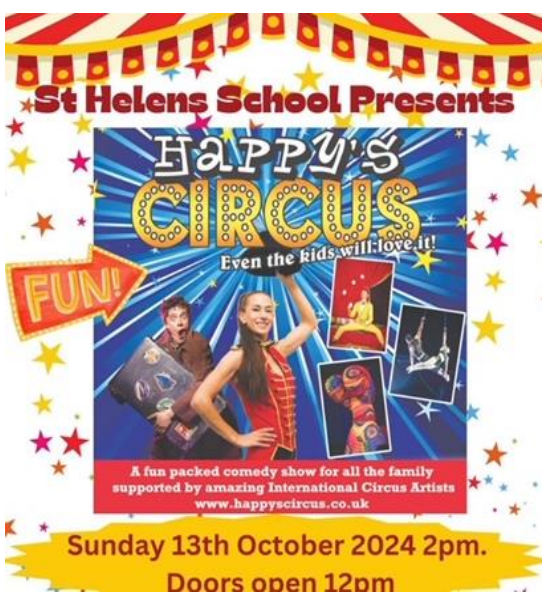


From Mr Chappell Our prayer space eagle has been placed in the hall this week and is something that we are very grateful for. I would like to thank again our OTB (Open the Book) Church Community Team for this, and all their hard work in putting together the prayer spaces for our children to enjoy throughout last year. Every child's name and hand is on the eagle (new EYFS children, we will work on adding yours to it soon). When I was putting it up last week, it made me appreciate how fortunate I and all the other members of staff are, to work closely with such great children in our school. Like all schools we have so many different personalities and as a staff we genuinely love getting to know really well, every single child! Whether it's a child who finds 'learning' easy or a child who may have a challenge in school, we love working with them all to ensure that they are endeavouring to be Flying High. All these children with their different personalities are what makes all schools such unique places, and this week I have seen all our children Flying High in one way or other: whether overcoming challenges, perseverance or showing forgiveness when things go wrong, or courage to be brave and try new things. Whatever happens we know that our children do try to be Flying High, and our soaring eagle will continue to remind all children to do so! Have a great weekend.



Why I love St.Helen's: Year 6 Children's views:

- Harry C: I love to do Maths – I like to do problem solving.
 Ocean: I love playing with the younger children.
 Peaches: I love school as I get to see my friends and learn new subjects.
 Emily R: I like writing stories in English.
 Eden: I like school as I enjoy Maths.
 Justin: I like Science – we are learning about the eyes.
 Cole: I like writing about our Camp recount for our assembly.
 Viola: I love school as you can play with your friends and also learn.
 Bear: After school clubs are great- I started football last night.
 Henry: I enjoy playing basketball at breaktimes and reading.
 Harrison: I love reading and writing. I like the stories we write.
 Kaia: I enjoy playing with my friends and meeting the new reception children.
 Edward: I enjoy my friends and the harder Maths
 Lucia: I am happy to see everyone on the playground.
 Luke: School is amazing as it pushes my learning limits.
 Pixie: School is fun as we get to see all the achievements of other children in Friday Certificate Assembly
 Ferlyn: I find school interesting as when we learn about History we learn about the world.
 Aryo: I love doing PE because of the range of sport that we do.



FOSH Circus: A reminder that our amazing PTA group FOSH (Friends of St.Helen's) are working hard preparing for the amazing circus next month. A reminder that tickets can be purchased from the link below. Please feel free to circulate to friends and family. FOSH do need volunteers – so please contact the school if you can help.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofsthelens1/?event=event&eventId=81070>

97%

Our target for school attendance this year!

Although we are only a few weeks in, already we have had a meeting with our EWO (Educational Welfare Officer) to look at the attendance of families across the school. As you know this is a high priority for the DFE and schools so it was great to see some really pleasing progress from some families, who were last year classed as persistently absent (less than 90% attendance.) Well done to Year 2 with an amazing attendance after three weeks of 99.46%. Last year our whole school attendance was 95.2% which was good in the local authority but we would like to improve this significantly this year and aim for 97%.

House Captains: School staff always have a difficult decision to select our House Captains and this year was no different but well done to the following children who were selected. We know that they will represent their houses superbly like all the other children in Year 6 will continue to do.



Brabazon House: Harrison R and Emily B

Concorde House: Peaches L and Edward B

Blenheim House: Olly B and Ferlyn A

Britannia House: Viola B and Chloe S

Children voice:

Free School Meals

Please find the appropriate links below to enable you to claim Free School Meals for your children.

It is important to note that children from EYFS to Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal as part of the governments universal provision however this will stop when you child enters KS2 and Year 3. If you are in receipt of Universal Credits or similar type benefits it is important that you register your children for Free School Meals as soon as they enter school.

Please see information below about how to claim FSM:

Free school meals

Claiming Free School Meals in South Glos

A reminder to visit our website (click on the link below) if you feel you are in need to claim free school meals. All children in EYFS to Year 2 have the opportunity to take receipt of a universal free school meal, **but this stops at the end of Key Stage One (Year 2)**. To claim free school meals for your children, you need to complete information from the South Glos website. Please follow the link to our website for more information.

<https://www.sthelensprimary.org.uk/parents/free-school-meals/>

Prospective Parents/Carers 2024: If you have any younger siblings due to start school in September 2025, or if you know any parents/carers, who are considering our lovely school please pass on the website link and encourage them to look at our school website. The tour dates for prospective parent/ carers are found on our website home page: <https://www.sthelensprimary.org.uk/>

Children's Newsletter: It was great last week to see a children's achievements newsletter which was over six pages long! Thank you to everyone for sending in your photographs and information around the achievement of your children. We love hearing about it and the children's newsletter is a perfect place to share with the wider school community. Please email the school office with any achievements/photographs.

Well done to those children who were awarded a Celebration Certificate:

Holly class – Imogen C & Norah
Beech class – Annabelle & Theo
Oak class – Gabriela & Max

Ash class – Harrison & Rosa
Sycamore class – Bonnie & Poppy

