



Join us in fulfilling our vision to

Love learn serve

*'Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.'* Hebrews 10:24

Date: 14th February 2020



Dear families of St. Helen's,

I am delighted to say that our SIAMS inspection went well. It was a rigorous inspection process under the new framework, but thanks to the hard work of St. Helen's dedicated staff, the wonderful children, and the support of so many parents, we were able to demonstrate how effectively the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership, enables pupils and adults to flourish. We look forward to receiving our report in approximately three weeks when we will, of course, share it with you all.

In other news this week, St. Helen's has been a hive of creative learning.

Reception class has been carrying out learning activities based on the book *The Rainbow Fish*. The children showed me beautiful pictures, writing and playdough models based on this wonderful book about celebrating difference and sharing.

On Tuesday, despite the blustery weather, Year 1 and 2 visited the Old School Room in Appledore. The children dressed up as Victorian school children, wrote on slates and played with Victorian toys - not an iPad in sight!

In Year 2 the children have been showing off their recorder and singing skills this week, as well as learning how we are all unique through investigating fingerprints and writing fingerprint poems.

Year 3 have been using counters, matchsticks (not real ones) and drawing on the tables to learn division with remainders as well as signing and signing the song *True Colours* - beautiful.

Year 4 have been enjoying reading and writing lessons based on the book *Silence Seeker*. In this book a child's mum tells him his new neighbours are asylum seekers. The child misunderstands and thinks they are silence seekers. This story helps children to develop empathy and understanding of asylum seekers and is a perfect way to gently open discussion around the

## Reminders:

**Absences:** Please ring every day before 9.15am if your child is unwell and will not be attending school.

Thank you.

## School money bookings

Online bookings for the second half of the Spring Term are now available for lunches, Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club. Please go to [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk) to make any bookings required.

## Dates for your diary:

**Fri 14th Feb**

Last day of half term

**Mon 24th Feb**

Back to school

**W/C Mon 2nd Mar**

Parent consultations

**Thurs 5th Mar**

World Book Day - see attached poster for more info.

**Fri 27th Mar**

Last day of Spring term



refugee crisis.

Class 5 have enjoyed investigating which liquids have high viscosity and low viscosity in science. They have also been learning about internet safety with some great work demonstrating their growing understanding about how to stay safe online.

On Monday, Year 6 enjoyed an aspirational visit from a representative from Manga High Maths. They have also been investigating electrical circuits by making lighthouses.

A very fun and busy week of learning here at St. Helen's.

Happy half term everyone!

Kindest regards,

Claire Lewis

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @StHelensVA

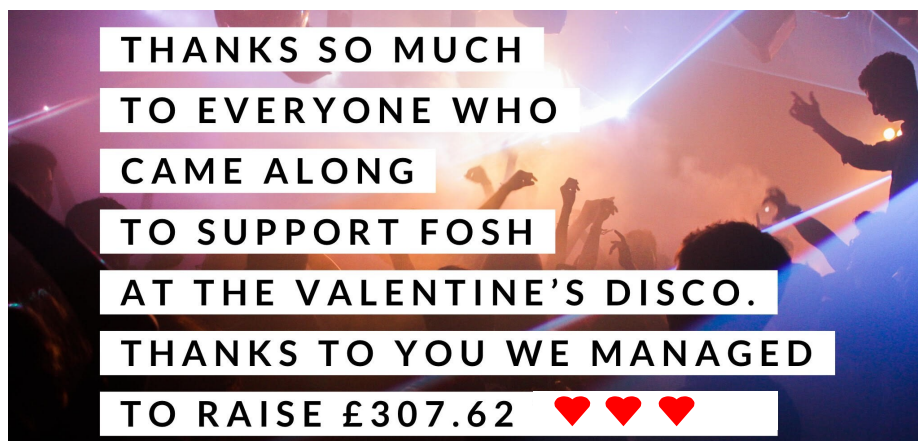


...is Fergus, Yr 6, for awesome effort and attitude in the daily mile and tennis this half term.

**Pitch in a Pound Day - Friday 14th February**

The School has supported the Pitch in a Pound Day today for the North Devon Hospice. We have raised £191.60. Thank you very much for your donations.

**FOSH Valentine's disco**



**School event:**

**Wed 26th Feb**  
Yr4 swimming

**Extra curricular clubs  
3.30pm - 4.30pm (unless otherwise stated):**

**Tues 25th Feb**  
KS2 Choir - lunchtime  
Football Club Y5 & Y6

**Wed 26th Feb**  
KS1 Choir - lunchtime

**Thurs 27th Feb**  
Quick sticks  
Badminton

**Fri 28th Feb**  
Lego Club YR, Y1 & Y2  
Netball Club Y4 & Y5

**Lunchtime football clubs**

Mondays - KS2 girls  
Wednesdays - Yrs 3 & 4  
Thursdays - Yrs 5 & 6

Remember football kit, long socks, shin pads and trainers/studs.