Learning Goals
St Helens works hard to show students the importance of setting realistic, measurable goals that strengthen a student’s capacity to learn and develop. The journey of learning goals has been a two year process and staff and students are going from strength to strength when implementing this important educational tool. On a weekly basis teachers are interviewing students and negotiating the best curriculum goals focusing primarily on literacy and numeracy.

I can see the strength in learning goals when I talk with students from prep all the way through to grade six and I am given common language that is all about how each individual can improve and strengthen their understanding. Staff work with students to recognise and celebrate their success as well as support and navigate their areas of difficulty.

I encourage parents to chat with their children about their current learning goals, discuss strategies and provide feedback. Classroom teachers are always available to talk about this school initiative and have a wealth of knowledge regarding helpful skills to practice to master the educational goal.

Same Day Notification of Absences
Starting next week the office staff will begin testing our new texting system to inform parents when their child has been marked as absent on the class role. Please be advised that this system should be fully operational next term.

Road Safety
A reminder for students travelling to and from school along Saltwater Creek Road. It was reported to me early last week that a number of students are not exhibiting road safety rules when traversing the busy road. It would be appreciated if parents could remind students that the bike path is the only area that students are to utilise when traveling to and from school. Students need to wait sensibly at any intersections and should never duck out in front of traffic, this is a dangerous practice that could end tragically.

School Uniforms
With the cool weather slowly subsiding I think it’s important once again to discuss the need for our students to wear their school uniform on a daily basis. Staff have reported a number of students who, unfortunately, are consistently wearing articles of clothing that are not part of the agreed school mandated uniform. I would appreciate parents continued assistance in this matter as the school uniform is an important demonstration of school pride and unity.

Library News - Author Visit
Last week, the students in years 2, 3 and 4 participated in a session with the author/illustrator/cartoonist Dave Hackett. Dave showed the students how to draw cartoons by demonstrating various tips and techniques he uses through an entertaining presentation. Students were also informed that if they wished to see more of Dave’s cartooning, they can tune to Channel Eleven’s ‘Toasted TV’. The library has purchased some of his cartooning books for the students to borrow.
Book Week 2016
As I mentioned last week, each year around this time we turn the spotlight to books and a love of reading. We do this not because we just like dressing up, but because we all see the importance of reading! It provides us all an opportunity to discuss excellent authors, exciting storylines and complicated characters. This year St Helens will celebrate Book week commencing Monday 12th September. During this week there will be a variety of activities run during lunchtimes for all students. These will include craft and book readings. It’s now the time to start thinking about your costume for the last day of term. Prizes will be awarded for the best dressed keeping in mind the theme; ‘Australia, this is story country.’ Dress up day is Friday 16th September.

Reading Strategies at St Helens
Over the course of the year your child continues to build on their reading and comprehension skills. They do this by reading 1 on 1 with an adult, in a small group or as a whole class. I will highlight the strategies that are being developed over the coming weeks:

Activating Prior Knowledge
Activating prior knowledge is when you think about all the things you already know about a topic. This can include what you have experienced personally and what you have read about, seen on TV or at the movies, etc. Thinking about what you already know is useful because it gives you a base to build new knowledge and helps you to make connections with the text.

This is a great strategy to use before you start a story with your child at home. Use the title & cover to activate prior knowledge.

Maths Team Challenge
Last Friday we had 20 students make up four teams that competed in the Hervey Bay/Maryborough Maths Team Challenge. All these students attacked the competition with vigour and represented St Helens strongly. They competed in two separate rounds, Team & Relay. During the Team round, all five students in each team could assist in solving the questions however in the Relay they were down to two. Congratulations to the team comprising of Candyce Leigh, Jordan Hoffmann, Tahlia Gossip, Aleyce Tindale & Katelyn Thiele who came 5th on the day! Special thanks to Mrs Thiele, Mrs Whitaker, Miss O’Sullivan & Miss James for supervising the teams.

Maryborough Technology Challenge
This Saturday students will be competing at the Maryborough technology Challenge in the areas of Robotics & Solar Boats. This is a great culmination for the work that they have done during lunch breaks this term. Best wishes to all our students representing St Helens.

School Banking – important message from the School Banking Volunteers
Over the year we have been having issues with banking tokens and prizes. The issue is that there is almost always a discrepancy between the number of tokens in the banking book and what is recorded (and correct) in the Official Commonwealth Bank database. It is virtually impossible to keep an accurate count of tokens within the banking books as children swap them with siblings and friends, take them out, and don’t bank every week. We have tried to keep track of the tokens but it has not worked. Prizes can only be given out if the Official Commonwealth Bank database says that the student has 10 tokens irrespective of how many tokens are in your child’s banking book.

In the future we will send a prize order form home with the banking book once your child has reached 10 tokens. To avoid disappointment please only order prizes for the current term (children can still wait (hold onto their tokens) and order prizes in future terms when they become available).

Please also make sure that the child’s student number is correctly entered on the deposit slip with the correct money and no foreign coins.

Thanks for your assistance and understanding.
Anyone wishing to help is more than welcome (Friday mornings – 8 to 9 am).

Tuckshop
The next tuckshop will be Tuesday the 13th of September. The meal deal will be ham and salad wrap or chicken and salad wrap. Please have your orders in by Friday the 9th of September.
**Dinner Table Topics**

**Prep Possums & Wombats** – Next week we will be celebrating Book week! Take some time this week to read YOUR favourite story to your child.

**Year 1A** – Ask your child about our Book week door display.

**Year 1B** – This week is the last week for homework this term. A note will be sent home later this week regarding next week. Please keep a look out.

**Year 2B & 2C** - Only three more sleeps and we are off to Australia Zoo. Your child brought home a note last week with the final details of the excursion. If you didn’t get this note please let your child’s teacher know and we will send another one home for you. See you at 6:30am on Friday morning!

**Year 2/3R** – Children have been completing multiple subject assessments. Congratulate your child’s efforts at home. They’re doing so well!

**Year 3F** – The children are currently working on an assessment project for Technology and Health. The children need 1 piece of poster card this week to complete their project. Please ask them which food they are researching from ‘Paddock to Plate’ and what types of equipment and technology is needed in the production of the food.

**Year 3N** – Who would have thought that a warm-up called ‘The Human Clock’ would be such an effective way to review telling time? Year 3N are completing their Maths assessment this week. Parents, please help your child practise by asking them to read you the time on both analogue and digital clocks. Challenge them further by asking them how much time has passed since the last time you asked.

**Year 4M** – We have all been grossly engaged during our English lessons recently. We have just finished our adventure story ‘Rowan of Rin’ and the students will now complete a piece of assessment to explain how Rowan grew in confidence during the adventure. Ask your child to tell you about the novel.

**Year 4S** – A large number of students still struggle with analogue clocks. Make it an enjoyable, fun, daily activity to quiz your child about times eg. bed times, favourite TV show times etc.

**Year 5H** – For our English assessment this term, your child will be transforming a poem into a narrative. Ask your child about the poem they have chosen and the elements they are going to elaborate on in their narrative. Please remember to bring a USB to school.

**Year 6P** – Year 6 are busy demonstrating what they have learnt this term.

**Community News**

**Tennis**

Free Come and Try Days in August and September. (Not during school holidays).
Have fun playing Doubles or Singles with your friends.
When 3-5pm Saturdays
Where Alice St courts
Am I Good Enough? Definitely. Three different stages, Red, Orange and Green. We will place you in a level where you have fun.
Enquiries please contact Bruce Rayner 0408740418
# Star of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Possums</td>
<td>Joshua Tilmash</td>
<td>For a big improvement in handwriting structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep Wombats</td>
<td>Kiesha Long</td>
<td>For displaying excellent mapping skills in Geography.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1A</td>
<td>Zackery Doblo</td>
<td>For always being a respectful and friendly classmate!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1B</td>
<td>Manning Harris</td>
<td>For his improved commitment during learning time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2B</td>
<td>Samuel Barker</td>
<td>For always being a polite and friendly student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2C</td>
<td>Phoebe Pendleton</td>
<td>For your happy and quiet commitment in all areas of school. Keep smiling!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3R</td>
<td>Eli-Jay Read</td>
<td>For demonstrating exceptional commitment towards your English writing. Great job!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3F</td>
<td>Kallum Hey</td>
<td>For showing commitment to writing tasks this week. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3N</td>
<td>Koby Stevens</td>
<td>For always being a genuinely positive member of our class. You're a star!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4M</td>
<td>Lincoln Knight</td>
<td>For showing an improved commitment to your behaviour goals. Impressve work Lincoln!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4S</td>
<td>Noah Ramsay</td>
<td>For always demonstrating an outstanding commitment and attitude to classroom activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5H</td>
<td>Jess Woodland</td>
<td>For your improved effort towards your writing. Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6P</td>
<td>Kayne Pearse</td>
<td>Demonstrating integrity while on camp by encouraging his team members to do their best. ☺</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Cody Scheikowski (3N)</td>
<td>For remembering to return his library book. Well done!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tuckshop is **TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER**.

This fortnight’s meal deal is **HAM OR CHicken WRAP**!

Meal deals will be **$5 each**, including a drink.

Orders forms and money need to be returned by **FRIDAY 9th September** by 9am.

All meals are made from fresh ingredients and will be handed out on a re-usable plastic plate. When students are finished eating they are encouraged to take their plate to the washing up station for cleaning. This is a great way to encourage responsibility and practice recycling. There will be older students to help out with this process.

After all meals are served, children can purchase a home baked treat or icy cup for 50 cents.

Tuckshop will be open every alternate Tuesday selling treats,

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**TUCKSHOP ORDER FORM**  
**Tuesday 13th September**

- **NAME:** .............................................................
- **YEAR LEVEL:** ........................................
- **TEACHER:** ..................................................

Meal deal – **HAM OR CHICKEN WRAP + DRINK**  
$5 each

PLEASE CIRCLE DRINK PREFERENCE:
- ◊ **JUICE POPPER**
- ◊ **STRAWBERRY MILK**
- ◊ **CHOCOLATE MILK**

Amount enclosed: $..........................