

From Mr Spens:

It was great to have so many parents dropping into school on Monday morning for our read-a-long. We've also really enjoyed the stories read by our 'Secret Readers' who have arrived in school and read a story to a class at the end of the day. Thanks to parents for their support with this and also for your support of the school book fair.

In school this week, we've had Jo, our 'Artist in Residence' who's been working with our Year 5 and 6 children creating artwork for their Rainforest topic. The children have really enjoyed this and the artwork looks amazing. When you are next in school, perhaps for parents' evenings, do take a look at the art and children's writing which is displayed around the corridors and in the hall.

Have a great weekend.

REMINDER: INSET DAY THIS COMING MONDAY

On Monday 11th, we're holding our fourth INSET Day of the year. We're using the day to enable the staff to get out and about and learn from great practice outside of St Helen's. It's important to keep looking outwards and have our thinking challenged as we look to continue developing and improving the provision for our children at St Helen's. A group of 11 teachers and teaching assistants will be making the trip to Greenwich in London to visit an 'Outstanding' school with a really innovative and 'global' approach to their curriculum. Another group are heading more locally to visit a great school in South Gloucestershire. A final group are going to visit a special school, looking at how we continue to develop our work supporting children with additional needs.

INSET Days for 2019/20

We are yet to designate all of the INSET Days for 2019/20, but we can confirm that we will definitely be taking INSET Days at the start of the year on Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2019.

Next week is STEM Week!

Next week, we are holding a special STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) week as people across the country celebrate **National Science Week**. We're taking a 'Flying High' theme to the week and thanks to our Science team, have so many exciting things planned including:

- A day with 'Rocket Man' designing and launching rockets
- A huge inflatable 'Explorer Dome' in school, learning about Space – generously funded by the Friends of St Helen's
- Rolls Royce visitors leading hands-on STEM workshops
- Y5 visiting Marlwood Science Department
- Engineers from Renishaw working with Y5 & Y6
- A Dyson design challenge
- Much, much more besides

To enable us to fund this exciting week, we've partnered with the Friends of St Helen's, but are also asking parents for a voluntary contribution of £3 per child. Thank-you in advance for your support with this.

During the week, we'll be sharing photos through our Twitter page – www.twitter.com/sthelenspri. We're using this more and more, so do 'follow us' to keep up to date with the latest photos and goings on at St Helen's!



Parents' Evenings

Please note that we will be holding Parents' Evenings on 19th and 21st March, from 4pm to 7pm. You can book your appointment online by visiting our school website and you'll find the page under the 'school life' section.

Comic Relief

We will be supporting Red Nose Day! For a donation of £1 or more to Comic Relief, children are invited to come into school on Friday 15th March in non-uniform and wearing 'something red'.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Races!

We had a great 'Shrove Tuesday' and celebrated with pancake relay races. We wanted to share some photos with you!



Attendance

Congratulations to Holly and Beech classes who had joint best attendance last week with 99.7% and the school total was 98.7%. Congratulations again to Holly class who had the best attendance this week with 99.7% and the school total was 97.8%.

Congratulations to our certificate winners last week and this week:

Cherry Class – April, Peaches, Lola and Luke
Holly Class – Lexi-Mae, Neiva, Toby and Ross
Beech Class – Lacey, Frankie, Madison and Cerys
Oak Class – Layla, William, Harry C and Harley

Ash Class – Lola, Ali, Cameron and Ruby
Sycamore Class – Miles, William, Neve and Jack
Elm Class – Elizabeth, Josh, Libby and Anais



Out of school achievements

- Hudson in Cherry class achieved his 5 metres distance swimming award.
- Oliver in Cherry class is North Bristol RFC Unicorns' 'Player of the Week'.
- Bonnie-May in Holly class has achieved her level 5 swimming and was also awarded an all strokes badge.



Making Memories for Bereaved Children
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AUCTION – FRIDAY 22ND MARCH – ST HELEN'S SCHOOL

Supported by live music from Just 3 Harmony. Doors open 8pm for 8.30 start. Prizes from Aston Martin factory tours to comedy ticket and from Pilates to Cow Milking. Tickets £10 each and include cheese board, dessert platters and soft drinks. Can bring own alcohol. For more information or tickets contact Keri 07970016563 or madeamarkcharity@yahoo.com



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