



St. Helen's Church of England School Newsletter | 11th June 2021

Dear St. Helen's families,

We have experienced a fabulous week of busy and fun learning at St. Helen's this week.

Here's a brief overview of the four cornerstones of C360 this week...

Academic

At St. Helen's we believe all subjects are equally important and plan our projects to encompass many curriculum areas. We also provide enrichment opportunities in addition to this wherever appropriate and possible. Children this week have been **Inspiring Skill Builders** and have enjoyed letting off some creative (and noisy!) steam with a junk drumming workshop. One child said, "Junk drumming was loud and lots of fun. I'm going home to see what junk I can find to drum on." *My apologies to any parents who have suffered the noisy after effects of this fabulous event!!!*

Years 1-6 have also enjoyed their first tennis sessions with Lottie from the Atlantic Racquet Centre this week. These sessions will run for five weeks culminating in a whole school tennis festival at ARC on the 14th July (more details to follow). Please see the school's website about a **SUPER FREE TENNIS THIS WEEKEND** at Atlantic Racquet Centre or visit www.atlanticracquetcentre.co.uk/opendays

"I learnt column addition in maths. I kept practising and practice makes permanent."
Year 2 child.

Community

As Covid restrictions are gradually being lifted we have begun to plan some fantastic events for the children. Sports Day will take place on **Wednesday 7th July** and parents are invited to join their children for a family picnic on the village field 12-1:00pm and stay to watch the afternoon races (Covid guidance permitting).

In other community news, Mrs Drew has been carrying out visits to preschools this week, getting to know our new cohort of children who will be joining us in September.

"I've written a letter to some inspiring volunteers." Year 4 child.



Term Dates

Non-Pupil Day - 16th July 2021

Term Ends - 23rd July 2021

Dates for your diary

Weds 16th – Yr 4 swimming

Thurs 17th – Tennis in school

Friday 18th Tennis in school.

Absences:

Please ring the office every day before 9:15 am with accurate details if your child is unwell.

Social Inclusion Officers:

James Creek and Sonia Grant, can be contacted on 01237 879382.

POLITE NOTICE!

Please could any parents using the car park at the end of the school drive refrain from doing so.

This car park is for use by St. Helen's staff and visitors and Abbotsham and Alwington Preschool staff only.



Innovation

We are pleased to announce that all Key Stage 2 children now have their Chromebooks. This week they have been using them very effectively, in conjunction with Seesaw, to review and reflect on their Character Education learning, building their portfolios to achieve excellence by the end of the year.

This week I was very impressed to see that Year 3 children have used a sewing machine to sew their beautiful Batik work and also create a lovely display for their classroom.

"We used the ipads to learn how to draw animals for our poem." Year 2 child

Character

On Wednesday we received a visit from Mr Blatchford, CBE - Alumnis Advisor, Mrs Lyndsey Bolton - Alumnis Character Lead and Mr Neil Moir - Alumnis CEO, who came to carry out a 'BLINK' inspection of our Character Education provision. I am very proud to say they were extremely impressed with the school's provision and the impact this is having on children's character and learning. During the inspection some Year 2 children were reflecting on one of this term's 'taught' virtues 'Practicality'. The book 'Stuck' by Oliver Jeffers was used as a springboard for discussion on how we can use the virtue of practicality to solve problems independently and effectively. The Year 2 children gave very practical answers!

"Playing tennis helped me feel the confident virtue." Year 3 child.

Inspiring Change Maker Of the Week

Well done to this Year 4 child who walked at least 10,000 steps every day from 9th May to 9th June and raised £165 in sponsorship for Harbour, Bideford.

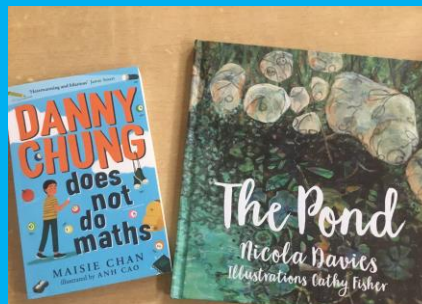
What an Inspiring Volunteer!



Have a great weekend one and all and please do take very good care.
Assuring you of my best attention at all times.

Kind regards,
Claire Lewis

Mrs Fidler's book recommendations of the week...





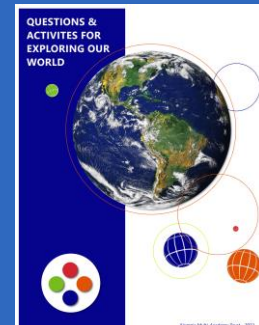
To read about teaching to **promote oracy** and tips and support for parents

[please click here.](#)



To read about ideas to have **fun with maths at home**

[please click here.](#)



For questions and activities for **exploring the world** with your children

[please click here.](#)

Safeguarding Updates

Social Media

[Click here](#) to read information on how to **keep your children safe** using social media

Devices and Technology

[Click here](#) to read information on how to **keep your children safe** using devices and technology

Family Support

Click [here](#) for information about **Family Support** from Devon County Council.