



St. Helen's Catholic Primary School, Chargeable Lane, London, E13 8DW

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Dear Parents

13 January 2017

It has been wonderful to welcome back our families and to wish you all a happy new year.

### Thought for the week



Lord, You make all things new  
You bring hope alive in our hearts  
And cause our Spirits to be born again.

Thank you for this new year  
For all the potential it holds.  
Come and kindle in us a mighty flame  
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God  
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

## Dates for your diaries !

### January

- 16 CITIZENSHIP WEEK 3
- 17 Assembly - 9.00 - RY  
Young Voices choir to O2 - pm  
Educational visit Yr 3 William Morris Gallery
- 18 Assembly - 9.00 - 3Y
- 19 Mass - 9.00 - Yr 6
- 23 Assembly - 9.00 - 3B
- 24 Assembly - 9.00 - RB  
Years 4,5 and 6 to pantomime - pm
- 26 Mass - 9.00 - 5Y
- 27 Assembly - 9.00 - 2B

### Highlights

We are delighted to share our exciting news that we have been awarded the Quality in Extended Services at Advanced level.



This award recognises our leading edge practices and acknowledges the school's commitment to:

- Working with the whole community and parents.



- Our exceptional provision, including pre-school, Saturday School and after school clubs.



- Providing amazing and life impacting experiences, including travel.



Thank you to our parents, children and our exceptionally dedicated staff who have provided these experiences.

"United by its Catholic faith, St. Helen's is a multicultural school, committed to developing the spiritual, academic and social potential of each child"





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We would also like to draw your attention to the school's exceptional results which are published and can be found at:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/141925>

<http://www.st-helens.newham.sch.uk/results.html>

We are very proud of all our children, but particularly their progress in:

	Reading	Writing	Maths
National progress	0	0	0
St Helen's	+1.1	+2.2	+3.1
National Position	Average	Above average	Well above average

The percentage of children reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths:

National average	53%
Newham average	62%
St Helen's average	72%

Once again congratulations are extended to the children, staff and parents for their fantastic achievements.



We know there is always room for improvement and our next newsletter will have more information on how we are working to improve in reading in particular.



The children have been focusing on our Citizenship theme of "A better world".



We launched the theme with a whole school mass and thanking God for the beauty of creation.

Handprint Theatre have worked in EYFS and KS1 to help their understanding of a small act every day can make a difference.



Reception and Key Stage 1 listened to the recycling team from Newham Council who spoke about reducing, reusing and recycling.



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The children in Years 5 and 6 heard guest speaker Sheldon Thomas from Gangsline encourage responsible citizenship and how an understanding of God's love can stop young people being involved in gangs.



Sheldon's hard-hitting message of the dangers of gangs really had a great impact.

Children said "it taught me how to avoid jail, becoming a bad person and steering away from God" and "it will help me stay out of trouble and know what to do if I get into the situation".

### Other information

The Diocese of Brentwood have asked schools to share their Vision Document. This can be viewed at:

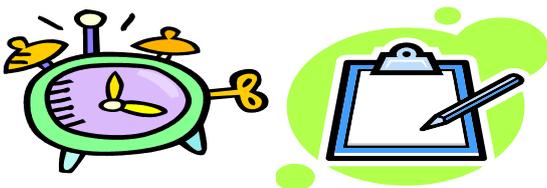
<http://www.st-helens.newham.sch.uk/documents/parents/Vision-Document.pdf>

This document explains how the Diocese wants to support children's spiritual and academic development and a future for Catholic schools.

### Reminders

#### Punctuality

Please remember school starts at 8.55am and finishes at 3.20pm every day, with clubs ending at 4.30pm.



#### Lost property

Please ensure your child's name is on their coats, hats, scarves and gloves so that possessions can be returned to their owners.



We always have a very full lost property cupboard with many unclaimed items

#### Going home arrangements

Please remember school finishes at 3.20pm. Parents should ensure all going home arrangements are made at the beginning of the day before school. In an **emergency** you may telephone the school **before 3pm** to pass on a message, but please do not ring every day.

#### Term dates

Our 2017/17 term dates are attached to help with holiday planning. Please note it is school policy not to authorise term time absence.

