



# 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 23—Friday 8th March 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/Carers,

I am delighted to have been able to share with you today our SIAMs inspection report. I am always incredibly proud to be the headteacher of Parish but I must admit that reading this report brought tears to my eyes! Please do have a read when you can!

Thank you to Mrs Flanders for organising our World Book Day celebrations again this year. I was sad to hear feedback that some parents felt our choice to wear pyjamas on World Book Day this year was an indication of school not making 'enough effort' but actually we have always alternated between costumes and simple ideas like pyjamas in a considered attempt to not burden families financially or time wise with the event which ultimately is about enjoying books and reading. We were delighted to be joined by children's author Natalie Denny - the children were really inspired by her story! Hot chocolate was also enjoyed by all too as we snuggled with books and shared them together.

Y3 also enjoyed a their Pots of Gold visit this week wherein they experienced a live orchestra at the Royal Philharmonic in Liverpool and explored the breathtaking Anglican Cathedral. What a super day out and wonderful memories made!

Well done to the Y3 and Y4 girls who represented school at the St Helens football competition today - you did us proud ... and on International Women's Day no less!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Young



# School Matters!



**Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow**

## Attendance

Whole School	91.2%
Reception	88.5%
Year 1	90.5%
Year 2	85.8%
Year 3	94%
Year 4	87.5%
Year 5	94.2%
Year 6	97.5%

Equates to:



**158 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: 91.2%**

**Our attendance for the year so far is: 95%**

## 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

11/3/2024 - British Values Lesson for Parish University

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

15/3/2024—Easter Egg Own Clothes Week

18/3/2024—Easter Service in Church led by Y3.

19/3/2024—Phonics Screening Check Parent Meeting for Y1.

19/3/2024—Family Learning Story Sacks session 2.

21/3/2024—Y5 to Jodrell Bank

21/3/2024—Parish Praise

22/3/2024—Y4 Class Assembly

22/3/2024—Y5 to Parish Church for Easter Prayer Space.

25/3 & 27/3/2024—Parents Evenings (Letters to follow)

25/3/2024—Easter Eggstravaganza—Bingo and tombola.

21/3/2024—Book Fair Arrives in School

27/3/2024—Y6 to Parish Church Easter Prayer Space

28/3/2024—Y5 Fun Day for Willowbrook Hospice

## Headteacher's Award WINNERS

### **Nurturing Curiosity**

NURSERY	<b>Nala Bamber</b>
RECEPTION	<b>Olga Sathyarajan</b>
YEAR 1	<b>Lottie Rose Cotham</b>
YEAR 2	<b>Aliyah-Mai Foster</b>
YEAR 3	<b>Imogen Stott</b>
YEAR 4	<b>Lilah Chowdhury</b>
YEAR 5	<b>Theo Giles</b>
YEAR 6	<b>Ruby Ather-ton</b>

## PE DAYS SPRING 2

**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.**



Are you  
looking for  
a nursery  
place?



# Parish Nursery Enrolment 2024/2025

*Is your child ready to turn 3?*

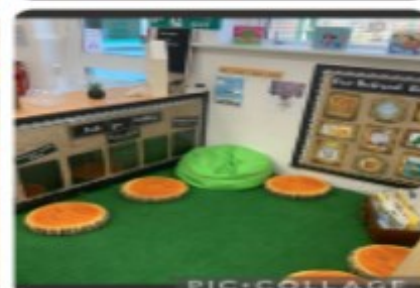
- If so, they are eligible for free 15/30 hours early education funding
- Extended care services are also available

- Contact the school office for more information:

Tel: 01744 678430

Email: [parish@sthelensoldst.org.uk](mailto:parish@sthelensoldst.org.uk)

Open Evening Tuesday 26th March 3:30pm - 4:30pm



# 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

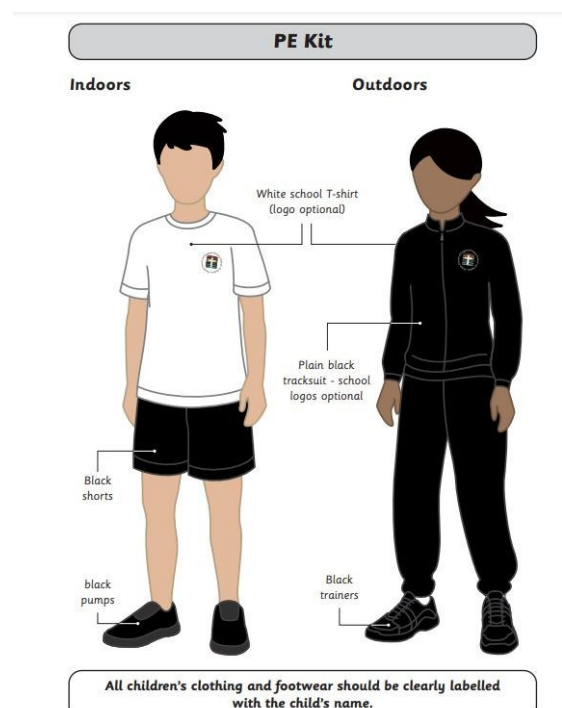
The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- 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



### **Sponsored 'Leapathon'**

Thank you to everyone who took part in our sponsored 'Leapathon' last week. We raised a total of £1060.25 which will go towards some new play and sports equipment. Certificates for those who raised sponsorship and prizes for the highest fundraisers will be given in next week's celebration assembly.

### **Parents' Evening**

Our Parents' Evenings will take place on Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th March. Bookings will only be available online via the School Spider app. Please ensure that you are able to access the app.

Bookings will be available from 7am on Monday 11th March.

### **Mental Health Support Team—Parent Drop In**

On Wednesday 20th March from 2.30pm to 3.30pm, Emma, from the Mental Health Support Team and James, from the St Helens Wellbeing Service, will be holding drop ins in school for parents who would like any advice or support regarding physical or mental health.



# 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.



For iPhone

For Android





# ST HELENS LIBRARY SERVICE

## St Helens Library

### What's On in March 2024 for **children**

Speak to library staff for more information

TV

<p><b>Read and Rhyme</b> Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10.15am</p> <p>Join us for fun rhymes, songs and stories.</p> <p>Drop in</p>	<p><b>Baby Rhyme Time</b> Fridays at 10.30am</p> <p>A 6-week block of sessions commenced 23rd February</p> <p>A soothing, sensory Rhyme Time for you and your baby.  </p> <p>Bookings only</p>	<p><b>Opening hours</b> Monday 10am – 7pm Tuesday 10am – 5pm Wednesday 10am – 1pm Thursday 10am – 5pm Friday 10am – 5pm Saturday 10am – 1pm</p>
<p><b>British Science Week</b> Creative activity</p> <p>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 3.30-4.30pm</p> <p>Decorate a plant pot and plant some seeds to welcome Spring</p> <p>Drop in</p>	<p><b>World Book Day Party</b></p> <p>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 3.30-4.30pm</p> <p>Join us for a Gruffalo craft activity, fun treasure hunt. Juice and biscuits provided.</p> <p>Take home activity pack</p> <p>Drop in</p>	<p><b>Mother's Day Card making</b></p> <p>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 10.30 – 12.30pm</p> <p><b>Easter Craft Session</b></p> <p>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am 12.30pm</p>

St Helens Library, Chalon Way East, W10 1bx  
Contact: 01744 676954 or email [sthelenslibrary@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:sthelenslibrary@sthelens.gov.uk)



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

18

CENSORED

### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it *does* offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



**National Online Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

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# JUSTICE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

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.

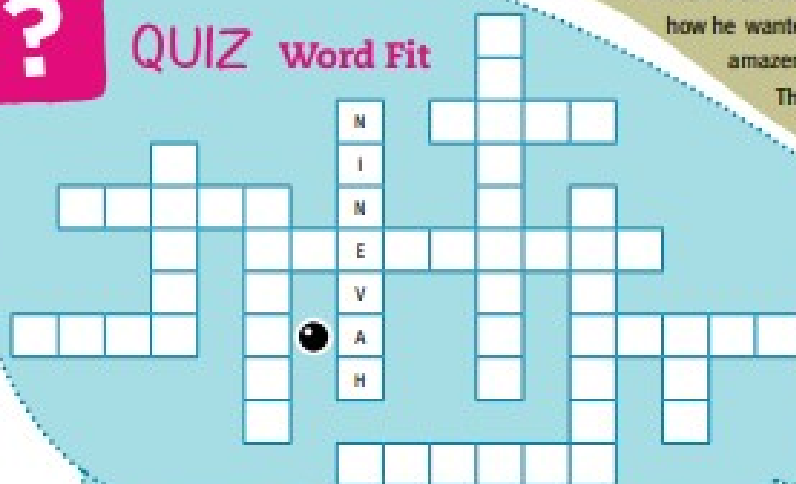
Even Jonah knew now that there was no way out. He picked himself up, shook off the seaweed and walked slowly into the centre of the city. There he did what God had told him at the start and explained to the people of Ninevah that God was sad about their **unjust** behaviour and how he wanted them to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

Story based on Bible of Jonah



## QUIZ Word Fit



ANGRY  
CALM  
FISH  
GOD  
GROANED  
JONAH  
MOANER  
OVERBOARD  
PRAYED  
STORM  
SWALLOWED





## 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](mailto: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](https://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](mailto: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 9am - 5pm  
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am



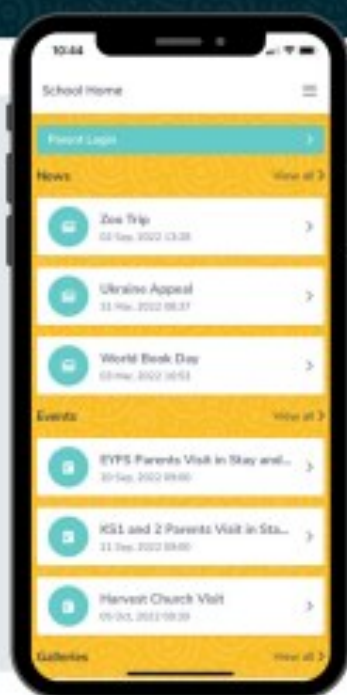


# Guide to our app for parents & carers



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)