



St Helen's Catholic Infant School

Newsletter

Friday 24th October 2025



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Prayer of the Week: Class 2S

Almighty Father

We are sorry for times when we have made the wrong choices. Thank you for always forgiving us. Please help us to let our lights shine like Jesus.

Amen

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

Best Attendance:

2S – 97%

Whole School Attendance:

95%

Dear families,

This week's parent consultations were a huge success and staff were delighted to show parents and carers how much progress the children have made this term. Thank you to all the families who attended.

After half-term the children will be busy preparing a selection of festive events for children to share with their families:

Friday 5th December 2.30pm: Year 1 will lead an Advent Liturgy in the school hall. Year 1 parents/ carers (2 tickets per family) are invited to attend and celebrate the beginning of Advent.

Friday 12th December 2025 2.30pm: Year 2 will present a traditional Nativity. Year 2 parents/ carers (2 tickets per family) are invited attend and enjoy the children's singing!

Wednesday 17th December 2025: 2.30pm Reception children will retell the Nativity through songs. Reception parents/ carers (2 tickets per family) are invited to attend and enjoy their children's first performance.

Tickets for these events will be sent out via Parentmail nearer the time.

Reading Race Winners: 1MC

Congratulations to 1MC who have won this half terms reading race!

Their non-uniform day was today. Keep up the excellent reading

Anti-Bullying Week: Monday 10th November – 14th November 2025

Anti-Bullying Week is approaching and this year the theme is: Power for Good. Children will complete activities that will teach children what bullying is and empower them with strategies to stop bullying. **The week will begin on Monday 10th November 2025 with Silly Socks Day**, where staff and children are encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate differences and what makes us all unique. There will also be a Silly Sock Menu for lunch (please see attached)!





The Feast of St Martin: Tuesday 11th November 2025

All children are encouraged to wear green on Monday 11th November 2024 to celebrate the feast of their saint. We encourage all children to donate a minimum £2 towards CAFOD. *Please Note: This is a charity donation and we are unable to offer refunds.*

Remembrance Day Activities: Tuesday 11th November 2025

All children will receive a poppy, to celebrate the day that World War 1 ended in 1918. We will also hold a 2 minute silence at 11am to remember those who have died in any conflict. We encourage all children to make a minimum donation of £2 towards The Poppy Appeal via Parentpay.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Left We Forget

During the month of November, we also encourage children to bring in photos of any family members who have served or are currently serving in any wars to display on our reflection area in the corridor to remember the service and sacrifice of soldiers close to our hearts.

Phonics Workshops for Parents/ Carers: Wednesday 12th November 2025

The aim of the workshop is to provide support for parents/carers when reading with their children at home. The sessions will run virtually via TEAMS:



- Reception: 6pm - 6.20pm
- Y1: 6.30pm - 6.50pm
- Y2: 7pm - 7.20pm
- **The TEAMS link is: Meeting ID: 394 933 362 236 0**

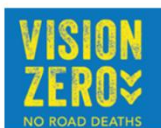
Passcode: pt9XY3Ry

Road Safety Workshop: Reception parents/carers only

Reception parents/carers are encouraged to attend a road safety workshop at St Helen's Catholic Infant School with their children. The sessions are as follows:

RR parents/carers Tuesday 18th November: 9.10-9.40am

RS parents/carers Wednesday 19th November: 9.10-9.40am



Children will go into class as normal and then they will be brought in to share the session with parents/carers.

Prospective Reception Parents 2026-27

There will be tours of the school for prospective parents (Reception 2026) on **Tuesday 26th November, Wednesday 27th November, Thursday 28th November and Friday 29th November at 9.30am**. Please contact the school office to book a slot.

This Week's Awards

Stars of the Week		
Reception Class RS - George Class RR - Olivia	Year 1 Class 1Mc - Adam Class 1A - Olivia	Year 2 Class 2S - Jack Class 2B - Siaka
House	This Week	This Term
St Bernadette	307	**1183**
St Clare	209	1123

St Francis	241	1103
St Martin	284	1179

Safeguarding Update

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

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

NSPCC

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)

Parents Association

Message from Vicki Scott: Chair of the PA

The PA AGM was held last night, many thanks to all those that came along.

Last year marked my fifth and final year as Chair of the Parents' Association, and I'd like to begin by saying a huge thank you. A special thank you to all the committee members who have given their time and energy to support the PA this year. Thank you also to the Governors, Headteachers, Teachers, Support and Office Staff for their continued support — and, of course, to all the parents who volunteer, donate, and take part in our events. Your support truly makes a difference and is deeply appreciated.

Together, we've raised money for those lovely extras that make school life more fun and enjoyable for our children. We have continued to raise a significant amount for the 2024-2025 academic year, with a fantastic £22,725 being raised. Donations presented to each school to enhance our children's education, the Junior school has received £13,060 and the infants £6,940.

Now my youngest child is in year 5 it feels like the right time to start handing over and encouraging some new parents to step up, so the PA can keep thriving in the future.



I am pleased to announce the new officers in the committee.

- Vicky Deal – Chair
- Gemma Fitzgerald – Treasurer
- Marie Baker – Secretary
- Annie Wingrove – Publicity Officer

Myself and Mandy Kyprianou will continue as deputy Chair and Secretary to support the new team.

Kind regards,

Vicki

From Ms McAuliffe:

A huge thank you to the Parents Association for all their hard work and support. This week we received a cheque for £6940 and we are incredibly grateful for the financial support from our families. This year the money will be spent on:

- Bibles for Year 2 children
- Coaches for school trips (1 per year group)
- Theme days/ visitors (African drumming/ Egg Hatching Programme)

A very special thank you to Vicki Scott for all of her hard work and support as Chair of the PA over the past 5 years. When I liaise with other Headteachers in other schools I regularly show off the skills of our PA and the events they lead and I am reminded of how lucky we are to have such a fantastic Parents Association supporting our school.

Vacancy

St Helen's Catholic Infant School Vacancy:

Learning Support Assistant: 8.45am - 3.15pm (term-time only)

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-motivated person to join our staff in January 2026. Please contact the school office for further information and an application pack: office@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk

Deadline: Friday 14th November 2025

Interviews:TBC

Reminders

- The school dinner menu the first week back will be **Week 1**

Diary Dates

- **Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October inclusive:** Half Term
- **Monday 3rd November:** Children return to school
- **Friday 7th November:** PA Coffee Morning/ Pre-loved Sale @ St Helen's Junior School
- **Monday 10th November:** Anti-Bullying Week/ Silly Socks Day
- **Tuesday 11th November:** St Martin's Feast Day – Children to wear green (£1 towards CAFOD)
- **Tuesday 11th November:** Remembrance Day
- **Wednesday 12th November 6pm-7.20pm:** Phonics Workshop for Parents/Carers
- **Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th and Friday 28th November:** Tours for Prospective Reception Parents 2026
- **Wednesday 3rd December:** Y2 trip to Basildon Townsgate Theatre
- **Friday 5th December:** Elfridges (PA Event)
- **Friday 5th December 2.30pm:** Y1 Advent Service
- **Wednesday 10th December:** Christmas Dinner/ Fun Day
- **Friday 12th December 2.30pm:** Y2 Traditional Nativity
- **Wednesday 17th December 2.30pm:** Reception Nativity through Song
- **Friday 19th December 3.15pm:** School closes for Christmas Holidays

God Bless all our families,

Ms A. McAuliffe

Headteacher

