

Term 1A – September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers



A very warm welcome back to you all and of course to our new Nursery parents.

I've just returned from overseas holiday last week and so did Mrs Catherine Bowers and Mrs Samantha Ellick. Thanks are extended to Miss Sherell Thomas and Mrs Christy Yon for continuing to manage the school in my absence in term 3B along with all staff. Well done to everyone!

I look forward to continuing and working as a team with you all again.

To think we are beginning a brand new academic school year again and pupils have moved up a class!! The year whizzed by and I am sure the same will happen this year! Everyone has returned refreshed and ready to face another busy half term settling into school routines and setting expectations.

This year, we welcome 5 new Nursery pupils joining our school.

We also welcome Edward and Joseph Ashworth from UK, pupils in Yr 1 and 2, and Riyaaz Peters who joined us in the latter part of last half term from Ascension. We seem to have fallen in number at the moment beginning this year as some pupils have left to go overseas or are on overseas holiday. Currently we have 106 on roll, the lowest in any years!

For all new parents, a newsletter will be sent to you to keep you informed of school events that will occur over the course of each half term. In addition, you will also receive a Curriculum Letter from your child's class teacher to keep you updated with curriculum coverage, school visits and any other general expectations.

We look forward to having your support.

Staffing:

Our staffing structure beginning this academic year is attached with this newsletter. Due to staffing shortages and falling numbers, Yr 1 and Yr 2 have combined as a class taught by Mrs Sally Young, but they will be taught horizontally for the core subjects supported by Miss Sheena Henry (Classroom Instructor). Thanks to Miss Henry for stepping up to this challenge at this time. This has

been done in all three schools. We will continue to see if we can recruit to fill vacant gaps.

We would appreciate any voluntary support (for reading, extra-curricular lunch time activities, after school clubs, library support, our enrichment programmes etc) and would ask that you contact the school should you wish to support in any way. We are looking for new initiatives. You will be required to obtain a vetting certificate first.

We also have two ASDAN students coming into school from PAS this half term. They are Adrianna Osborne and Madison Yon.

Curriculum.



May I also remind you as parents, the importance of your children achieving their full potential within their year.

Please encourage and work with your child as much as you can at home to enable them to aspire. Your support and commitment will be a real boost to their learning. Remember, we work as a partnership in your child's education, teachers cannot do it all on their own. Do take the time to work with your child's class teacher and ask how your child is doing in respect of their expectations. Teachers have now seen the information received from their previous teacher along with their teacher Assessments and PIE/PIM results and will aim to get most pupils to Age Related expectations. We have analysed our PIE/PIM results and have seen some progress made, subsequently we have also seen the areas that need to be worked on by each individual as well.

Choir/Ukulele tuition

At the moment as Miss Lucy is overseas on medical, we are not able to offer this during the lunchtime but if there is anyone who might like to support us in the interim period we would like to hear from you.

Yr 4 and 6 CATs (Cognitive Ability tests) online tests

CATs help us to understand how individual children learn and what their potential might be. Teachers can use CAT information to help plan their lessons to meet the needs of the child.

In Yr 4 they are used to identify potential under performance and to set targets for Yr 6.

- **Reading your child's behaviours:** These courses will provide parents with tools to interpret and respond effectively to their child's behaviours, fostering positive interactions and reducing stress for both parents and children.
- **Developing communication:** Parents will learn strategies for open and effective communication that will strengthen the parent-child bond and promote emotional well-being.

To access the courses, **St Helena** residents can visit www.inourplace.co.uk and follow the simple registration process inputting the access code **STHELENA (for parents) and STHELENA_PRF (for professionals)** Online courses are designed to be accessed anytime, anywhere and are completely private and personal to you.

For more on the Solihull Approach visit: www.solihullapproachparenting.com
 For further Information and support accessing the course or if you have any queries, please contact any of the 0-19 Health services Team on 0to19parenting@gmail.com

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I would just like to give you a gentle reminder of our school handbook that you should have already read and become familiar with our expectations and rules of the school.

Ensure that **pupils clothing be marked** for ease of reference as it does cause complications. Please be reminded also that pupils **who do not use the bus must not be on school premises before 8.30am unless permission is sought for a very good reason.** We are still offering breakfast club from 8-8.30am for those children who arrive on buses early.

Events:



Week 4- Tuesday 24th September
 Back to school/PTA AGM evening at 6.30pm. -book transport with school

Week 5-October 4th Teacher Appreciation Day

October –CATs testing tbc

Week 6- October 9th- Dental screening

Week 7- Thursday 17th October- Harvest Assembly in school.

We will also begin practicing for our Advent Service as soon as we can this half term as well.

More details will follow later.

Christmas dates for diary-

SPPS Advent-Thursday 5th December possibly am. service

Party day-Wednesday 11th December.

Festive parade-Thursday 12th December

It's hard to believe that Christmas is almost around the corner and as usual, we look forward to your support over the year.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school in the first instance to discuss any school matters.

Remember, I cannot deal with anything if I do not know about it. Always make a point of contacting your class teacher or myself via the home to school book or telephone at school if you have any queries relating to your child.

Good luck for the year 24-25 and have a great term 1!
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Yours sincerely

Pat Williams (Mrs)
 Headteacher
 2024

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Please indicate if you are attending the Back to school evening and would like transport provided and send back to the school by Thursday the latest this week.

I/We will be attending the Back to school evening on Tuesday 24th September 2024 at 6.30pm.

I/We will not be attending the evening on Tuesday 24th September 2024.

I/WE require transport..... Seats required

I/We will not require transport

Signed..... Date.....