



NEWSLETTER

www.parish.st-helens.sch.uk 01744 678 430 TWITTER: @parishschool1

Learning and Growing Together in Faith, Hope and Love

2023-2024 Issue Number 21—Friday 23rd February 2024

OUR VALUE THIS HALF

TERM IS:

HOPE THROUGH

JUSTICE

'Learn to do right. Seek justice.' Isaiah 1.17

A message from Mrs Young

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy first week back we have had!

As you will have seen, we were informed this week that we shall be having our Church of England SIAMs inspection next Wednesday and we are excited to show the inspector, Mrs Hyslop, our beautiful school and let her meet our fantastic pupils! Mrs Hyslop will be looking in particular at our Christian Vision - Learning and Growing Together in Faith, Hope and Love - and the difference this makes to the life of the school. The report will be released before Easter and we will share this with you as soon as we receive it.

Today we launched our 'Show the Love' campaign in relation to climate change and we look forward to seeing your involvement! We love seeing you share on X/ Twitter! All completed hearts will be used to create a gorgeous new school display.

Next week we are excited about our 'Leapathon' sponsored event and hope that lots of you can join us.

KS1 and KS2 SATs information sessions for parents will also take place next week and again I hope that you able to attend.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Young



School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance	
Whole School	96.6
Reception	95.8
Year 1	98.3
Year 2	98.3
Year 3	93.5
Year 4	91.7
Year 5	99.2
Year 6	98.3



147 pupils with perfect attendance this week!



Attendance Update

We need to try really hard each and every week to make sure every year group is beating our **97% target**— this will help us to succeed!

Our attendance this week is: 96.6%

Our attendance for the year so far is: 95.7%

Parish Pizza Challenge!



Our next Attendance Challenge is a yummy one!

If your child's class has attendance of above 97% each week, they will earn a slice of pizza for their class pizza chart. If they get 5 before the end of the half term (a 6 week half term) they will earn a pizza party for their class!

You've got to be in to win!!

Attendance Steps to Success:



- ★ Ring the school office as soon as possible to explain any absence.
- ★ Be on time! Remember that gates close at 8:50am. Any absence after 9:20am is unauthorised.
- ★ Provide evidence for any medical appointments.
- ★ Speak to a member of the attendance team if you need support with your child's attendance - we are here to help!
- ★ Read any information and letters (including the newsletter) carefully.

Diary Dates

27/02/2024—Parish University Oracy session

27/02/2024—SATS Information Meeting Y2

28/02/2024—SATS Information Meeting Y6

29/02/2024—Leap Year Fundraising Event (See letter sent 6.2.2024)

1/3/2024—Family Learning Spring Craft Session

4/3/2024 - Ducklings arrive in school

6/3/2024 - Year 3 Trip to Liverpool Philharmonic

7/3/2024 - World Book Day (see letter)

8/3/2024 - Year 1 Class Assembly

8/3/2024—Y3/Y4 Girls Football Competition

8/3/2024—Mothers Day Stay and Play for Reception

12/3/2024—Year 4 Football Competition

12/3/2024—Family Learning Story Sacks sessions begin.

Headteacher's Award WINNERS

Nurturing Curiosity

NURSERY	Aleksandra Debinska
RECEPTION	Eleanor Potts
YEAR 1	Eliza Murphy
YEAR 2	Ayana Kumaragama
YEAR 3	Jacob Roberts
YEAR 4	Helia Azizi
YEAR 5	Skye Turner
YEAR 6	Zachary Erlam

World Book Day

Letters have come home today about World Book Day. This is on Thursday 7th March this year and children will be asked to wear their pyjamas,

PE DAYS SPRING 1

TUESDAY—YEAR 1

WEDNESDAY—YEAR 2, YEAR 4, YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

THURSDAY—NURSERY, RECEPTION, YEAR 1, YEAR 3 & YEAR 6.

FRIDAY— YEAR 2, YEAR 3, YEAR 4 & YEAR 5

Full PE kit on these days.

Black tracksuit/shorts and plain white T.Shirt (logo optional)

NO SLOGAN/BRANDED T SHIRTS OR BRIGHT COLOURS. THIS IS PART OF SCHOOL UNIFORM AND EXPECTATIONS MUST BE FOLLOWED.

School Uniform Reminders

Please see below a few reminders about our school uniform.

Our Uniform

The uniform is as follows:

- Grey v-necked jumper, grey tank top or grey cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- White polo shirt
- White shirt with green tie (KS2 only)
- Black trousers/Black Shorts
- Black skirt/pinafore (in summer, a green and white summer dress may be worn)
- Black, sensible shoes (not trainers)
- Grey, black or white socks (green frill permitted)
- Grey or black tights
- Green book bag (with or without the school logo)

Trainers, open-toed sandals and large, thick boots are not considered suitable footwear for school.

Sensible, plain black shoes must be worn by both boys and girls.

Our PE Kit

Children are asked to come into school on the day of their PE lesson wearing their PE kit. They can wear it for the full school day.

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for PE.

The PE kit is as follows:

- Plain white T-shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Black zipped hoody or sweatshirt or normal school jumper (with or without school logo)
- Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- Black shorts (in summer)
- Plain, suitable trainers or black pumps

Jewellery

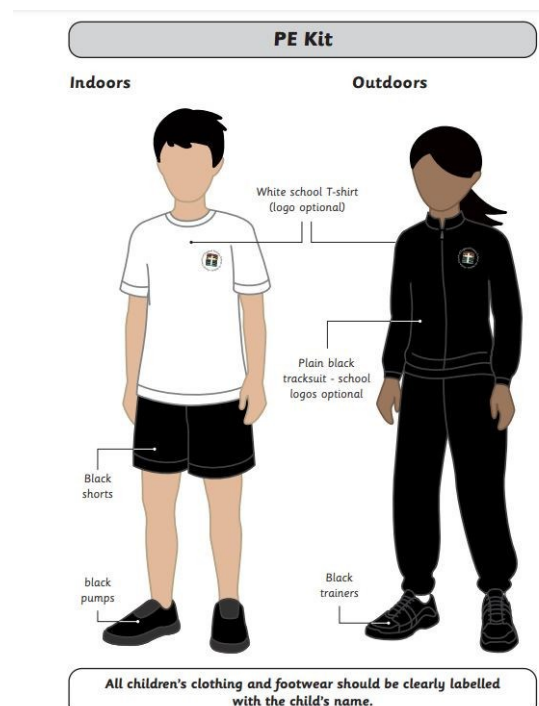
The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings (no other piercings are permitted)
- A sensible wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

School Bag

Pupils must use an appropriately sized green book bag. These can be with or without the school logo.

Large bags / large rucksacks are not permitted





Parish C of E Primary School
Charles Street St Helens WA10 1LW
Telephone/Fax: 01744 678430
email: parish.sthelens@ldst.org.uk



Head Teacher: Mrs J Young



Dear Parents and Carers,

This year, World Book Day will be held on Thursday 7th March and we hope you'll join us to celebrate across the school. This is an important day for us because we support the charity's mission to change lives through a love of books and reading.

Reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a child's future success and it is 'the beating heart' of our curriculum at Parish. We want to see all our children form a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and thus enjoy the improved life chances this brings them.



The theme for this year's World Book Day is 'Read Your Way!'. We are inviting children to come in dressed in their pyjamas or loungewear so they can **SNUGGLE UP WITH A BOOK** and a hot chocolate. We have lots of exciting activities planned for the day including an author visit, competitions, Reading buddies and our very own book shop!

We are asking for a donation of 50p per child to cover costs of the treats.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Flanders

English Leader

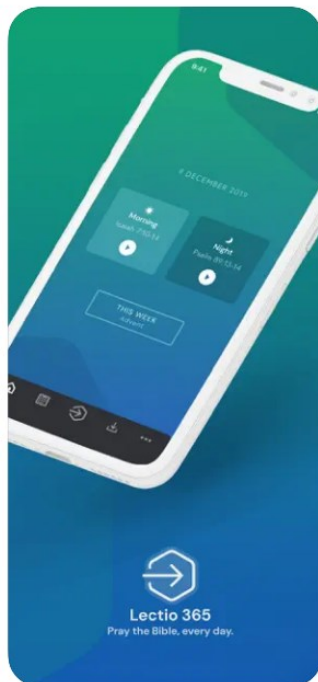


Lectio 365

Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional app that helps you pray the Bible every day.

Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional resource for adults that helps you pray the Bible every day.

Tune into God's presence and peace by slowing down, meditating on scripture, listening to God and praying for 10 minutes at the beginning and end of each day.



Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional app that helps you pray the Bible every day.

Each morning we follow a simple rhythm:

P. R. A. Y.



Morning Prayer

Pause to be still

Rejoice with a Psalm and **R**eflect on Scripture

Ask for God's help

Yield to His will in your life

[For iPhone](#)

[For Android](#)



• St Helens •

NEW PANTRY HOURS

We are now open for a daytime and evening pantry at our base in Wesley Church, St Helens, WA10 1DZ.
(Access the Pantry through the rear door)

Tuesdays 11:00am – 1:00pm
Thursdays 5:00pm – 7:00pm

For more information
please visit hopecentre.org.uk

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP



AGE RESTRICTION
16+
In UK and Europe,
rest of the world 17+

With more than two billion active users exchanging text, photos, videos and documents – as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. It's end-to-end encrypted, only allowing messages to be viewed by the sender and anyone you allow to see WhatsApp content on their phone. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes, and such encryption on private messaging, WhatsApp is unwilling to do so, and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK to help it by that being said.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting all money from the balance of a popular 'messenger'. Plus a scam where fraudulent trigger a verification message by offering to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To curtail the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from original – and might not be entirely factual either.



'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive text, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence if misused. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store a certain message or photo in a separate 'locked chats' folder, secured behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for parents monitoring up to parents checking that their child's safety on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'locked chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Chloe Butler has an online safety consultancy, a selection of research which she developed and implemented and a variety of cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various advice papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and texting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

...HEY OSCAR... National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://beta.whatsapp.com/for-parents-facts>, <https://www.whatsapp.com/privacy>, <https://www.whatsapp.com/support/faq/whatsapp-security>, <https://www.onlinesafety.gov.au/child-bulk-making-year-moves-to-make-consumers-more-secure>, <https://www.onlinesafety.gov.au/child-bulk-making-year-moves-to-make-consumers-more-secure>, <https://www.onlinesafety.gov.au/child-bulk-making-year-moves-to-make-consumers-more-secure>

This term we will be focussing in school on the value JUSTICE. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK ABOUT JUSTICE TOGETHER...

Justice means more than making things 'fair'. In order for people to live together well in a **just** community, it is important to have rules or laws that everybody sticks to. Imagine if there were no rules for people driving cars on the road!

As a family you may want to talk about:

- why it is important to have rules and laws
- rules or laws that you don't think are **just** (or fair)
- family rules that you think are important

THINK TOGETHER ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to **justice** everywhere."

Martin Luther King Jr.



READ TOGETHER...



The Story of Jonah

Some folk always seem to be arguing or moaning and groaning. Sometimes they moan about the weather, sometimes they moan about their family, and sometimes they just moan. In fact, they are so busy moaning about EVERYTHING that they forget to be thankful for ANYTHING.

Jonah was just like that! He moaned all the time. So when God asked him to go to Ninevah and tell the people there that he was angry about their stealing, lying, fighting and their wicked ways, of course Jonah moaned and groaned. "Not Ninevah, please! Anywhere but Ninevah! We have never got on with that nasty bunch. Please Lord, send someone else." And just in case God asked him again Jonah, quick as his legs could carry him, ran to the dock and asked the captain of the nearest boat to take him to the furthest place from Ninevah. The nearest boat was the Jolly Dragon and her captain was called Wise Captain Silas. The Jolly Dragon set sail on a calm sea under a clear blue sky but within a day found herself caught up in a fierce and frightening storm. Captain Silas knew immediately that something was not right. He went to find his passenger, who, surprise, surprise, was below deck moaning to one of the sailors. "It's my fault," groaned Jonah. "Throw me into the sea and the storm will blow over." Wise Captain Silas knew Jonah was right and so to save his ship and all the crew, gave orders to toss Jonah overboard that minute. A huge fish saw Jonah sinking slowly to the bottom of the sea, and he opened his great mouth wide, and swallowed him whole!

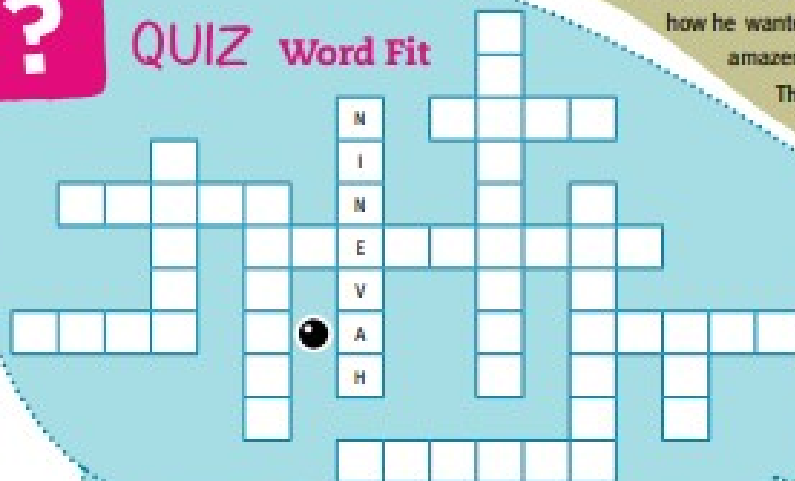
Jonah had only just enough time to recover from the shock when he found himself shooting through the air and onto a beach very near to Ninevah. The great fish had spat him out and swum away.

Even Jonah knew now that there was no way out. He picked himself up, shook off the seaweed and walked slowly into the centre of the city. There he did what God had told him at the start and explained to the people of Ninevah that God was sad about their **unjust** behaviour and how he wanted them to change their ways. To Jonah's amazement, that's exactly what they did.

They fasted, they prayed for God's forgiveness and even thanked him for sending Jonah.



QUIZ Word Fit



ANGRY
CALM
FISH
GOD
GROANED
JONAH
MOANER
OVERBOARD
PRAYED
STORM
SWALLOWED

© 2014 Storyboard by Margaret Jones



HALL OF FAME

Lady Justice

Lady **Justice** is one of the most famous landmarks in London. It is a bronze statue that stands on the domed roof of the Old Bailey.

This building houses the central criminal courts where people who are accused of breaking the law are tried by a judge and jury to find out if they are 'guilty' and should be punished or 'not guilty' and can go free.

Lady **Justice** was designed to be a symbol of **justice**: in her left hand she carries the scales of truth and fairness and in her right hand a double edged sword representing the power of reason and **justice**.



FAMILY FOCUS

Making a new law

New laws are passed every year by the government.

Ask each member of the family to think of a law which they think the government should pass.

Talk about your ideas and how your new law would make a difference.



FASCINATING FACTS

The World Village

If the world was a village, with 100 people living in it:

- 61 people would come from Asia, 13 from Africa, 13 from the Americas, 12 from Europe and 1 from Australasia
- 27 of the people would be under 15 and just 7 of them over 64
- half of the people would speak one of just 8 languages – and the most common language would be Chinese
- 63 village people would not have running water in their homes
- 18 people would not be able to read or write
- 53 villagers would have less than £1.30 a day to live on
- there would be 18 cars in the village

Talk with your family about ...

- what you find surprising about these statistics
- what we take for granted in our lives that many people live without
- what you think is **unjust**
- what you think could be done to make the world a more **just** place for everyone

* Taken from current statistics by VG Business. Inspired by *If the World Were a Village* by David J. Smith, 1990.



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



Design a weighing machine

Before electronic weighing machines were invented, scales often had two pans that were balanced when each held an equal weight.

Design and make a simple balance from junk materials that can weigh small objects.



Mental Health Support Team

WELLBEING WEBINARS

Your MHST is running a series of webinars one Friday a month on a number of topics relating to mental health and wellbeing.

TOPICS AND DATES

- Worry Management - 19 January
- Parenting for Anxiety - 23 February
- Low Mood - 22 March
- Neurodiversity - 26 April
- Parent Skills for Behaviour - 17 May
- LGBTQ+ - 21 June
- Emotional Regulation - 19 July



WHEN

4pm to 4:45pm



WHERE

Zoom

(link will be emailed)



To register please email which webinar you want to attend to events@merseycare.nhs.uk

Webinars will be recorded.
No chat function will be available
for safety purposes.

School Nurse Drop-In

If you have any questions relating to your child's health and wellbeing, please come and meet our school nurse Sam. She'll be holding a parent drop-in on Tuesday 23rd January between 3 and 4pm. Please go to the school office to see her.

NHS

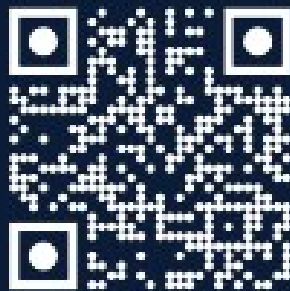


ST HELENS
CARES

thesleepcharity.org.uk

Sleep Charity Referral for St Helens Sleep Pathway

Your chance to work directly with our sleep practitioners who are here to help you and your child sleep better



Use the following QR code or link to book one of our 1-2-1 sleep clinic appointments, available via telephone or video calls

<https://ecv.microsoft.com/C35gdvbyBj>

Why not book on our Foundation Sleep Workshop?

Free training that provides you with knowledge around sleep, some of the common reasons for poor sleep and how you can help to improve your child's sleep

To book, please contact brian@thesleepcharity.org.uk

For more information on the local St Helens sleep pathway and accessing support, or for any concerns you may have regarding your child's sleep patterns, then please contact your health visitor, school nurse, early help worker or children's centre

Children's information support available here:

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/>

03303 530 541

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

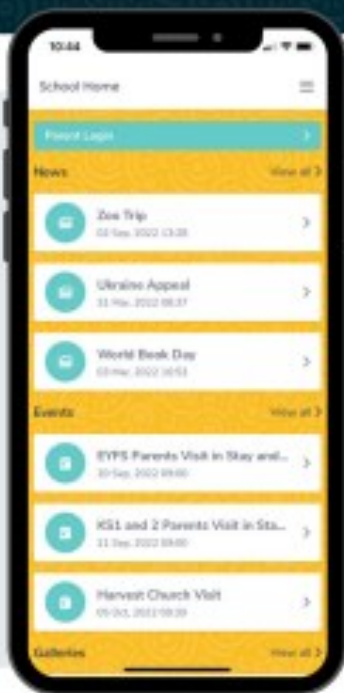


Guide to our app for parents & carers



School Spider allows you to receive and return information directly to and from the school. Receive instant messages, complete surveys, book your parents' evenings and report absences.

Select your school to get started!



How to get started

Once you have selected the school, you will see posts from the school website. Click parent dashboard to login or create an account. Create an account by pressing "create account" and enter your email address.

You must have your email linked with the school!

Take a look around...

See all action items on your dashboard

Click to respond or book for each child



Click the envelope to see your recent messages

Click these 3 lines to:

- Switch between areas
- Edit your profile
- Logout

DOWNLOAD NOW





We will be regularly highlighting the support we can offer to Young Carers in our school. Please see the Young Carers page on our website for more, and to let us know in confidence if you know a young person who would benefit from this support.

Mrs Morris and Mrs Moore will be supporting children in school as Young Carer Champions. You can come and ask for confidential advice from us.



Mrs D Morris
Pastoral and Safeguarding Manager/
Deputy DSL/Young Carers Champion



Mrs H Moore
Inclusion Lead (SENCo) /
Young Carers Champion



You can now watch our Amazing dramatic movie "Hidden" about the life of a Young Carer and starring St Helens Young Carers Ambassador, Jude Riordan

(Sam from Coronation Street)



When is
the next one?
February 25th
4pm

tea & stories

at St Helens Parish Church

Every 4th Sunday at 4pm. we gather together and explore a story: read & pray & play & chat about it.

Then we eat tea together.

Everyone is welcome, but it is especially good for families.