

**From Mr Spens:**

We had fantastic weather yesterday for our annual 'Sports Day'. Thank-you to all parents and grandparents who came along to support the children, it was great to have such a brilliant and enthusiastic crowd cheering them on!

The overall winners of the 'Sports Day' Cup were 'Brabazon' House and house captains Tom and Melissa from Elm class collected the trophy on their behalf. Well done to all of the children for the positive and encouraging atmosphere and the fantastic attitude that they showed to the events and their team-mates.



The final points tally for the races was:

	Concorde	Brabazon	Britannia	Blenheim
Total Points	147	167	155	138

There were lots of highlights from the morning, but one that stood out was the fantastic gym display. I'd like to say a huge thank-you to Vicky and Gaynor and their team of assistants for all of their hard work in gymnastics at St Helen's! A big thank-you also to Mr Chappell, Mr Leeming and Miss Hodson from the 'Sports and Technology Team' for organising the morning.



**Welcome to Mrs Jenkins**

Hello! My name is Mrs Jenkins and I'm looking forward to joining the teaching team at St Helen's in September in Year 4 on Mondays and Tuesdays and Reception class on a Wednesday afternoon! I've been teaching for almost 10 years in schools in Bristol and for a few years in China.

My husband and I have recently moved to Thornbury with our 1 year old daughter, Olivia, and love being so close to the countryside. My favourite subject to teach is English because I love using my imagination and being creative. I also particularly enjoy teaching music, drama and history. I love music and my next challenge is to learn the ukeleke! I look forward to getting to know you all and being part of the St Helen's community. Have a wonderful summer holidays, see you in September!

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES:** We will be officially opening the MUGA at 3:45pm on Tuesday 18th July and all children and parents are very welcome!

## Well done to our brilliant cricketers

Recently 17 children in Years 5 and 6 represented the school in the Gloucestershire County Cricket Primary Schools' County final. The children performed superbly and did extremely well, in fact St Helen's was the only school to have both a boys and girls team in the county final, an amazing effort when you think about the hundreds of schools that enter the tournaments.



The girls did brilliantly, finishing runners up in their group stage which meant a semi-final against Bristol school Henleaze Juniors. The girls batted brilliantly, hitting 256, and were in contention to win the game until the final batting pair for Henleaze batted the last two overs and hit lots of sixes to take the game! To reach the semi-finals of the county finals was an amazing effort. Well done girls!

The boys' tournament was another great achievement for St Helen's and the boys performed

superbly in their group stage, winning 2 games and drawing 1. This tie meant a 'bowl out' to see who qualified for the semi-finals and they lost this 2-1. So despite not losing a game, they unfortunately did not make it through.

A fantastic achievement from both sides, who represented the school so well, with exemplary behaviour and great cricket skills!

## Youth Speaks

Every year, Thornbury Rotary Club organises a Youth Speaks competition which aims to provide children with an opportunity to gain confidence in making speeches and to provide them with a valuable skill for the future. A few weeks ago, ten children from Year 5 and Year 6 entered the competition with varied and interesting presentations from Cricket, Potatoes to Guide Dogs. Sophie (from Year 5) blew the judges away with her speech about Bullying and Lola (Year 5) was the runner-up with Athletics. Sophie then represented the school in the area final, with other local primary schools, which took place last Monday in Tockington. Sophie did brilliantly and she came third out of the eight contestants. Well done Sophie!

*Sophie receiving her prize from Mike Neale, Thornbury Rotary Club*



## Year 6 sweatshirt - 2017/18

Our Year 5 children have elected to wear purple sweatshirts next year. These are available on the Initially Yours website and can be ordered in the usual way.

### Congratulations to our certificate winners last week:

Cherry Class – Frankie and Seth  
Holly Class – Lola and Layla  
Beech Class – Isis, Max M & James  
Oak Class – Miles and Kiara  
Ash Class – Jack and Jaden  
Sycamore Class – Alexis and Beck  
Elm Class – Luke D, Alex R and Leo

**Congratulations to Beech class on last week's best class attendance – 97.3%**  
**Congratulations to Holly class for this week's best class attendance – 98.6%**

## Out of school achievements

- Charlie in Holly Class has achieved the stage 3 Learn to Swim award.
- Rose in Oak Class took part in a concert last week at the Colston Hall. She played violin with the Music Hub Orchestra at the South Gloucestershire Primary Schools' Festival.

# PTA DISCO

## Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July

The Reception and Key Stage 1 Disco will be from 6.00pm until 7.00pm.

The Key Stage 2 Disco will be from 7.15pm until 8.15pm.



(The Year 6 Leavers' Party will take place during the first Disco.)



Admission is **£3** on the door, this will include drinks, a bag of sweets and a LED light toy.

Please note that, as per school policy, children should **NOT** bring mobile telephones to the Disco. The children will need to be checked in at the door and will be checked out at the end from the Hall.



### Stepping Stones

We are a small friendly preschool in Elberton village with highly qualified staff, our own woods and a walled garden providing varied sensory experiences. We offer 30 hours a week and a high adult to child ratio. Only a few spaces left for September! If you'd like to experience a forest session, we are running 2 morning tasters on Aug 16 & 30 for children aged 2½ to 4, costing £10 per session. For more info, contact Gill, 07484 508998, [www.steppingstoneselberton.co.uk](http://www.steppingstoneselberton.co.uk)

### Lifeskills Open Day

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September**  
The Lifeskills Centre, Create Centre (Hotwells) BS1 6XN  
Stalls by the Police, Fire Service, RNLI & crafts  
[www.lifeskills-bristol.org.uk](http://www.lifeskills-bristol.org.uk)

### SOLO SINGER OPPORTUNITY

Perform 'Walking in the Air' from 'The Snowman' with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

Following last year's success, we are thrilled to announce another exciting opportunity for three talented young singers to perform a solo of 'Walking in the Air' with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. The performances will take place at two different locations: an afternoon and evening performance at Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts on Tuesday 19th December and an afternoon performance at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 22nd December.

### APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are open to girls and boys aged between 9 – 13 years old on the day of the auditions. Please note that only boys with treble voices should apply.

### HOW TO APPLY

The applicant's parent or guardian must complete an online form located on the BSO website. The deadline for completion of forms is Tuesday 12th September at 12 noon. After this deadline, all applicants will be invited to attend a morning group audition on Saturday 23rd September 2017 at St Nicholas Church in Corfe Mullen, Dorset. If they are short-listed, they will attend a solo audition in the afternoon.

**LINK TO FORM:** <http://www.bsolive.com/the-snowman-auditions/>

### Dates for your diary:

10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> July – 'Hoodwinked' – Y5/Y6 – 7pm	<b>INSET DAYS</b>
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July – Whole school visit to Tyntesfield	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July – Dean Field meeting for Y5 parents – 3.45pm	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July – PTA Disco – 6pm & 7.15pm	
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July – MUGA Grand Opening – 3:45pm	
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July – Woodland open session for families – 3:30pm	
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July – Leavers' Service – Y6 parents	
	Friday 21st July Friday 1st September Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December