

## From Mr Spens:

Because of the Christmas Fair tomorrow, we thought we'd send the newsletter home a day early so that it doesn't get lost in all of the excitement!

The Friends of St Helen's (FoSH) have been working really hard pulling together plans for the Fair and children are able to come to school **tomorrow** wearing non-uniform and hopefully something Christmassy in return for bringing in:

- Raffle Tickets
- Donations to the fair (toys, books, raffle prizes, soft toys)
- Decorated Christmas-themed Sweet Jars
- Cakes (no nuts please)
- A coloured item for the rainbow tombola (Reception – Red, Year 1 – Blue, Year 2 – Green, Year 3 – Gold or Yellow, Year 4 – Silver or White, Year 5 – Orange, Year 6 – Purple)

We look forward to welcoming you all to the Christmas Fair, from 3.30pm tomorrow.

## Advent season at St Helen's kicks off in style with the 'Old Vic Theatre School'

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, the whole school enjoyed a performance of the nativity story from students at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. The singing, acting and dancing were incredible and the children all really enjoyed learning about the Christmas story from the performance. We're looking forward to watching our KS1 and Reception children performing their version of the Christmas story on Tuesday and Wednesday next week.



## Important Christmas dates for your diaries

### **KS1 Nativity:**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing their 'Christmas with the Aliens' nativity.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm – A SMALL NUMBER OF TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm - THIS IS SOLD OUT, NO ENTRANCE WITHOUT TICKETS DUE TO FIRE REGULATIONS**

*'Christmas with the Aliens is an enchanting modern nativity by Nikki Lewis. The traditional Christmas story is retold to some alien visitors who become stranded on earth and meet a group of schoolchildren rehearsing their Christmas play.'*

### **Year 3 and 4 'Carols by Candlelight'**

Year 3 and 4 will be leading 'Carols by Candlelight' in St Helen's Church on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**, from 6pm. The school choir will also be performing as part of this service.



### **School Christmas Dinner**

The school kitchen will be serving a special Christmas dinner on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. Parents can order this on ParentPay in the usual way. The price will be £2.05, as normal.

**KS1 and Reception Christmas Party** – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1:30 – 2:15pm

**KS2 Christmas Silent Disco** – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December (Year 3/4: 1:30 – 2:15pm, Year 5/6: 2:30 – 3:15pm)

### **New for 2018! – Carols around the Christmas Tree**

To mark the end of term, at **3:40pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December**, everyone is welcome to join together as a school community to sing a few Christmas carols and wish each other a 'Happy Christmas!'. Weather permitting, this will take place outside on the KS2 playground and will last for approximately 15 minutes.

### **Dates for your 2019 diary**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day 3

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January – School returns for Term 3

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Term 3 ends

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Term 4 starts

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March – INSET Day 4

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Term 4 ends

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Term 5 starts

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May - Term 5 ends

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – INSET Day 5

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June - School returns for Term 6

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Term 6 ends

### Year 3 visit Aerospace Museum

The children in Year 3 had a great time when they visited the Aerospace Museum. As part of their studies on 'sound' they attended a workshop about the sound levels produced by Concorde and they viewed the last ever Concorde to be built. This trip was fully funded by South Gloucestershire Council as part of their policy to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning.



### Update from the St Helen's Sports Desk

There has been lots of sport going on over the last few weeks. Last week 18 children from Year 5 and 6 attended a Sports Hall Athletics tournament, competing against seven other South Gloucestershire schools. The children did really well and competed in over 20 events, including the relay, sprint race, speed bounce, javelin and standing long jump. They finished in third place, narrowly missing out on a place in the county final! Well done to all the children!

The girls' football team has been busy, playing their first league match of the season and narrowly beating Crossways 4-3, with Lily scoring an impressive hat-trick including two stunning shots from over 20 yards! Well done girls!



The school football team have also been in action. After a recent 3-3 draw with Crossways in the league, last Friday the team lost 3-1 in the second round of the South Gloucestershire schools cup to a very good Christchurch side. They bounced back on Monday to win a very competitive local derby against Olveston Primary school, winning 5-4, to remain unbeaten in the league. A great performance, especially from Charlie with four goals and Lily for her great goalkeeping.

A special mention to Lily and Maisie who have played every match this year and played superbly. They both continue to play for South Gloucestershire girls' Primary schools representative team, and last week played for them in a tournament in Swansea. Well done, girls!



Well done to all those taking part in great sport at St Helen's and holding true to our school values of 'Flying High'.

### Out of school achievements

- Bea in Sycamore class and Oscar in Beech class recently entered their first Triathlon and Oscar came 5th.
- Nithilan in Holly class has achieved an advanced level 1 certificate on the Kumon English programme and a certificate for achieving the standard on the Kumon Mathematics programme.
- Evie in Holly class has achieved her Level 6 award in swimming.
- Sophie in Beech class has achieved her Level 7 award in swimming.
- Yasmin in Ash class recently passed her Grade 1 piano exam with a merit.
- Cerys in Beech class has achieved her Level 3 award in swimming.
- Michael in Cherry class achieved his 10 metres distance award in swimming.
- Katie in Ash class achieved her 400 metres and 600 metres distance swimming awards on the same day!

**Attendance: Congratulations to Beech class and Oak class, who had the joint best attendance last week with 99%.**

### Congratulations to our certificate winners last week:

Cherry Class – Sophie and Emily  
Holly Class – Charlotte O  
Beech Class – Lacey and Madison  
Oak Class – Harriet and Xander

Ash Class – Leona and Alexander F  
Sycamore Class – Libby and Alex  
Elm Class – Ruby and James

