

From Mr Spens:

It's been a great couple of weeks at St Helen's. It was fantastic to be able to spend three days with Year 6 on their school camp last week. Their behaviour, teamwork and attitude were really first class and I know they will now only build on this over the year. I'd like to thank Mr Leeming, Mrs Kossmann, Mrs Woolford and Mr Chappell for their energy and enthusiasm in leading such a great week!

Reception are settling really well into school life too. There's so much to get used to: new friends, new food, new teachers and a new building, but they are doing brilliantly and it's great to have them joining our school community!

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend!



Year 6 on the final day of the 2017 'School Camp'.

Back to school night – Wednesday 27th September

There's a lot of information to communicate at the beginning of the school year and so we would like to invite all parents and carers to our 'Back to school' evening on **Wednesday 27th September** from 6.00pm until 7.00pm. We will be talking about some of our plans for the new academic year and launching our new whole-school approach to home learning. There will then be an opportunity for you to visit your child(ren)'s new classroom to have a look around and meet their teacher. Unfortunately we do not have space to allow children to attend with their parents.

Volunteers' Meeting

We're really grateful for all of the volunteers that we have in school. They carry out all sorts of different roles and support the learning of many children across the school. This year, Mr Spens will be leading a 'volunteers' briefing' on Friday 13th October at 9.15am and all those on our register of DBS checked volunteers are asked to come along. If any volunteers are not able to make this date, please contact the school and we will arrange an extra session. The briefing will contain important information about volunteering at St Helen's as well as other important safeguarding up-dates. If you are interested in becoming a regular volunteer, please contact Mrs Madle who will arrange for your DBS check.

Year 1 & 2 Wow Day!



Holly and Beech classes kicked off their new topic, 'The Great Fire of London' with a fun and engaging 'WOW' day last week.

Harley (Y2) – *'I really liked learning about London and I know the Great Fire of London was in 1666. I think it would have been scary to be in the fire.'*

Alfie (Y2) – *'I learnt that they used to pull houses down to make fire breaks so that the fire didn't jump over to other houses.'*

New House Captains announced!

Our new house captains have been announced. These Year 6's will be responsible for leading their houses in the various competitions this year.

Concorde	Amelia and Harry	Brabazon	Daniel and Sidonie
Britannia	Peter C and Sophie	Blenheim	Iwan and Lily

Attendance of the week!

Our school attendance for this week was 96.9%, extremely close to our target of 97%.

Last week, Oak class (Year 3) achieved **100% attendance** and celebrated today with 10 minutes extra break!

This week, Ash and Sycamore (Years 4&5) had the joint best attendance of 99.3%. Thank-you to all for your support.



Photos from Year 6 Camp!

Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child

It's shoebox season once more - time to wrap, pack and fill those shoeboxes with treasures as we join with others across the UK to bring joy to children in need this Christmas. Contributions towards the shoeboxes would be appreciated; we will be giving our donations to St Chad's Church in Patchway, the local depot, early in November. For more information about the work of this charity and the items requested for the shoeboxes, please visit www.samaritans-purse.org.uk



Friends of St Helen's (formerly St Helen's PTA) – Annual General Meeting

The 'Friends of St Helen's' committee AGM, will be held on Monday 9th October 2017 at 3.35pm in the Elliot Room.

The committee plays a vital role within the school community by organising fun events and fundraising. The funds we raise help to ensure the school environment (both inside and out) inspires and develops the children. All parents, carers and staff are invited to support the AGM or join FOSH. This is a chance for you to hear about the activities during the last academic year and ideas for the future.

The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the Committee to represent the association throughout the forthcoming academic year. Nominations are welcomed in advance of the AGM for anyone wishing to stand as Chairperson, Treasurer or a committee member. FOSH is a registered charity, all committee members automatically become Trustees of the Charity. If you would like further information about what is involved in being a committee member, have a nomination or any items for inclusion in the agenda, please contact Jo Glasgow at jo-g@talktalk.net

It would be great to see new members with fresh ideas for fundraising, or simply participate in decision making and help out with events. Please come along to find out how you can help. We look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Congratulations to our certificate winners last week and this week:

Holly Class – Katlyn, Danosh, Ava and Isaac
Beech Class – Maddie, Harry C, Max and Ellie
Oak Class – Kyle, Charlie H, Lukas and Elaina

Ash Class – Neve, Alice M, Evie T and Jack
Sycamore Class – Josh, Ruby, Ronny and Logan
Elm Class – Carter and Archie



Out of School Achievements:

- Evie in Beech Class achieved her 15 metres distance swimming award.
- Xander in Beech Class was awarded 2nd Alveston's Beaver of the Year.