

## From Mr Spens:

It's been great to welcome the children back to St Helen's this week. We held a superb INSET day on Monday with over 80 teachers and teaching assistants from our school and three other schools that we work closely with in a collaborative partnership known as 'C4L' or 'Connect for Learning'. Andy Cope, author of popular children's books such as 'Spy Dog' worked with us on an inspirational day he called 'The Art of Brilliance'.

It's been a busy week too, with the woodland and pond development continuing, WOW days for Years 1, 2, 5 and 6 and a visit from Bristol Zoo who worked with Years 5 and 6 looking at rainforest animals. Next week is 'Book Week' at St Helen's with World Book Day, a school book fair and more.

We're excited to announce that we're getting very close to the fundraising total for the proposed 'All-weather sports pitch' and are today promoting the final push which we hope will take us over the finish line!

You can find information about these things in the newsletter. Have a great weekend!

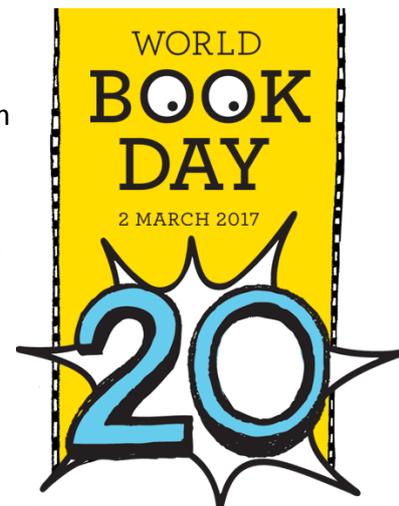
## World Book Day 2017 is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March!

The children really enjoy reading with their parents, carers or other adult family member. Therefore we invite you into school on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** between 9am and 9.25am to a *St Helen's read-a-long* with your child or a small group of children within the classroom.

In addition, we will be using the school's 'pause moment' at 11.45 on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** to drop everything and read for 10 minutes. This will have a real whole school community feel. Please help your child have their favourite book packed and ready to bring in to school on this day.

As well as all that, teachers will start or continue with a class reading book. One that they have chosen because of its appeal to the children, but might be just beyond their own independent reading skills at the moment. It might be that the book has been chosen because it is a favourite of the teacher and they want to share their joy and enthusiasm – reading for pleasure!

The official World Book Day site is <http://www.worldbookday.com/>



**BOOK  
FAIR**  
COMING SOON!

## Book Fair

The Book Fair will be open each day **next week** from 3.30pm to 4.00pm.

Please come along – there will be a wide range of books to choose from. The school receives books as commission on sales, so your support would be really appreciated!

## Book Tokens

Schoolchildren in the UK are again receiving a free **£1 Book Token** which can be exchanged at all participating bookshops for one World Book Day book or against a book worth £2.99 or more. Participating bookshops can accept tokens from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017 inclusive.

**Your child will be bringing home a £1 Book Token today.  
The tokens can be used NEXT WEEK at our Book Fair!**

## MUGA Fundraising update!

'MUGA' stands for 'Multi-Use Games Area' and is the all-weather pitch that we are hoping to build on the site of the now-demolished swimming pool and changing rooms. This has been a project which has been in the planning for a little while and whilst you might have not heard much about it recently, lots of hard work has been going on behind the scenes.

We're delighted to announce that we're getting very close to the finish line, having raised over £60,000 through different sources which include grants, school fundraising and events, local businesses, the PTA, the local authority and the school capital budget. Some of this money has been spent on demolishing the swimming pool and changing rooms and we are now ready to launch the final burst of fundraising with the hope of building the MUGA during the summer term.



We still have other avenues to raise the final amount that we are pursuing and recently found out that a video which some of Year 6's put together was shortlisted to the final of the Thornbury Round Table where £15,000 will be awarded to local causes in a 'Dragon's Den' style event a week on Wednesday.

It's been a real community fundraising effort and so today we are promoting the final part of the fundraising journey – the 'Buy a Brick' campaign. This gives families, friends of the school, grandparents, local residents or businesses the chance to donate and 'Buy a Brick' which will be engraved with a message and laid as a path up to the gate into the MUGA. Leaflets are coming home with the children today and more are available from the school office if you know of other people who might be interested. Why not buy one for your family, or even club together with a few families to have a brick together! All of the brick orders need to be placed by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April**, which is the end of Term 4.



## Breakfast Club Supervisor vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a member of our popular 'Breakfast Club'. The club is open from 7:45am each morning until the beginning of school and the role involves supervising the children through the period of the club.

## Lunchbreak Supervisor vacancy

We also have a vacancy for a member of our lunchbreak team. In addition to supervising the children in the dining hall, duties will include promoting constructive outdoor play. Please call the school office for more information about either of these roles.

### LIFESKILLS – COLLECTING BRISTOL POST TOKENS

Lifeskills has again been nominated for an Airbus Community Award. Winners will receive a share of the £10,000 award and are chosen by public vote. A token will be printed in the Bristol Post every day from now until 20<sup>th</sup> March. The groups with the most tokens win. We are collecting tokens for Lifeskills so please return them to school by Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March (when our Year 6 children will be visiting Lifeskills at The Create Centre). Thank you!

### Congratulations to our certificate winners this week:

Reception – Katlyn and Liam  
Year 1 – Cody and Evie  
Year 2 – Cameron and Lola  
Year 3 – Jake and Isla  
Year 4 – Jaden and Tommy  
Year 5 – Peter C and Isabelle H  
Year 6 – Adam and Leo

**Out of school achievement** - Lizzy (Y4) has completed the ASA Gold Swimming Challenge Award.