



## ST HELENS PRIMARY

Friday 13th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite visible signs of illness, some children have shown unbelievable commitment to their education and attaining the 100% attendance status for the year. However out of respect to everyone else, can I ask you to consider that a couple of days off to recover is probably better than an extended period of absence for themselves or others.

In light of concerns over Covid-19, the school can only follow government guidance and cannot offer parents medical advice. We will continue to publish updates and keep parents informed as best we can. Coronavirus symptoms are a new persistent cough, a temperature 37.8C or above and trouble with breathing.

If children have mild symptoms associated with colds and coughs, you are advised not to call 111 unless symptoms persist.

It is the school policy not to send homework as we would prefer children to recuperate quickly and return to school as quickly as possible.

### **Information: DfE COVID-19 (Coronavirus) helpline**

The Department for Education has launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

The [latest guidance for education settings](#) is available on [GOV.UK](#).

### **Please note updates will be published in the school foyer and our website**

This week Explorers have been doing lots of investigating in Maths. They have been looking at weight using their new scales, exploring number 16 and how they can make 16 in lots of different ways. They have also been shape hunting around the school, looking for 2D and 3D shapes and comparing their recordings as to what shape was most commonly found.

They have been busy creating wonderful sentences on big pieces of paper in the hall and sharing ideas of new and interesting sentences they can make using different words. On Friday they made

salt dough cakes and pastries to add to their cafe menu and will be decorating these next week. They have also made a large poster on how to keep their hands clean and spoke about the importance of washing our hands before we eat and so on.

Another busy week in Pioneer Class. In Maths, the children have been looking at the order of operations using BIDMAS (brackets, indices, division, multiplication, addition and subtraction). They looked at multi-step word problems too and the importance of solving certain steps first. It was noted that some of the children struggled when subtracting amounts of money. An example would be £65.55 - 75p. It would be great if you could support your child at home with this.

However there have also been a number of children who have been experimenting with long multiplication and long division using the appropriate formal written methods. After initially trying to revert back to short division and expanded methods, Madison, Elliott, Harry L and the rest of the group amazed themselves by taking onboard the new strategies.

In English, the children have made an excellent start to their backstories. Mrs Leslie was particularly impressed with Summer and her use of dialogue to advance the action. Sophie and George were editing their work carefully as they read through it. William enjoyed a particularly unique approach to his storyline. Well done!

In Science, the children learnt about the water cycle and its importance. They learnt new vocabulary including: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, groundwater runoff and surface runoff. The children have started a class experiment, using a zippy bag with water in it to demonstrate the process.

In Topic, the children learnt about volcanoes and made a group volcano out of a toilet roll and used paper mache. They have painted these and will be experimenting with these next week! They were very excited especially Maddie, who described the lesson as 'great fun!'

Adventurers have been finding out about Florence Nightingale in History this week. They were surprised to find out what hospitals were like 200 years ago and we all agreed that Florence Nightingale helped to make important changes to our health care. They created some super collages of her.

The children enjoyed our Science lesson this week, we talked about personal hygiene and how important hand washing is. We started an experiment comparing the affects dirty hands, hands washed in soap and hands cleaned with gel will have on a piece of bread. Most children predicted that the bread held in dirty hands will have a lot of bacteria growing on it by next Friday.

The children have worked amazingly hard investigating fractions of numbers. Year One have used arrays and concrete apparatus to help them find half and quarter of a number. Year 2 have used a bar method to find a range of fractions including quarters and thirds.

English has been exciting as the children discovered Juniper Jupiter has a side kick called Peanut! They have started to plan their final letters to Juniper.

They have continued to enjoy athletics in PE and ball skills in Games.

This week in Discoverers class in Maths we have been looking at subtraction and finding the difference between two numbers. In Year Three we have been using frog to help us count up along a number line to find the difference between the bigger and smaller numbers. We have also been using addition (the inverse/ opposite of subtraction) to check our answers. Year 4 have been calculating brilliantly using a compact method of subtraction. On Tuesday we had a visit from Reverend Ali and she was teaching us about the importance of bees as pollinators. We also made wild flower bombs. It was messy, but fun.

In Literacy we have been continuing with the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and have been finding out more about the White Witch and Aslan. Today we have been inspired by Vincent Van Gogh to make pop up chairs.

Last Friday Nick Corsten ended the week in spectacular fashion with the rocket launch. I can report that a gentleman who lives near to Ganders Restaurant was grateful for his unexpected present – though he did return the 'parcel' to Mrs Rees.

On Monday and Tuesday we look forward to meeting you at the parents evening. Only three parents haven't managed to make an appointments at this stage; their class teacher will look forward to hearing from them soon.

In addition to our numerous clubs, I should point out that the Horticultural Spring Show is taking place on Saturday in the school hall. All green- fingered enthusiasts, and everyone else are welcome to attend and pick up a few plants for the garden.

Please note in July, Peter Dalby, our amazing site manager, will be leaving the school to seek a new challenge. Accordingly we will looking to employ his replacement to begin in September. If you know anyone, ideally local, who will enjoy the opportunity to support our school for a few hours each day, please let them know.

It has been brought to my attention that some children have been picked up very late on a few occasions. Can I remind parents that the school day finishes at 3:00pm. Therefore if a child/children are not collected by 3.15pm they may be placed in the pre-school afterschool club as teaching staff often have to attend meetings etc. after school.

Have a healthy weekend

Mr Wake



## THIS WEEKS AWARDS



<u>Class</u>	<u>Worker of the Week</u>	<u>Star of The Week</u>
<b>Explorers</b>	Micah M	Akay
<b>Adventurers</b>	Alexis	Ruby
<b>Adventurers</b>	Obie	Milly
<b>Discoverers</b>	Lenny	William C
<b>Discoverers</b>	Daniel	Jack B
<b>Pioneers</b>	Galt	George
<b>Pioneers</b>	Summer	Madison

Children receive their awards certificates at the Celebration Assembly on Fridays at 9:00am. If your child has been selected you will receive an invitation to the assembly via school text message. Please note all parents are welcome to attend the assembly.

**Attendance week from: 02/03/20 to 06/03/20**

Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	92.1%	2	30	6	5
Adventurers	97.9%	0	0	4	2
Discoverers	94.1%	0	0	12	7
Pioneers	89.6%	0	0	4	20

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was 93.8% which is below the national expectation of 96%

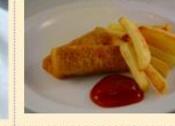
**If your child is too unwell to attend school please contact us to let us know. You can phone on 872442 or email us on [admin@sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk) If you let us know by phone please can you put the reason for your child's absence in writing when they return to school otherwise the absence will be marked as unauthorised. We are required to ask you for this in order to follow the Local Authority attendance procedures, and if we don't receive a letter or email we have to follow it up.**

**Dates for your diary**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – School reports out  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening  
 Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March – St Helens Horticultural Show 9.00am to 5.00pm  
 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Easter Assembly 9.15 to 10.15  
 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - School closes at 3.00pm for the Easter Break  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - School reopens at 8.45am for the Summer Term  
 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Year 6 Sailing, UKSA 1.00pm-4.00pm  
 Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May – School Closed Bank Holiday  
 Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May – SATs week  
 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - School closes at 3.00pm for half term  
 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - School reopens at 8.45am  
 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Class/Group Photos 1.30pm  
 Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Reception September 2020 Parents Evening 6.00pm to 7.30pm  
 Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Residential  
 Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Ryde Mardi Gras  
 Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> & Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – KS2 Space Camp  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Day 9.00am to 12.00pm  
 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – School Reports out  
 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – KS2 play dress rehearsal 9.30am  
 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – KS2 play afternoon performance 1.30pm  
 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – KS2 play evening performance 6.00pm  
 Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Leavers Assembly 11.15am to 12.15pm  
 Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - School closes at 3.00pm for the Summer Break

**Remember to look at the school website for the latest school updates and information at [www.sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk](http://www.sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk)**

**School Dinner Menu Week Commencing 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (£2.05 per day or free to Reception, Year 1 & 2 pupils)**

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Main</b>	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with wedges 	Sausage Roll with wedges 	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy 	Chicken with Rice 	Fish Fingers/ Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips 
	<b>Vegetarian</b>	Chickpea Curry 	Vegan Sausage Roll with Wedges 	Potato & Courgette Stack with Roast Potatoes 	Tomato & Vegetable Pasta with Garlic Bread 	Homemade Vegetable Sausage with Chips 
	<b>Dessert</b>	Apple Crumble & Custard 	Syrup Sponge with Custard 	Apple, Cheese & Crackers 	Yoghurt Station 	Pineapple Cake 

**If your child would like the vegetarian option on a particular day, please can they let their teacher know so we can order enough portions from Bembridge kitchen.**

**Textile Bank Reminder**

Don't forget that we have a textile bank (located by the bicycle racks) where you can donate unwanted **clothes, belts, paired shoes, bags, hats, bedding and towels (in a tied bag)**. The donated items will be collected and weighed fortnightly and the school will receive 20p per kilo towards our funds. ***Please do not donate duvets, pillows, cushions, household textiles, soiled rags as the recycling company will deduct the cost of disposing of these items from our overall total raised.***

**FUNDS RAISED SO FAR £129.40**

**Ink Cartridge Recycling**

The school has signed up to a scheme run by The Recycling Factory to recycle printer ink cartridges and raise funds for the school at the same time. If you wish to help out, please bring in your empty ink cartridges for us to send off - there is a box in the foyer for you to deposit them.

**Walkers Crisp Packet Recycling Scheme**

We have now taken delivery of a green recycling bin (courtesy of Amey) which will be placed at the front of the school, in the corner by the side gate. If you, your children, family and friends would like to take part in the recycling scheme too, then please collect your empty crisp packets at home and when you have a few, bring them to school and put them in our bin!

**CRISP PACKETS COLLECTED SO FAR - 4134**

# St. Helens 2020 Carnival Queens Selection

St. Helens Carnival Queens selection will take place on Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> in St. Catherine's Chapel in the Community Centre, St. Helens.

Judging will take place at 11.00 a.m.

If you are 7 to 14 years old, and live or go to School in the St. Helens, Seaview, Nettlestone or Bembridge area, then please come and join us, and support our Carnival. Boys are also welcome to come along to the selection event to become part of our Carnival Ensemble this year. Same age range applies.

All are welcome.

For further details, please contact Margaret Cope on 874466.



## Spring into garden waste collections!

"The collection service is great - it's really reliable and it saves many visits to the tip. It also represents extremely good value"

Bill, 73, from Newchurch

Already in the gardening gang?

Want to sign up for garden waste collections?

Renew your existing subscription or sign up by 20 March at [www.iwight.com/greengardenwaste](http://www.iwight.com/greengardenwaste)

Direct debit (annual or monthly) now available

For more information go to

[iwight.com/greengardenwaste](http://iwight.com/greengardenwaste)

Recycle for the Isle of Wight



Level 2 Bikeability Cycling

## FREE ROAD SAFETY TRAINING

Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 April 1000 to 1430  
Medina Leisure Centre, Newport

GET READY TO CYCLE TO SCHOOL  
AVAILABLE FOR AGES 10-14

Contact [sports.unit@iow.gov.uk](mailto:sports.unit@iow.gov.uk) to book





Do come to our

*Mothers Sunday Service*

Bring your family & friends.

*Everyone is welcome*

**22nd March 2020 at 10am**

**St Helen's Church  
Tea, coffee & simnel cake!**