



St Helen's Catholic Infant School

Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025



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Tel: 01277 215626

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X: [@StHelensInfant](https://twitter.com/StHelensInfant)

Prayer of the Week: Class 2B

Dear God,
Please help all the children at St Helen's listen and
show love to each other at the start of the new school year.
Amen

*With Jesus alive in our hearts, we celebrate each other and learn
together as a family.*

**Best Attendance:
Class 1A – 99%**

**Whole School Attendance:
93%**

Dear families,

Welcome back, I hope everyone has had a restful summer! It has been a fantastic start to the year and Year 1 and 2 have settled well into their new classrooms. Learning has begun! To celebrate the beginning of the year we attended Mass this morning at the Junior School. Thank you, Canon John Harvey, for such a beautiful service.

To keep up to date with your child's/ren's learning please check the year group pages every week on the website: [Children – Year Group Pages](#)

You can also keep up to date with school life via the school's Instagram and Facebook pages.



Reception and Year 1: Drop and Go

Reception children start their full-time places on Wednesday 10th September so the school will be very busy in the mornings. We encourage all Reception and Year 1 parents to make use of the Drop and Go system at the main entrance of the school.

Curriculum Information Sessions for Parents/Carers: Wednesday 17th September 2025

Parents/Carers are invited to attend Curriculum Information sessions (no children) where you can see your child's/ren's class, meet their teacher and find out all about what your child/ren will be

learning. A Parentmail will be sent out nearer the time to enable parents/carers to book to attend the 30 minute session: 5pm – 5.30pm.

Celebrations of the Word: Year 2

This half term children in Year 2 will be presenting their Celebrations of the Word in the hall and parents/carers are welcome to attend to watch their own child/ren perform. We look forward to seeing you there.

Tuesday 23rd September – 2.50pm: Class 2B

Tuesday 30th September – 2.50pm: Class 2S

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Extra-Curricular clubs will be starting from Monday 15th September 2025. They are offered before and after school and there will be opportunities for children from all year groups to take part.

Further information and booking details are now available on the school website: [Parents – Extra-Curricular Clubs](#).

Please note: All bookings and payments are made directly to the club provider.

Autumn Term	Before School Clubs: 8am-8.45am	After School Clubs: 3.15 – 4.20pm
Monday	Ballet (Rec/Y1)	No Clubs
Tuesday	Tennis (Y1)	Multi skills (Y1 – 4.10pm finish)
Wednesday	Karate (Y1/2)	Street Dance (Rec/Y1/ Y2)
Thursday	Tennis (Y2) Spanish (R/Y1/Y2) Football (Y2)	Multi Sports (Y1/ Y2)
Friday	No Clubs	No Clubs

Car Park: Permit Holders Only

Please ensure you park sensibly in line with car park regulations:

- The car park opens at 8.20am and 2.45pm and not before. Please do not arrive earlier as it causes traffic problems on Sawyers Hall Lane.
- Drive slowly at 5 miles per hour in and around the car park at all times.
- Park along the 2 outer long sides of the car park until they are full, then park making 3 lines down the centre of the car park, facing the school entrance.

Parents Association

Welcome back from the parents' association. St Helen's School PA aims to create a community for all parents and carers, children, and school staff outside of the classroom. The PA's ultimate goal is to raise money for both the Infant and Junior Schools to help support them in investing in further technology and equipment to aid in all our children's development. Fun events are organised throughout the school terms – from discos to shopping days and doughnut sales!



We use the St Helen's PA platform for tickets for events – if you haven't registered you can here <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/st-helens/index.cfm?event=register>

Our AGM will be held mid-October (date TBC) this is where new committee members get elected - we desperately need new members – we are looking for committee members, a new chair, treasurer and secretary, many of the current team are nearing the end of our St Helens time, this will allow the current team to give a full years handover to new members. If interested, please email sthelenspta@gmail.com.

We are in need of both volunteers (people that are willing to help at events) and new committee members – Please email sthelenspta@gmail.com with your contact details for more info.

Also, please register onto the platform [here](#) as this is where you will be able to find information and purchase event tickets. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Consultation: Lowering the Age Range

Please read the information sent out earlier this week regarding our proposal to lower the age range of the school to from 4 to 3 years old and operate a school run term-time only early years and childcare setting from 8.30am to 3pm with additional paid hours from 8am and until 4pm to support working families.

This provision will cater for a maximum of 26 places and will offer Funded Early Education Entitlement funded for early years (30 hours) to support eligible working families. The proposal is for this new early years setting to open from September 2026.

- The consultation period will run for 4 weeks from Monday 1st September 2025 until Monday 29th September 2025
- If you have any questions or comments about the proposal, please email the School Business Manager, Mrs C. Onslow: office@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk
- Alternatively, the school will be holding a drop-in session for members of the community, to answer any questions, on Wednesday 10th September: 3.30pm-4.30pm
- You can also visit the school's website for further information and complete the survey available or please pick up a survey from the school office and return by Monday 29th September 2025

Safeguarding Update

To find out information on 'What is Child Abuse':

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/>

The NSPCC logo is displayed in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs C. Morris (Deputy Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms A. McAuliffe (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs J. Seaman (EYFS Leader)

Reminders

- Next week the school dinner menu will be **Week 2**

Diary Dates

- **Wednesday 10th September:** Reception start full-time
- **Wednesday 17th September 5pm-5.30pm:** Curriculum Information Sessions for Parents/Carers (*no children*)

- **Thursday 18th September: Flu Vaccinations**
- **Tuesday 23th September:** Class 2B Liturgy (2.50pm)
- **Friday 26th September:** Fencing Day
- **Tuesday 30th October:** Class 2S Liturgy (2.50pm)
- **Wednesday 1st October:** Black History Month Begins
- **Friday 3rd October:** St Francis' Feast Day (All children to wear yellow and donate £1 to St Francis Hospice)
- **Tuesday 21st October 3.30pm – 6.30pm:** Parent Consultations (on-site or telephone appointments available)
- **Wednesday 22nd October:** School Photographer
- **Thursday 23rd October 3.30pm – 6.30pm:** Parent Consultations on-site or telephone appointments available)
- **Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October inclusive:** Half Term
- **Monday 3rd November:** Children return to school

God Bless all our families,

Ms A. McAuliffe

Headteacher



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

