

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: 29th January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

We all have our own personal struggles right now as we live our lives as best we can within the limitations brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. It can be difficult at times to consider and understand others' circumstances, especially when they are not obvious to us. However, supporting one another and showing compassion, patience and forgiveness is what we aim to teach our children and the most powerful way to do this is by modelling this behaviour ourselves, following the Golden Rule "Treat others as you would wish to be treated."

This week I would like to focus on celebrating the achievements of our school community.

Firstly, thank you to all of our wonderful parents for your kind words of support and encouragement; for your resilience with remote learning; and for the vital work of our 'critical worker' parents - you are appreciated and valued.

I am in awe of the resourcefulness and creativity of the St. Helen's staff team. The 'Inspiring Change-makers' character education research project that teachers have collaboratively developed and delivered for all children, both at home and in school, is truly inspiring.

I have been impressed every day by the children's approach to this project and how they are already developing their moral, civic, intellectual and performance character virtues.

This half term we began introducing The Alumnis Character Education Programme through the 'Global Explorers' mini projects. Last week's mini project was 'Peaceful Paths' and this week's is 'Little Homes'. Next week, the project will be 'Maps for New Friends'. Through these projects, the children have developed an increasing awareness of the United Nations Sustainable Goals; begun to consider big ideas such as sustainability, equality, community, poverty, innovation, infrastructure and industry; and have developed character virtues such as empathy, problem-solving, creativity, curiosity and communication. It has been really exciting to see the wide range of outcomes that these projects have inspired, and the creative solutions that our children have come up with should make us all feel very hopeful for the future! Who knows what these global citizens and inspiring



Collection:

Please can parents wait in the correct bubble to collect/ meet your child at the end of the day.

National lockdown

The purpose of the national lockdown is to reduce the chance of transmitting the virus by decreasing the number of people we come into contact with. We ask that parents adhere to the current government lockdown restrictions. This includes not gathering before and after school in the village playground, or allowing your child to play out with friends from different households!

Thank you.

Please adhere to the [Government's national lockdown stay at home guidance](#).

Absences: Please ring every day before 9.15am with accurate details if your child is unwell and will not be attending "Bubble School" or carrying out Distance Learning at home.

change-makers will go on to achieve as they continue to love, learn and serve!

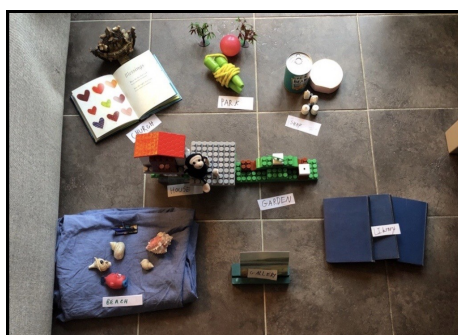
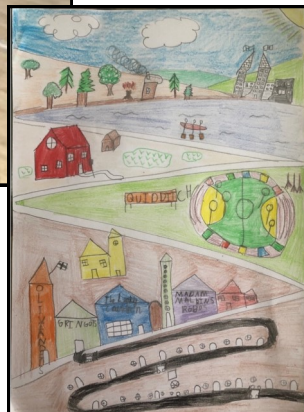
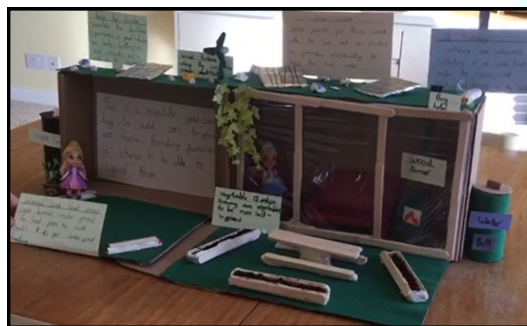
I hope you all have a wonderful weekend. Please take care and stay safe.

Mrs C. S. Lewis
Headteacher

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @StHelensVA



Below is a selection of images from home and school of the communities the children have planned for their 'Little Homes' mini-projects.



Drop off:

Please only one parent/carer on school grounds in the morning and after school.

Furthermore, please can children arrive on time so they enter school in their bubble:

Yr 5 & Yr 6 - 8.30am
Reception & KS1, Yr 3 & Yr 4 - 8.45am

School lunches:

For children attending Bubble School, school lunches for week commencing 1st February can now be booked via School Money.

Social Inclusion Team

The new Social Inclusion Team, James and Sonia, can be contacted on 01237 879382. James will also be in school on a Wednesday.

Dates for your diary

12th Feb - last day of half term

22nd Feb - first day of new half term

16th July - non pupil day

23rd July - last day of summer term

Interested in training to teach?

For more information, please see the flyer in the 'Latest News' section of the school website.

The fabulously talented Mrs Laska has created some new displays in school to celebrate our Curriculum 360, our Character Education Programme, and The Alumnis Family of Global Citizens.



COVID-19 Symptoms

We ask that everyone is extra vigilant to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We ask that any parent, carer or child with any of the following symptoms stays at home and gets a test.

Symptoms:

- new continuous cough
- temperature
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Please do not come to the school for a 14-day period from the onset of initial symptoms unless a negative test result is obtained. Children **MUST NOT** attend school if they or anyone in their household has tested positive in the last 10 days. If your child is displaying symptoms please keep them at home for 10 days while siblings and the rest of the household self-isolates for 14 days.

If a positive case is confirmed, then the 'bubble' including adults may need to self isolate, depending on Public Health advice. St. Helen's CoE School will follow all Public Health guidance to maximise safety.