. Gift suggestions (new items please) include small toys (eg yoyo, skipping rope), stationery, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, hat, gloves, hair accessories. For more information about the work of this charity and a full list of items requested for the shoeboxes, please visit www.samaritans-purse.org.uk



Out of school achievements

- Daisy in Sycamore class has achieved her 400 metres distance swimming award.
- Imogen F in Holly class has achieved her Level 2 swimming award.
- Alfie in Oak class has attained the grade of 3rd kup (blue with red stripe belt) in Taekwondo.
- Alfie has also been given the first man of the week this season for Thornbury rugby U8.

Congratulations to our certificate winners last week and this week:

Cherry Class – Harrison and Olly	Ash Class – John, Max C, Charlie N and Poppy
Holly Class – Isaac, Evie, Rory and Olivia	Sycamore Class – Summer, Jake, Ryan and Bea
Beech Class – Katlyn, Huw, Seth and Sophie	Elm Class – Marni, Olivia, Luke and Ronny
Oak Class – Aliona, Sam C, Lola and Layla	



Attendance Update:

Congratulations to Year 3, Oak Class, whose attendance for this week was 100%
Congratulations to Year 2, Beech Class, whose attendance for last week was 100%



Dates for your diary

Child flu vaccinations in school – Thursday 25th October (Reception to Year 5 children)
End of Term 1 – Friday 26th October
Start of Term 2 – Monday 5th November
Parents' Evenings - Thursday 8th November (4-7pm) & Tuesday 13th November (4-7pm)
Anti-Bullying week 'odd socks' day – Monday 12th November
Book Fair - w/c 12th November
Recycling – w/c 12th November – recycling materials would be welcome from 5th November
Deadline for 'shoebox' contributions – Friday 16th November
Children in Need non-uniform day for £1 donation – Friday 16th November

FLU IMMUNISATIONS : Reception, Years 1,2,3,4 & 5

The immunisation team will be in school to administer the nasal flu vaccination on **Thursday 25th October**.

If you have given your consent for your child to receive this vaccination please inform us if:

- Your child is wheezy on the day or has been wheezy in the three days prior to the visit
- Your child is asthmatic and has had to increase medication since you returned consent form
- There have been other changes to your child's health since you returned the consent form
- Your child has received a flu vaccination from their GP