Contents

Headteacher's News

What's On Next Week

**Supporting SEND** 

OPAL — Welly Plea!

# **Headteacher's News**

Dear Parents/Carers, a warm welcome to the new half term. The school is buzzing with excitement again and it's fantastic!



Thank you to one of our parents for capturing a rainbow across the school. What a perfect way to match our philosophy that inside every child is a rainbow waiting to shine!

#### **PRIDE OF ST HELENS**

What better way to start the half term than to find out that we have made the shortlist for the Pride of St Helens 'School of the Year' Award.

This year, Saints' BrewDog Stadium will again be turned into the glittering venue for the awards ceremony, which will take place on Friday, November 28.



The decision on the winners will be made by a panel of judges.

Martin Blondel, general manager of the SPF, said: "Steve Prescott founded these awards and wanted to create a spectacular celebration of what is best about St Helens and to raise aspiration and self-belief among people across the borough.

# **Oldest meets Youngest!**

It's a pleasure to welcome Macey to the team.

Macey is our youngest member having just turned 3, pictured meeting George who, at 11 with a September birthday, is our oldest!



That continues to be our mission – this will be a night of inspiration and positivity when we share stories that will make people love St Helens."

Regardless of the outcome, to be shortlisted for such a prestigious award is an enormous compliment to everyone involved with our school. We are always proud to represent our community and thank our children, families and staff for making this a special place to be.

Thank you for your support,
Andrew Maley

# **ANTI-BULLYING WEEK - NEXT WEEK!**

Next week, #teamcarrmill can't wait to take part in #antibullying week 2025.

We have lots of fun, inspirational activities planned that highlight the importance of friendship and respecting others. Check out some of the events below!



# WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK?



Next week, #teamcarrmill will be taking part in national anti-bullying week. The children will complete lots of activities to explore the impact of bullying and pledge to use their 'POWER FOR GOOD' to stop bullying in its tracks!

They will also enjoy the following special events:



Rindness Day



MON

#teamcarrmill can wear
odd socks to recognise that
we can respect everyone,
no matter what they
choose to be or wear!

THUR

#teamcarrmill will join a live lesson led by the School of Kindness with other schools from across the UK FRI

#teamcarrmill can come
to school in their own
clothes for a £1 charity
donation to Children in
Need

# PARENTS'/CARERS' EVENING

Monday 10th and Wednesday 12th November

Bookings are open on the School Spider App. It is vital that all parents attend in order to find out how your child is doing in school and how to support their learning at home.

Bookings can also be made directly through the school office in person or by phone.



#### SUPPORTING SEND

We are often asked about parental concerns regarding ADHD, ASD, Dyslexia/Orthoptics etc.

Referrals and the acceptance for assessments with the different agencies for possible diagnosis are getting tougher, with the expectation that parents and carers have carried out certain tasks.

The flow charts below provide information on what parents and carers need to do before school can consider or begin to complete any referrals.

### **ADHD Concerns**

PARENTS TO CREATE A LOG OF CONCERNS WITH BEHAVIOURS, DATES AND TIMES.

TEACHER TO OBSERVE
AND RECORD SPECIFIC
BEHAVIOURS AND
LEARNING PATTERNS
THAT RAISE
SUSPICION OF ADHD.

INFORMATION GATHERED BY PARENTS AND CLASS TEACHER ARE THEN DISCUSSED WITH THE SENCO - MRS BARTON OR MRS WILLIAMS. NEXT STEPS WILL BE AGREED. PARENTS TO CONTACT MRS
DOYLE AND ARRANGE A
MEETING TO LOOK AT
SUPPORT OPTIONS. THIS IS
TO COMPLETE A COURSE
WITH MRS DOYLE.

PARENTS TO CONTACT
ADDVANCED SOLUTIONS AND
BOOK ONTO A RELEVANT
COURSE, DETAILS AND DATES
OF THESE MUST BE SHARED
WITH THE CLASS TEACHER.
TEACHERS WILL THEN BEGIN
THEIR LOG.

IF CONCERNS ARE
CONSISTENT ACROSS HOME
AND SCHOOL REFERRALS
WILL BE MADE TO RELEVANT
SERVICES TO GAIN SUPPORT
USING ALL OF THE
INFORMATION GATHERED.

We hope this information is useful and helps support an understanding of the referral process. We appreciate the process can be frustrating but is something the school has little control over.

#### **Dyslexia Concerns**

PARENTS TO ENSURE
CHILDREN COMPLETE
HOMEWORK - READING . LEARN
AND COMPLETE SPELLINGS
SEND IN EVIDENCE OF THEM
LEARNING THEM AT HOME ON
SEESAW.

ORTHOPTIC REFERRAL PARENTS TO COMPLETE ALL
ABOVE STEPS AND THEN
REFERRAL TO THE SERVICE
WILL BE MADE. THIS WILL BE
AN NHS APPOINTMENT AND
THEY WILL SEND A REPORT
WITH RECOMMENDATIONS.
THIS WILL NOT GIVE YOU A
DIAGNOSIS. IT WILL HOWEVER
MAKE SUGGESTIONS ON HOW
TO HELP YOUR CHILD.

PARENTS TO DISCUSS CONCERNS WITH CLASS TEACHER TO SEE IF THEY HAVE THE SAME CONCERNS.

PARENTS TO TAKE THEIR
CHILD FOR AN EYE TEST TO
CHECK VISION.

SHOULD PARENTS WISH TO GET AN OFFICIAL DIAGNOSIS THEN THEY CAN PAY FOR A PRIVATE ASSESSMENT AND REPORT.

#### **ASD Concerns**

PARENTS TO CREATE A LOG OF CONCERNS WITH BEHAVIOURS, DATES AND TIMES.

TEACHER TO OBSERVE
AND RECORD SPECIFIC
BEHAVIOURS AND
LEARNING PATTERNS
THAT RAISE
SUSPICION OF ASD.

INFORMATION GATHERED BY PARENTS AND CLASS TEACHER ARE THEN DISCUSSED WITH THE SENCO - MRS BARTON OR MRS WILLIAMS, NEXT STEPS WILL BE AGREED. PARENTS TO CONTACT MRS
DOYLE AND ARRANGE A
MEETING TO LOOK AT
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INFORMATION GATHERED.

We are also always happy to talk through any concerns you may have about your child.

As always, we will support the child in front of us according to how they present, regardless of formal diagnosis etc.



# Outdoor Play And Learning (OPAL)

"Playing is the way that children lead themselves to their own wellbeing. Enter into children's play, and you will find the place where their minds, hearts, and souls meet."

OPAL continues to be a massive success and a real difference maker for our children's health and wellbeing. In order to continue this with the change in weather we need some support from home!

All children need wellies or outdoor trainers by Monday 17th November to continue to enjoy our OPAL field activities during the winter months. Without them, they won't be able to access our new digging zone, loose parts area, or tree swing. Please make sure these are clearly named. Please also make sure your child wears a coat for school—if the weather changes through the day, children will need coats in order to fully access our outdoor provision.

for donations for our Wheels Zone! The children love this area so much that bikes and scooters quickly wear out. If you have any bikes, scooters, or other wheeled items that have been outgrown or are no longer used, we would be thrilled to give them a new home in school.

We are also looking

