

At St. Helen's the children are READY to love, READY to learn, READY to serve, and READY to be Inspiring Change Makers

#inspiringchangemakers #weareready #lovelearnservice

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

Date: 26th March 2021

Dear parents and carers,

This is my final newsletter of the spring term as we break up for the Easter holiday next Wednesday. I would like to end the term by thanking you sincerely for the support you have given your children throughout this term, and most recently with their return to school. The past year has been full of disruption, but the children's resilience and positivity has been astonishing and should be celebrated. The week's news on the **four cornerstones** of our **C360** is testament to this. The following has been compiled from the views of children across the school...



Academic News

"Our new exercise books are so cool. They really help us with our learning. I love them!"
 "Knowledge organisers help me to understand the subject and help me to do better with my work."
 "Our knowledge organisers help me with spellings, facts and to build a picture in my mind."
 "Learning poetry has helped to build our vocabulary and reading poetry aloud helps us to become better at speaking."

Character News



"We have been exploring the character virtue of 'aspiration'. Aspiration means to achieve something BIG."
 "We drew hot air balloons for our goals and how to reach them. We also thought about possible barriers to achieving them and how to overcome them."
 "In collective worship we heard the story of Zaccheaeus and Saul to learn about forgiveness."
 "I have grown in confidence because when I get things wrong, I know I can learn from my mistakes."



Drop off and collection times:

Please ensure your child arrives on time so they enter school in their bubble:

Reception, Class 1 & 2
 Drop off time: 8:50 am
 Collection time: 3.30 pm

Class 3 & 4
 Drop off time: 8:50 am
 Pick up time: 3:30 pm

Class 5 & 6
 Drop off time: 8:40 am
 Collection time: 3:20 pm

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

Absences:

Please ring every day before 9.15am with accurate details if your child is unwell.

Community News

“Our Inspiring Change Maker project is focused on helping our school charity Edukid.”



“We gather every Friday to celebrate the week and recognise how we have developed our character virtues.”
 “We learn about the world by watching Newsround every day.”
 “We are writing to big businesses to encourage them to do a better job of caring for the environment.”
 “We do baking every week and share what we have made.”
 “We’ve been thinking about which organisations we can write letters to, to campaign for a better world.”

Innovation News

“We’ve created our own presentations about the UN Sustainable Goals using Adobe Spark.”



“To present our project we’ve been making a website that addresses the problems leatherback sea turtles face.”
 “We’ve used an iPad to create a film explaining why people need to stop plastic pollution.”
 “For our Inspiring Change Maker projects lots of us are thinking of creative ways to tackle environmental issues.”

Social Inclusion Team contact details:

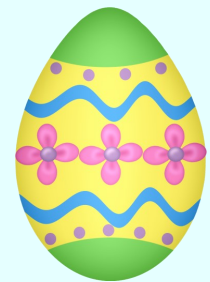
James Creek and Sonia Grant
 01237 879382

Wanted

Thank you for the plastic bottles.
 Lots more are still needed!

FOSH Easter egg competition

Please see the attached Easter egg colouring competition. Entry is 50p. All entries need to be brought into school by Wednesday 31st March. Prize for the winner in each class.



Dates for your diary

31st March - last day of spring term

19th April - first day of summer term

Announcement about Mrs Dickinson

After serving as a class teacher for six years at St. Helen’s, and for a grand total of 31 years at several other schools across Devon, Mrs Dickinson has decided that it is time to retire from teaching in April. Although she dearly loves her role, after a prolonged illness this term, she feels the time is now right. We will not be losing Mrs Dickinson altogether though as she will continue to work at St. Helen’s as our SENDCo, a role she is passionate about. I am sure that you will join the St. Helen’s team in congratulating Mrs Dickinson on her long and successful career, thanking her for her fabulous contribution to children’s education and wishing her all the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Mrs Larque has been appointed as the year 4 class teacher alongside Mrs Gagg. Mrs Larque has been teaching Year 4 since mid November and I am sure you will agree that this appointment will provide excellent continuity and continuing high quality first teaching for the class.

I hope you have a wonderful Easter everyone.

Claire Lewis
 Headteacher

Don’t forget to follow us on Twitter



@StHelensVA



Contact tracing over Easter holidays

If your child tests positive for Coronavirus and developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, please email: sthelens.sch@alumnimat.org to advise of the positive test result and the date that the symptoms started.

Rapid lateral flow home test kits

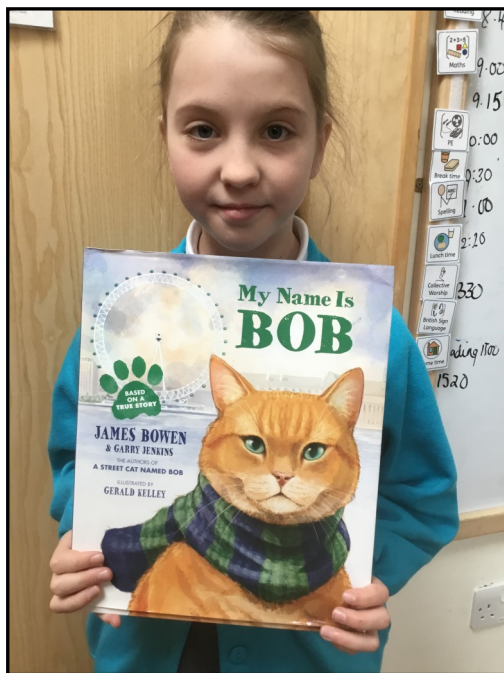
Adults who live with children who are attending school can order coronavirus rapid lateral flow home test kits. Please see the following link for more information: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Year 6 Girls' football

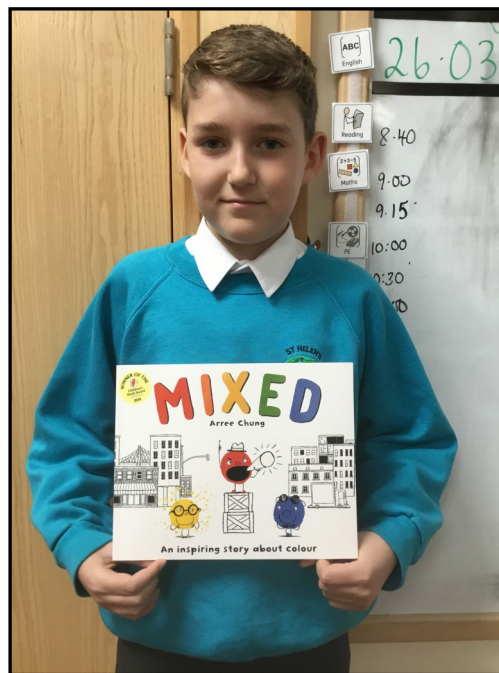
Please see the attached leaflet from Bideford Blues and Appledore JFC regarding taster sessions for girls' football.

Mrs Fidler's Book Corner

Below are a couple of book recommendations this week. Keep an eye out for more suggestions in future newsletters!



Matilda has brought in 'My name is Bob' from home.



Eben really enjoyed reading 'Mixed' during Yr6's reading for pleasure session.

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.