

From Mr Spens:

It's been a fantastic year and a brilliant final week at school! Particular mention should go to our Year 6's who have been amazing role models this year and will be very much missed at St Helen's. Their leavers' service today was a wonderful way to celebrate their many talents and abilities and we wish them all every success as they move onto secondary school, where I am sure they will thrive.

Today we also say goodbye to Miss McClelland, who has only been with us a short while, but has done such a fantastic job with our Reception children, working alongside Mrs Boffin since Easter. We also temporarily say goodbye and good luck to Miss Beech, who will be working with The Manor Primary School, one of our partner schools, for the next academic year on a secondment basis. Miss Beech has played a significant role in the journey of our school over the last few years and I would like to thank her for her very valuable contribution in so many ways.

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank-you to our staff team, governors, to all of the families and to the children of St Helen's for all of your hard work and commitment to us as a school this year. Thank you also to Mrs Glasgow, Chair of FoSH, for her hard work and leadership.

Have a very restful, enjoyable and well deserved summer break!

End of year academic results

We are proud to be able to share some fantastic academic results with parents at the end of this year. The table below shows our results at the different assessment points, compared to national averages at the expected standard and includes children who have been with us for the whole academic year.

EYFS (Early Years)		Year 2 SATS	School %age	National %age
School %age	National %age	Reading	87%	76%
83%	72%	Writing	80%	70%
Year 1 Phonics		Maths	87%	76%
School %age	National %age	Year 6 SATS	School %age	National %age
87%	83%	Reading	93%	75%
Year 2 Phonics		Writing	90%	78%
School %age	National %age	Maths	77%	76%
67%	63%	GPS	90%	78%

INSET Days for 2018-19

We have now set our five INSET days for the 2018/19 academic year. These will take place on:

Monday 3rd September 2018

Monday 11th March 2019

Monday 3rd June 2019

Tuesday 4th September 2018

Monday 7th January 2019

Congratulations to our certificate winners last week:

Cherry Class – Evie, Toby, Fred and Mia

Holly Class – Emily B and William

Beech Class – Harley and Evie

Oak Class – Leona and Cameron

Ash Class – Daisy and Evie T

Sycamore Class – Evelyn and Marni

Elm Class – Lola and Lily



Uniform for 2018-19

Thank-you for your support with school uniform over the last academic year. The children in Year 5 have chosen 'red' as the colour of their new school sweatshirt and these are available for parents to buy through our uniform supplier 'Initially Yours'. At our last governors' meeting, we approved the uniform policy and a copy was sent home with children yesterday. Please can we particularly draw parents' attention to the guidelines around shoes, hair colour, hair accessories and jewellery. Thank-you in advance for your support in this, it really does make a difference.

Attendance

We have made some significant progress with attendance over the school year. Overall, our whole school attendance is up to 96.5%, just narrowly missing our aspirational target of 97%, which gives us 240 days better attendance than last year! We will be looking to build on this again in 2018/19 and we will be using the following attendance diamond to identify where low attendance might be causing a concern and then working with parents to support and improve attendance.



97-100%	1 – 5 days missed in the year
95 – 96.9%	5.5 – 10 days missed in the year
93 – 94.9%	10.5 – 14.5 days missed in the year
90-92.9%	15 – 17.5 days missed in the year
Below 90%	More than 17.5 days missed in the year

Summer Work

This summer, we have a number of projects planned to ensure that we keep investing in and developing the buildings and grounds that we have at St Helen's.

- 1) Reflective garden: You will have seen this developing over the last few months. A huge thank-you to Mr Richards, our caretaker, together with our reflective garden team: Mrs Kitson, Mrs Bushell and Mr & Mrs Williams for their hard work. Work will continue throughout the summer.
- 2) Year 1 and 2 classrooms: These classrooms will be decorated over the summer break and new classroom chairs will be installed.
- 3) Asbestos removal: As a school, we have very small amount of asbestos in a number of cupboards. This is all regularly inspected and in good condition, however we successfully applied for a grant to remove it and this work will take place during the summer break.
- 4) Cleaning: Our cleaning contractors will be undertaking two weeks of deep cleaning to ensure that the school is ready for September.

Out of school achievements

- Sophia in Holly class has achieved the 15 metres distance swimming award.
- Martha in Holly class has achieved the 10 metres distance swimming award.

SUMMER CHALLENGE 2018

This summer, we're setting the school community two challenges –

The 'Gromit Unleashed 2' trail, and the library Reading Challenge, 'Mischief Makers'.

Gromit Unleashed 2

'The criminal mastermind penguin is on the loose again and the dynamic duo is out to track him down! Gromit is raring to go, but Wallace can't resist having a nice sit down to soak up the scenery, and enjoy a lovely cup of tea at every opportunity. The trail will feature over 60 giant sculptures designed by high-profile artists, designers, innovators and local talent. Sculptures will be positioned in high footfall and iconic locations around Bristol and the surrounding area, perfect for a family day out around the city and beyond.'



Your Challenge: We'd like to encourage you to explore the local area and try to find as many of the giant sculptures as you can! Rumour has it that one of them will be hidden close to home in Thornbury.

Create a poster to show the rest of the school how you got on. You could include photos, drawings, writing and anything else you think would bring the poster to life! Bring the poster back to school by Friday 5th September to enter into our gallery.

Prizes: For the best posters in both KS2 and KS1 there will be three prizes of £20, £10 or £5 in book tokens up for grabs for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place entries.

More information: visit www.gromitunleashed.org.uk

Summer Reading Challenge – 'Mischief Makers'

There's a ton of fun waiting for you at your library this summer – Join Dennis, Gnasher and friends on a hunt for Beanotown's famous buried treasure!

Read six library books over the summer, collect special stickers and explore your map of Beanotown to find clues. But watch out, Dennis is usually up to all kinds of mischief. He'll make sure some of those stickers are extra stinky! Read all six books and you'll get a medal and certificate too. It's FREE to take part.



Please encourage your children to **visit the library and sign up** and see the difference the Summer Reading Challenge makes to their reading.



Let us know how you get on!

We'd love to hear how you get on with the summer challenges. Follow us @sthelenspri on Twitter and tweet us with photos and updates using the hashtag - #summerchallenge



FRIENDS OF ST HELEN'S NEED YOUR OLD AND FOREIGN COINS!



In September FoSH will be collecting coins to raise funds for the school.

Please collect all those foreign coins you've got in your cupboards and drawers (and ask your friends and neighbours too!) and bring them into school.

The class with the heaviest bag of coins will win a prize!

<https://www.cash4coins.co.uk/fundraising/>

St Helen's Church – Harvest Weekend

Saturday 15th September Harvest Fayre in the Vicarage Garden, 12 noon til 3pm.

BBQ, raffle, licenced bar and live music.

Stalls to include cakes, pies and biscuits, home-made jams, pickles and knitted items. Apple Bobbing and other traditional Fayre games. Volunteers willing, 'St Helen's Got Talent'!

Sunday 16th September, 10.30am : All Age Harvest Festival Service

Contributions of food stuff will be donated to the 'Loaves and Fishes' Project in St Pauls.

LIFESKILLS SUMMER CHALLENGE

Can you get a balloon from A to B without letting it touch your body? Can you draw a realistic self-portrait while blindfolded? Get crafty, creative and competitive in the Lifeskills Summer Challenge. Take part in fun challenges inspired by 'Task Master' and 'The Button'. When? 13th and 23rd August, 10am – 12pm. Where? Lifeskills, The Create Centre, Smeaton Road, Bristol, BS1 6XN. Entry is £2. Most suitable for 7-11 year olds but all ages welcome. Contact johanna@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk or call 0117 922 4511 for more information.

LIFESKILLS DOORS OPEN DAY

Come along to the Lifeskills Centre this September for a fun, family-friendly day out. We will have stalls from the fire service, the RNLI, Network Rail and more. There will be games, crafts and other activities including a puppet show. When? Saturday 15th September, 10am – 4pm (last entry 3.30pm). Where? Lifeskills, The Create Centre, Smeaton Road, Bristol, BS1 6XN. Free entry. Suitable for all ages. Contact johanna@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk or call 0117 922 4511 for more information.

HAVE A
GREAT
SUMMER