

**At St. Helen's we learn to LOVE, love to LEARN and aspire to SERVE  
so that we become Inspiring Change Makers**

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

30th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have enjoyed the great weather and have been able to take our learning outside into our stunning school grounds.



In **ACADEMIC** news this week children have begun their 'Stewardship - Caring for Our World' projects and have been **inspiring researchers** whilst carrying out their learning across the curriculum. A Year 4 child said they have enjoyed using globes and atlases this week to learn about the oceans of the world - awesome geography! Year 3 & 4 also enjoyed a fabulous virtual visit to the Plymouth Aquarium today. Thank you so much Mrs Larque for sourcing and organising this fabulous learning opportunity.

In Year 5 children carried out a super science Investigation today called "Why do birds lay eggs?"

Year 3 children have been **inspiring speakers** this afternoon whilst practicing their plays based on 'The boy who cried wolf'.



## School uniform and dress code

Please ensure your child wears the correct school uniform at all times. Nail varnish and jewellery (apart from one pair of small, stud earrings) are not allowed.

## 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.

In **CHARACTER** news the children have been learning about the virtues 'community' and 'courtesy'.

A Year 4 child said he has been asking lots of different children to join in with his games - great community spirit! Another child said that the hedgehog they rescued and took to the rescue centre in November has been returned to them in good health this week so they can continue to care for the cute little critter - they named her Princess Pickles or is it Princess Prickles?!!

In **COMMUNITY** news we have begun planning lots of **inspiring adventurer** activities beyond the school building now that COVID restrictions are lifting. We have already set up swimming for Year 4; tennis sessions across the school, along with a whole school tennis festival where we will also be hosting Year 6s from across the Trust; weekly sessions with The Sports Project focusing on mental health, academic progress and physical fitness and a junk drumming workshop where all of our children will have the opportunity to be **inspiring skills builders**. We are also excited to be able to serve our local community this term as **inspiring volunteers** by helping the Abbotsham VIPs to keep our village tidy.

In **DIGITAL & INNOVATION** news, while we eagerly await our new Chromebooks which are due to arrive very soon, our resourceful bunch are using our current digital technology to great effect, for example our Year 5s 'Hit the Button' on the iPad every time they enter or leave the class - what a fantastic way to maximise opportunities to embed timetables! Parent consultations via Google Meet went well this week (with only a few glitches!). Teachers have reported that meetings were positive and productive. Thank you everyone for attending. If you have not yet had the opportunity to 'meet' with your child's teacher, please do get in touch.



## Absences:

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

## Social Inclusion Officers:

The Social Inclusion Officers, James Creek and Sonia Grant, can be contacted on 01237 879382.

## School lunches and wraparound care:

A week's advanced bookings for lunch and wraparound care can be made via School Money up until the end of the Summer Term.

## Wanted

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

## Dates for your diary

**1st May**— Bank Holiday

**5th May—14th July**— Swimming Yr 4.

**31st May—4th June** - Half Term

**16th July**— Non Pupil Day

**23rd July**— Last Day of Term



In other school news, Mrs Dickinson retired from teaching today after an impressive 31 years in the profession. Mrs Dickinson is a huge fan of the Royal Family so we felt it appropriate to say thank you in red, white and blue! I am sure you will all wish her a long and happy retirement. Mrs Dickinson will continue in her role as SENDCo.



Have a lovely weekend and I hope you enjoy the sunshine.

Mrs C.S Lewis

### 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 10-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 10 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.