

8th July, 2009

Dear Parents,

District Sports Success!

In the District Sports competition on 22nd June at Hillingdon Athletics Stadium, the St. Helen's team gained medals in 21 out of 30 events, including 10 Gold medal positions, 7 Silver medal positions and 4 Bronze medal positions. We won the Track Shield, retained the Relay Shield, came second in the Field Shield and second in the Overall Shield. Individual medal winners were as follows:

Gold medals winners: Fehintola Soyinka, Dominick Mahon, Kimran Kaley, Myles Manning, Tom McKinlay, Sydney Bunting, Danielle Doran and Anna Moroz.
Silver medals winners: Aadam Jung, Isabella Sibley, Susannah Lee, Oliver McKinlay, Chloe Fletcher and Alexander Khan,
Bronze medals winners: Ariana Jung and Maya Bharal,

Four St. Helen's athletes broke District records – Tom McKinlay in the Y6 long jump, Anna Moroz in the Y3 speed bounce, Kimran Kaley in the Y6 80m, and Myles Manning who smashed his own District record in the 800m.

This is a fantastic result against strong opposition, and our athletes deserve much praise for their skill, determination and sportsmanship.

Sports Days

The new format at the Infant Sports Days was very successful and the children really enjoyed themselves. Well done to Windsor for winning the Infant Sports competition!

Junior Sports Day was another fantastic day of endeavour, teamwork and good sportsmanship. The support of the parents was, again, magnificent, and the children had a great day, with many records being broken. Despite the head start enjoyed by Windsor as a result of the Infant success, Cambria pulled away to win the day!

School Fete

The Fete organised by the PA last Saturday was a great success. The sun shone, the many stalls and activities were busy, everybody appeared to have a terrific time, and some £2,200 was raised for the new library. Grateful thanks to all staff, parents and pupils who worked so hard to make the day go so well.

Examination Success

Our Year 6 pupils have performed very well indeed in their various examinations.

- ❖ All 23 of the children who sat entrance examinations at **Independent Senior Schools** were offered places at one or more of their chosen schools, most at their first-choice schools.
- ❖ 59% of the children who sat 11+ tests for Buckinghamshire or Berkshire **Grammar Schools** passed. The overall Buckinghamshire County pass rate is typically 27% - 32%.
- ❖ In the **Key Stage 2 SATs Tests** the pass rates were:
 - English: Level 4 100% Level 5 55%
 - Mathematics: Level 4 100% Level 5 71%
 - Science: Level 4 100% Level 5 79%
 Level 4 is the expected level for an 11 year old and Level 5 for a 14 year old.
- ❖ We run an accelerated maths programme for all pupils at S. Helen's, and, in addition to the Key Stage 2 tests, our Year 6 pupils sit an optional **Year 7 examination in mathematics**. Level 6 was achieved by 47%, and all but four of the remainder achieved level 5. The national percentage at Level 6 was 0% (rounded to the nearest percentage point!) Level 6 is the national target for 15-year-old children.

These results are excellent, and the children deserve our congratulations.

Destinations of Y6 Leavers

Numbers of pupils are indicated in brackets.

Independent Schools:	Heathfield School (1) Merchant Taylors' School (3) Northwood College (2) St. Helen's School, Northwood (2) The John Lyon School (5) The Royal Masonic School (2)
Grammar Schools:	Dr. Challoners' Grammar School (7) Dr. Challoners' High School (1) Langley Grammar School (1) Slough Grammar School (1) St. Bernard's Convent School (1) Wycombe High School (1)
Comprehensive/High Schools:	Altwood School (1) Bishopshalt School (2) Chalfont Community School (1) Vyners School (4)

Last Day of Term

Our last day of term, Friday 10th July, is a half day. Lower School children should be collected at 11:45 (Nursery), 12:00 (Reception) and 12:15 (Year 1), although older Lower School children will be released at the same time as their younger siblings.

All children in Years 2 to 6 will join together for a Final Assembly in the Upper School garden at 11:30 a.m., and parents will be very welcome if they wish to attend. Bring an umbrella in case of showers!

Please park well away from the school in order to prevent congestion. There should be no parking in Parkway as this causes congestion and inconvenience to our long-suffering neighbours. Please park and walk.

Parents who attend the Final Assembly may take their children home immediately afterwards. For others, term will end at 12:15 for Years 2 and 3, and 12:30 for Years 4, 5 & 6, however older children will be released at the same times as their younger siblings.

Holiday Club

Applications for Holiday Club closed on 22nd June, however there are likely to be spaces available for some days - please telephone Mrs. Dennington in the office if you wish to book extra dates before the end of term. For availability during the holiday, once the office has closed, please telephone the Holiday Club directly on 07868 482983 or 07868 454261.

Summer School 27th – 31st July

There are 2 spaces left for Junior Summer School (Years 3 - 6) and there are still a few spaces available for the Infant Summer School (Nursery – Year 2). Please book with Mrs. Dennington as soon as possible so that staffing can be arranged.

School Uniform

Please buy new uniform early in the school holidays, in case items need to be ordered. The supplier is Pullens in Northwood. Girls should return to school in their summer uniforms. Shirtsleeve order must not be worn next term - back to normal uniform please!

Electronic Mailing

From September, we shall be using electronic methods for all routine communications. We shall write to you all (in hard copy!) before the beginning of next term to explain how this will work. For now, please note that parents will need to have broadband internet access and to have registered on the school VLE in order to have access to newsletters and other communications.

Thanks

Our grateful thanks to the huge number of parents who have helped this year, through the Parents' Association and Parents' Forum, or with costume making, backstage supervision, assisting with trips, hearing reading in class, or in any other way. Your support, energy and expertise are highly valued!

We wish you and your families a relaxing and enjoyable summer. To those families who are leaving St. Helen's, we offer you every good wish for the future, and encourage you to keep in touch. As for the rest - we look forward enormously to welcoming you back to the school in September!

With very best wishes,

D.A. Crehan

Mrs. G.R Crehan