



Inspiring Changemakers:

Congratulations to our chocolate bar winners - sadly there were only 10 responses but I won't give up hope of growing the reach of my little updates. Watch out for more mini competitions - you never know where or when one will pop up!

This week, I want to celebrate our wonderful army of Inspiring Volunteers. Thanks to Mrs Paget, Mrs Whitehead, Mrs Clarke, Mr Marlow, Mrs Craze, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Pirrie who give time every week to support learning, teaching and enrichment at St Helen's. They make it possible for us to go above and beyond supporting with reading, gardening, swimming, cooking and so much more! Thanks also to those volunteers who are there at the end of the phone when we need a little one off help getting a trip or activity off the ground.

If you would like to join this merry band of legends, please speak to Rachel Hall in the admin office or download a form from this [LINK](#)

What's new?

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Humphreys to our team. She joined us on Monday as a SEND teaching assistant and will be working alongside our specialist teacher of SEND, Mrs Walton, in our resource hub, "The Den".

We are really looking forward to everything she will bring to this new role at the school and are excited to further work on our dream to ensure every single child who comes to St Helen's can flourish and make progress.

Community updates:

Year 6 have had an amazing residential at [The Pinkery Centre](#) on Exmoor and I was privileged to join them on Wednesday for a ride on the cliff railway thanks to the generosity of Friends of St Helen's (FOSH). If you would like to join please speak to Mr Kent or Miss Hall.. There are some really varied opportunities available. Thanks as always to the dream team of Mrs Fidler and Mrs Barkwill for spending the week working round the clock away from their families to make this opportunity a reality and thanks to Dave and Chris of Exmoor National Parks for their kindness, patience and expertise.

Mrs Fidler enjoyed welcoming our new reception families for coffee and croissants on Monday and further communications regarding the start of their St Helen's journey will be sent out very soon.

Key learning this week:

This week has seen a range of learning opportunities as always.

I have been pleased to see the Year 4's looking really confident in their preparation for the nationals Multiplication Tables Check which is a statutory test at the end of Y4.

Similarly, the younger children have made excellent progress in their preparation for the KS1 phonics screening which also takes place next week.

In other year groups, the end of year assessment window opens on Monday and we know that all the children will show their usual resilience, determination, motivation and aspiration as they get to show off the progress they have made since they started this academic year.

Teachers are busy writing annual reports and are excited to share your child's progress with you.

Finally, Year 2 have a project and would love your help. As part of their project about harmony, they would like to create an allotment on the balcony. They would love donations of large pots, compost and young fruit and veg plants as well as bird feeders and seed. Anything you have spare would be greatly appreciated!