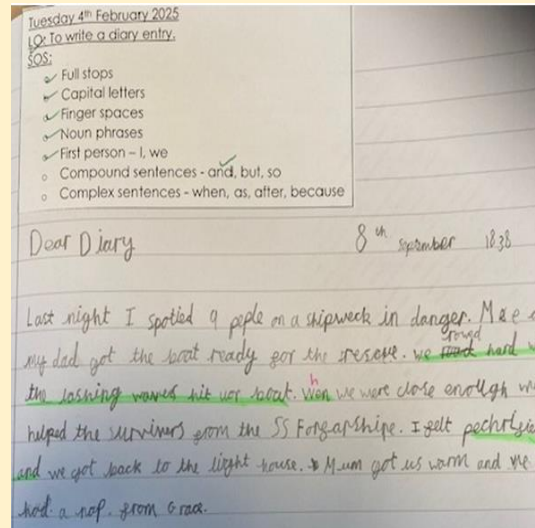
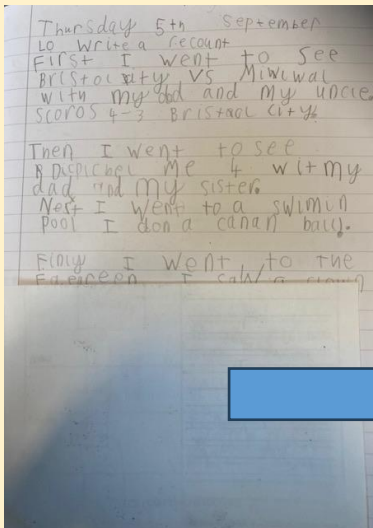


From Mr Chappell: I cannot believe that we are already halfway through the year, so much has been achieved already, and it continues to be another good year. Recently, when I looked at English books across the school, I saw some amazing examples of progress made, and hopefully you will see this in the upcoming parents/ carers evening in March. What struck me are the changes children can make when they are determined to achieve, for example, this week, and you can see yourself what great progress has been made in this book from September, at the start of the year to now, the handwriting is unrecognisable!



I'm sure children across the school will be able to share at least one aspect where they feel they have made great progress: whether in presentation like above, making their first steps in learning to read, refining their arithmetic skills for Year 6 SATs (again amazing progress this term Year 6!) or improving behaviour. What is really pleasing is that huge strides have been made forward and we still have so much time to be Flying even higher!

Why not ask your child what are they most proud about this term, and where they feel they have made the most progress?

Thank you for your continued support, have a great half term break and we will see you on the first day back Monday 24th February.

FOSH: Our very small members of FOSH group, work incredibly hard to raise further funds for school and over the years have raised an incredible amount of money for the children to have access to further resources. Last night they held their AGM (Annual General meeting) online, which had just the minimum number of attendees for it to be quorate. Including myself, seven people attended the meeting, the reality is that without further support the FOSH group will struggle to continue to put events on. A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes, and it is imperative that they have further support. If you have some time that you can give to support this vital group, please contact the FOSH group.

Please see a reminder below of another great FOSH fundraising event. So far already an incredible amount has been pledged, and we are nearly halfway to the total of £500. Thank you for your great support.



Auction ends in 23 days 7hrs 45min



Auction of Promises

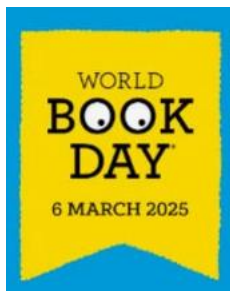
CLICK HERE: ONLINE Auction of Promises https://auctionofpromises.com/AuctionOfPromises_StHelensAlveston

All funds received will enhance school experiences for the children of St Helen's CE Primary School.

FOSH have organised an online Auction of Promises. Open from 7 Feb - 8 March, for both adding promises (please add anything you feel someone may pay for!) and bidding. Please add any promises you may be thinking about as soon as you can, as it gives more time for bidding. We really hope this is a fun and engaging event for us all to contribute to, either as promisers or bidders. Let's make this fun!

Start and End of Day: We spoke a couple of weeks ago about developing a calmer start to the day, by walking in, rather than charging across the playground. Thank you to the number of parent/carers who walk with their children across the playground. Unfortunately, now at the end of the day some children feel that they can start running and shouting as loudly as they can as soon as they get out towards the playground. Yesterday I intervened several times when children were charging around, without any care and attention, playing tag and sprinting, nearly knocking over children who were walking calmly and sensibly next to their parent/carers. We have spoken to each class today and would like you to please speak to your children if they are unaccompanied at the end of the day, if you allow them to walk home or if they like to 'run' away from you at the end of the day.

A calm end to the day is a nice way to start the walk home with your children, and it's certainly a lot better than some of the increasing screaming and shouting that I have seen over the last few days. Please remind your children (as we have done) it is not breaktime after school and to leave calmly without charging around and not playing on the challenge or playing any physical tag games, where other children are nearly knocked over. Thank you for your support on this.



Message from Miss Paul: World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

We kindly ask that children bring in a book of their choice to celebrate this special day. They are also welcome to dress up as a character from their book if they would like! Alternatively, if your child would prefer to wear their school uniform or casual clothes, that is perfectly fine. If they'd like, they can bring in a prop that relates to their book, such as a wand and wizard hat for a *Harry Potter* fan. Additionally, the children will be visiting the Plane Library throughout the day – can you believe it's been a whole year since it opened?

Attendance: This term alone, our attendance stands at a very impressive 97.1%, which coming out of the wintery period, with coughs and colds, is an amazing effort. Our whole school attendance is 96.21% which has seen the local authority rate us as green and not currently a concern. Looking at attendance locally and nationally, as of yesterday, we were in the top 10 schools in the local authority for attendance and top 10/20% schools nationally. This is a great achievement at the halfway point of the year, and it would be great to think that we can keep this going for the rest of the year. Once again can we reiterate that we totally understand when there is sickness and children are not well enough to come to school and remind you that when we meet with families and the EWO it's a supportive process. Presently, we only have 7% (15 children) across the school who are classed as persistently absent (less than 90%) and a number of these children are very close to 90%. Please keep attendance as high as possible as it helps in many ways! A huge thank you to all parents/carers!

Session Attendance Summary (01 Sep 2024 - 12 Feb 2025)

	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	All Years
Attendance	95.21%	95.71%	95.66%	97.06%	96.57%	96.58%	96.55%	96.21%

Well done to Year 3 who have the school's highest attendance of 97.06%. With another short term of six weeks in term 4 we would love to see this increase even more across all classes

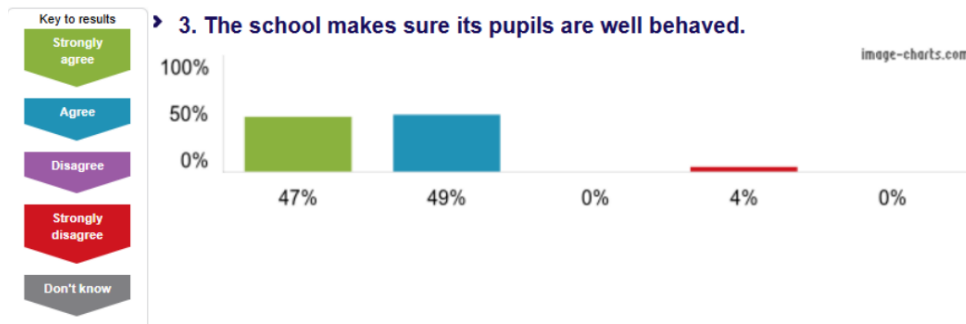
Dance Performance: Over the years we have given our children great memories in a number of ways and another to add



to the list was an amazing Festival of Youth Dance attended by our Dance club on Wednesday night. The children represented the school impeccably throughout the day, at the rehearsal and again at the evening performance and the enjoyment on their faces during and after performing was a joy to behold. A huge thank you, once again to Mrs Macnamara, who has led dance club for several years and choreographed two amazing performances yesterday.

Behaviour Policy: Behaviour in school is generally very good, and we are very proud that most of our pupils always try to be Flying High at all times. When this is not the case, for whatever reason, we always use our restorative practices to help support children when they are having difficulties. Our approaches to this are very clear through our behaviour policy (see link below to access on our website) and when children are having difficulty, we use several strategies to enable the children to make good choices themselves, to 'turnaround' their behaviour and reset their efforts. Sometimes when this does not happen some children find themselves having reflection time with a member of SLT (Senior Leadership Team) and it is at this point that we would normally inform you directly by telephone call, face to face conversations or by messages on dojo or email. Following some work we have done

as a staff, from the start of Term 4, if your child finds themselves having some reflection time, you will be notified by email on the same day, for you to follow up any issues with them. When things do go wrong, we endeavour to support all children and with your continued support, we know children will be aiming to be Flying High. Indeed 96% of you agreed with us in the recent OFSTED parent/ carers survey and we hope with this slight tweak will continue to enable us to improve this further.



[Anti-Bullying-Policy-SHA.pdf](#)

Staffing Update: Today we said goodbye to Miss Mason, in Year 5 who has been covering a maternity leave. Thank you, Miss Mason, for all your hard work. Best Wishes and good luck for the future. After half term as you know, Mrs Derrick and Mrs Pritchard, both return from their maternity leaves to teach Year 5.

Key Dates: Term 3 and 4	
Monday 24 th – 28 th February	Travelling Book Fair
Tuesday 4 th March - Thursday 6 th March	Parents/Carers Evening
Friday March 21 st	Inset Day #3
Wednesday 26 th March	Curriculum Showcase
Friday 4 th April	FOSH Break the Rules Day
Monday April 7 th – 21 st	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22 nd April	Term 5 Starts
Monday 12 th May – Thursday 15 th May	Year 6 SATs assessments week.

Well done to those children who were awarded a Celebration Certificate last week and today's Value Shields and Brave Changemakers Certificates:

Holly Class: Norah & Ayva Lucy & Willow
 Beech Class: Barnaby & James Amelie & Annabelle
 Oak Class: Bethany & Charlie Alice & Jude
 Ash Class: Tessa & Holly Helen & Amelia
 Sycamore Class: Elizabeth & Eleanor Dougie &
 Bluebell
 Elm Class: Pixie and Viola Lucia & Pixie

