

**From Mr Chappell** I cannot believe that we are about to enter the penultimate week of the first term! It doesn't seem like two minutes ago that we were starting the new school year and settling into routines and new classrooms. For Cherry Class (EYFS) they have settled in brilliantly and one of the most amazing things in our school is how the children develop relationships with other year groups when we come together. This has been seen so clearly by our amazing Year 6 (who have had a wonderful start to the year by the way) being good friends to our EYFS class. To see some of them playing together at lunchtimes, looking after them and helping them to learn to use a knife and fork in the hall, has made us very proud and shows what seven years at St.Helen's does. There is a reason our Year 6's wear different jumpers to the rest of the school, to stand out as role models to the rest of the school and they have had an excellent first term. This has been replicated across the school and it's no coincidence that those children who are demonstrating a fantastic work ethic and attitude, concentrating on applying themselves in the basics everyday: reading daily, learning multiplication facts, trying to improve handwriting etc are making great progress from their starting points. Please continue to support your children by helping to spend just a little bit of time at home, to reinforce these basics. It all pays off in the end by the time they get to Year 6! Have a great weekend!



The biggest event in FOSH (Friends of St.Helen's) history, was a huge success and we would like to say thank you to everyone who attended this amazing event. It has been a huge task to organise not just the logistics of the Happy Circus arriving, but also everything else that you experienced on Sunday, stalls, refreshments, food etc. The FOSH group, who put this together, are a very small group and huge thank you to them all for their organisation of this amazing event!



A reminder if you are shopping in Tesco's Thornbury, please look out for the blue tokens that can be put into the fundraising baskets to help raise funds for lunchtime equipment for a range of different children. This picture was sent to me at the start of the week, and it shows that we are doing very well. Remind anyone who you know who shops at Tesco to put their tokens in our section!

In the last newsletter we shared from children across the school what they love about reading. This week it is the turn of our children to share what they love about playtimes!

Marley H Year 3: I like playing with the loose parts with my friends.

Olivia C Year 2: I like writing in my notebook outside.

Emily GS Year 2: Playing with my friends and having fun!

Elliott H: Year 4: I like the crates.

Lola Year 6: Playing with the loose parts and playing on the challenge.

Aryo: Year 6: Playing football on the field, I love playing cricket with my friends and I love playing with the younger children.

Diego Year 5: Walking around and chatting. Playing new made up games.

Parker Year 5: I like playing on the challenge and the swing and playing Tag with my friends.



**Attendance** Thank you to everyone for all their support this term in ensuring your child's attendance is the best it can be. At the moment our whole school attendance is 97.14% which is above where we were this time last year. Year 2 have an amazing attendance of 98.08% whilst an incredible 139 children have attendance above our target of 97%. As we come into the winter months, it would be great to aim for this level of attendance again. A reminder of the link below that we have sent before: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [health protection and managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

**School Nurse: Coffee Morning:** A reminder that we are really fortunate to have been able to get the school nurse into school for an informal coffee morning – next Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 9:30 am to 10:45 am. This is an incredible opportunity for you to ask questions that you might want help and support with, and is something that we are looking to run further, with our own inhouse support. A number of families over the years have had support from Vicky Borel and continue to receive this, and the opportunity to work with the school nurse is another indication that as a school we are aware that some parents/carers would like some support. No question is too small so please feel free to click the link below to book a place. [School Nurse visit on Thursday 24th October](#)

We have also provided the QR code given to us by the school nurse team so that you can see the range of support that the School Nurses can provide.

Use the QR code to view our web page and find out more, or call one of our locality teams using the numbers below:



Also created is a set of materials for parents, carers, and family members living in South Gloucestershire, which you have free access to via the link below to expertly designed online learning and resources on nurturing emotional health. Webpage for parents: <https://inourplace.co.uk/south-gloucestershire/>

**House Points:** As we go into the final week of term the House Points Totals for Term 1 are looking very close. Which House will receive the extra play and be able to wear their own non-school uniform in Term 2? A reminder that in the last week **Brabazon House** received an extra 100 house points as the winning house on TTRS (Timestables Rockstars). Well done!

**Term 2 Clubs:** Once again it has been amazing to see so many children take part in an extra-curricular activities. This term we have had so many children taking part in a club, from Dancing to Gardening club, from Dodgeball to Football. Well done everyone! Next term we have even more clubs running alongside our provision provided by Bristol Sport. To book a Bristol Sport Club – please click the link: [Bristol Sports Foundation | Shop | Abler](#)

Key Dates: Term 1 and 2	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November – Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Travelling Book Fair
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying week Please note: Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November is odd socks day to highlight this week.
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent / Carers Evening Meetings 3:40 pm to 7 pm. Letter to follow at the end of this term.
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographs
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Curriculum Showcase to Parents/ Carers
<b>Please note we will release the dates of the KS1 Nativity and the Year 3 / 4 Christmas Production as soon as we can.</b>	

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

Holly class – Lucy & Wilf  
Beech class – Nikita & Luna  
Oak class – Rufus & Ed  
Ash class – Ciara & Tessa  
Sycamore class – Joshua & Willow  
Elm – Emily & Cole

