

# ST. HELEN'S NEWS

ASSISI  
CATHOLIC  
TRUST



8th September 2023 <https://www.facebook.com/sthelenswestcliff/>

## Our Mission Statement

Respect yourself  
Respect everyone in our school community  
Respect everyone in our local community  
Respect everyone in our global community  
But most of all, respect God our Father in Heaven



## Senior Leaders Special Mentions

Well done to all children,  
families, staff and governors  
for an excellent first week  
back.

A warm welcome to all our  
new pupil's and staff that  
have just started.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13th September—Meet the teacher

(see info below)

15th September - St Helen's Feast Day

22nd September - Year 4 Trip –Southend Pier

4th October - KS1 Reading mornings start

16th October –18th October Parent's  
consultations

18th October –Individual school photos

23-27th October -Half term

Don't forget the sign up for the children's clubs  
opens tomorrow (Saturday 9th  
September) and if places are still available, closes  
Sunday 17th September.

Places are limited and will be on a first come first  
served basis.

We cannot accept any late bookings.

Dear parents/carers,

We would like to invite all parents/carers to a meeting on  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September** to meet your child's class  
teacher.

The meetings will be held in the classrooms and the two  
classes for each year will meet together.

The teacher will have the opportunity to pass on some  
information relevant to the class as well as answering any  
questions you may have at the start of this new term.

Years 1&2—3.15pm      Years 3,4,5 & 6—3.30pm

In line with our new school uniform policy,  
please remember that the children's hair  
should be a natural colour.

Congratulations to the new Mrs Kearney following  
her wedding in the summer holidays.





**Year 3** have had a roaring start to the year! We've enjoyed staying cool in the nature area, read how doing challenging things can help our brains grow (Fantastic Elastic Brain), the importance of making mistakes and learning from them (Beautiful Oops), as well as being sent home with our new reading books. Remember parents even reading with your child 5 minutes a day can help them become successful, fluent readers!



To start their topic, **SWT** made nests for their imaginary mythical creatures. Later in the day, they described their nests. We can't wait to describe our creatures now!



## SEND Area Partnership Network Event

For parent carers and stakeholders

### About the event

The Southend Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Area Partnership in conjunction with Southend SEND Independent Forum (SSIF) invite parent carers and stakeholders to hear about:

- the role of the SEND Area Partnership
- outcome of the Ofsted and CQC inspection
- the SEND strategic action plan
- the SEND strategy
- the Southend SEND Network

### Who will be there

- Michael Marks, Executive Director - Children and Public Health at Southend-on-Sea City Council
- Gary Bloom, Head of SEND at Southend-on-Sea City Council
- Liz Hunt, Director of Education, Inclusion and Early Years at Southend-on-Sea City Council
- Caroline McCarron, Deputy Alliance Director at South East Essex Alliance
- the SEND Local Offer team, health and social care
- Southend SEND Independent Forum (SSIF)

### Details



#### Date and time

Friday, 6 October  
9.45 am to 12.45 pm  
(Arrival and registration time: 9.15am to 9.45am)



#### Venue

Committee room 4  
Civic Centre, Victoria Ave,  
Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9SQ



#### Refreshments

Refreshments will be provided



#### Book now

Via Eventbrite  
<http://tiny.cc/0rmayz>

The children in **Seahorse class** have settled well into **year 2** and have enjoyed meeting up with their school friends after a long summer break. Our topic Amazing animals has already created some lovely writing and fantastic science work.



**Southend Volunteer Hub**

**FIND YOUR WAY TO SHINE & BECOME A STAR IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

FIND US AT

@VOLUNTEERHUBSOS  
[WWW.SOUTHENDVOLUNTEERHUB.ORG.UK/](http://WWW.SOUTHENDVOLUNTEERHUB.ORG.UK/)





i) **Professional Development: Special Educational Needs (SEND) Leadership Programme**

The programme enables educational settings (schools and Alternative Provision settings) to:

- Ensure that more pupils receive an education that meets their needs and are successful in their setting.
- Be more consistent and in line with other settings so that families and young people know what to expect.
- Remain up to speed with developments in SEND and priorities both nationally and locally.

The menu meets priorities and structures at the time of publication but has the flexibility to allow adaption to meet requirements over time.

Focus	Event	Deliverer	Audience
<b>Autumn: New SENCO induction (Cohort 1)</b> An opportunity to meet the advisory team. Get up to speed with Southend's expectations & ways of working. Is the additional offer to access bespoke school based support.	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 13.00 pm to 15.00 pm Tickfield Centre (Johnson) SLN CODE: S50-0923-T001	SEN Support Team - Gareth March, Kerri White, Kathy Rees	New SENCOs to Southend or the role.
<b>Autumn: City SENCO meeting: Why is an EHCNA request not agreed?</b> What do we need to consider when making an application? What does the data tell us? What are the expectations and what needs to be submitted? Myth busting. Please come prepared to feedback about requests that you have submitted.	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 9.00 am to 12.00pm Tickfield Centre (Darwin) SLN CODE: S50-0923-T002	SEN Support Team & Statutory SEND Team	SENCOs, Inclusion Leaders, SEND Assistants
<b>Autumn: New Governor and Trustee Induction for SEND</b> Meeting expectations of the role, statutory and local duties, and support	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 13.00 pm to 15.00pm MS teams. Book through the Governor Services team, who will send the meeting link.	SEN Support Team - Gareth March, Kerri White, Kathy Rees	New Governors to Southend or the role.
<b>Autumn: SENCO Community meeting: Sharing practice</b> - early and accurate identification of SEMH How do you identify and assess? What tools do you use? You will receive practical resources to support you with moving forward with this theme if you attend this face to face session. Please bring a case study and a challenge that you would like to discuss.	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 9.00am to 12.00am Tickfield Centre (Johnson) SLN CODE: S50-1023-T002	SEN Support Team - Gareth March, Kerri White, Kathy Rees.	SENCOs, Inclusion Leaders, SEND Assistants.
<b>Autumn: Annual Conference for SEND: "Supporting children and adolescents with neurodiversity. Executive Function difficulties and a link to sensory needs and learning challenges"</b> We are excited to welcome Zoe Beezer to Southend. Fin O'Regan will return following his successful delivery at the annual conference last year. This theme was an identified priority at last year's conference.	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 9.00am to 3pm Tickfield Centre (Darwin, stalls, breakaway rooms) SLN CODE: S50-1123-T001	Zoe Beezer and Fin O'Regan, well respected international speakers and trainers.	Head Teacher, Trust or Senior Leaders. SENCOs, Inclusion Leaders, SEND Assistants. Governor or

## Bouldering Progression Pathway Sessions

We are thrilled to announce that we have secured new funding for Bouldering Progression Pathway Sessions starting September 6th, 2023. This funding has enabled us to offer free bouldering sessions for children and young people aged 6-25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Southend, Castle Point & Rochford District registered families. The British Airways Community Fund has also kindly funded free bouldering sessions for SEND children and young people aged 18-25 in Southend.

In partnership with IndiRock, we provide complimentary bouldering sessions for children and young individuals who are neurodivergent and/or have disabilities. These sessions can benefit children and young people with neurodevelopmental conditions, such as Autism and ADHD, who may struggle with social and emotional communication, self-regulation, and executive functions. Bouldering can help build motor skills, co-ordination, balance, core strength, and self-confidence, enhancing their overall well-being.

Children and young people who are Autistic or/and are ADHD (amongst other neurodevelopmental conditions) have difficulty with social and emotional communication. They may also need support with self-regulation and developing their executive functions.

### How would this appear?

- difficulty managing frustration
- sporadic impulse control
- emotionally reactive behaviours
- struggling with problem-solving



### In what ways can bouldering be beneficial?

Children and young people who are neurodivergent may have difficulties with their gross and fine motor skills. Their stability, balance, and core strength may be underdeveloped.

- Boosts co-ordination
- Builds core strength
- Improves balance
- Strengthen muscles (perfect for those with hypermobility)
- Develop motor processing
- Enhances self-confidence and self-esteem
- Strengthens sequential thinking
- Builds trust
- Promotes decision making
- Gain confidence to take responsibility to make their own choices
- Develops autonomy



## STARS OF THE WEEK

1 Jellyfish	Isaiah Reroma
1 Starfish	Glory Okechukwu
2 Oysters	Dia Subin
2 Seahorses	Beauden Ruddock Sienna Rizzo
3 Robins	Cael Benneth Oyisi Enenche-Obande
3 Seagulls	Isaac Banda
4 Fountains	Everyone for settling well into year 4.
4 Gideon	Noah Adebayoquadri
5 Rosa Parks	Ali Abbas Imran
5 Walter Tull	Flo Pinnock Benjamin Ojo Prince Duah
6 St. Anthony	Pixie Troszczynska-James
6 St. Raphael	Rabya Tahir

## POSITIVE PLAY SUPERSTARS

Nancy Fitzsimmons

Arlo Wiles

Denosh Dyis

Sophie Green

Luana Gjerci

St. David 291

St. Patrick 375

St. Andrew 254

St. George 399

Following guidance from  
Brentwood Diocese, our R.E  
programme is changing.  
We will be following-

## Religious Education Directory

Which will encourage the children to know Jesus more clearly. Each half term the children will follow a programme of study called "A branch", completing 6 branches within the school year.

**Branch 1**-Creation and Covenant

**Branch 2**-Proficiency and Promise

**Branch 3**-Galilee to Jerusalem

**Branch 4**-Desert to garden

**Branch 5**-To the ends of the earth

**Branch 6**-Dialogue and encounter

More details to follow...

North Road, Westcliff On Sea, Essex, SS0 7AY

Tel: 01702 343823

Email: [office@st-helens.southend.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-helens.southend.sch.uk)

School Website: [www.st-helens.southend.sch.uk](http://www.st-helens.southend.sch.uk)

School Gateway: [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com)

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