



An Daras Trust  
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition;  
Celebrating Individuality.”

Friday 28th January  
2022

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Well as you will see from this newsletter we have had another busy couple of weeks here at St Stephens. Our after school clubs are well attended and we are looking forward to some of our pupils attending a cross country event at St Catherine’s Academy and hosting a football tournament with some of the other An Daras Trust school over the next few weeks.

We also welcomed Arena Sports this week into school to run a Playground Leaders workshop for some of our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils this Friday. These children will then be able to support other children to be active during lunchtimes and break times. Our physical well-being is always a top priority so these planned opportunities support our aims well.

As I’m sure you are aware we have had an increase in positive CV19 cases in the school, mainly in upper key stage 2. We have been so incredibly fortunate to date and our numbers have been considerably lower than most other schools in the area but this has not made us complacent in any way. Our risk assessments are still regularly updated and adhered to and can be found on our school website under the Coronavirus Information tab. The link is [Welcome to St Stephens Community Academy \(ststephenscornwall.co.uk\)](http://www.ststephenscornwall.co.uk) Due to the increase we are politely requesting that face coverings should still be worn by all adults on the school site, despite the lifting of restrictions in England. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. We want our school to remain open. With the ever changing weather please can I remind you to ensure the children come in wearing appropriate school clothing. Waterproof coats , sturdy school shoes, gloves and hats seem to be the order of the day at the moment .Fingers crossed for the sunshine to return soon! May I also remind you to label/name your child’s clothing as we still seem to have a large amount of items left in classes at the end of the day. Don’t forget we also have a selection of pre-loved clothes that the wonderful PTFA can sell for a very minimal amount...but all payments go directly back into the school.

Have a lovely weekend and take care.

*Maura Furber*

## School Improvement

This week I have held a virtual meeting with some of our school Governors to discuss how we as a team designed our school curriculum. Our Capabilities Curriculum was based on the work by Rebecca Brewer and this highlights our school ethos of developing the whole child, not just working towards data and measurable results. We know how important it is to ensure we teach and embed excellent knowledge and skills in all the subjects but we equally hold the following ‘capabilities ‘ dear to us...

- ◆ Managing feelings
- ◆ Resilience and Determination
- ◆ Creativity
- ◆ Planning and Problem Solving
- ◆ Confidence
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Relationships and Leaders

**We truly do believe in Championing Children with these vital life skills.**



### On a Cold and Frosty Morning in Class 7



Today was a beautiful frosty day so we went out to explore the ice and see what we noticed when it was really cold outside. We put on our wellies and our coats and set off. It was so cold we could see our breath. The frost made patterns on everything and when we looked carefully, it looked like little hairs.

Everything looked white, even the grass. We could see our tracks and our feet made a crunching sound when we walked. We could even make shapes in the frost with our footprints.



"It's cold"  
"It's icy"  
"white"  
"freezing"  
"when the sun comes, it will go"  
"it melts"  
"I can see my footprints"  
"ice is cold"



### Bodies in Class F!



Over the past couple of weeks, we have been looking at the topic 'our bodies'. We have been thinking about how we can keep our bodies fit and healthy (including brushing our teeth), and have enjoyed lots of activities during our busy learning all linked to our bodies.

We were also really happy to welcome Sonia from Launceston Voluntary First Aiders into our classroom. She taught us about some basic first aid, let us listen to our own hearts using a stethoscope and she taught us how to bandage up a friend's arm.

We all had a great time and learnt lots of new skills.



### Science Investigations in Year 2

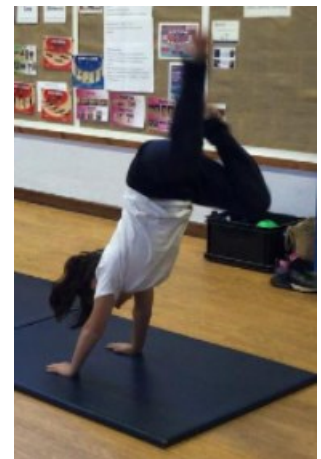
As part of our Science learning about forces and friction, Year 2 were investigating if they could move a marble just by blowing it. We then investigated the type of surfaces that were easier and harder to move the marble on.

We collected sticks from outside and made them into marble runs. We had a go at blowing the marbles through the marble runs on the different surfaces.



### Physical Learning

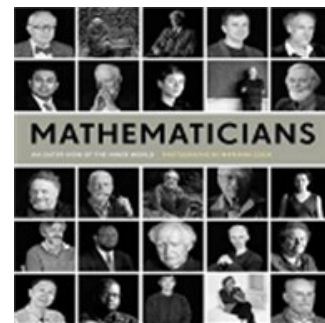
In gymnastics this week Class 4 have been focusing on their balance, travelling and jumping techniques and skills.



We have put together sequences across the mats and then moved on to travelling up to, over and off the equipment.



# Number Day 2022



Friday 4th February is NUMBER DAY.

This year we are focusing on the World of Maths around us and we are asking pupils to either come dressed as a person who would use numbers/maths in their jobs (eg chefs, builders etc) or to come dressed in number themed clothing with a voluntary contribution of £1, for our annual fundraising event to support the important work of the NSPCC.

Throughout the day pupils will participate in a range of activities including: maths in the world around us; learning about famous mathematicians and the history of number; participating in multiplication and number fact competitions and learning about staying safe online.

Remember to look at the school website and your child's class blog to see the fabulous costumes and fun activities.

## Badminton marathon fundraiser for charity

ON December 29, junior members of the Lawhitton Badminton Club played badminton for ten hours and 30 minutes in aid of Sarcoma UK and to date have raised over £850.

The younger children aged six to 10 played from 9am to 3pm playing a mixture of team games, singles, challenges and doubles. From 3pm to 7.30pm the

older children competed with a few adult club members and visitors.

Those taking part were Ronnie and Mary Shanks, Willow and Harry Lancaster, Erin and Clayton Sharpe, Sophie and Emily Perry, Saffie and Calum Shovell, Indy and Finlay Worth, Owen Worth, Barnie Ward, Noah Kinsälla and Luca Jeffery.



A HUGE well done to this wonderful group of children for their fantastic fundraising event for Sarcoma UK. We are so proud that four members of the club attend St Stephens and we know how special this charity is to them and their families. A fantastic community event for a very worthwhile charity.

## How have animals adapted to keep warm in the Tundra regions?

In order to answer this question, we conducted an investigation using lard as the blubber and measured how long our hands could stay in iced water (the Arctic) compared to the hand which was not covered in blubber.

We used our prior learning on how animals have adapted to survive in their habitats to make predictions and we used our measurements to calculate and compare the average mean times.



Great scientific work supported by our mathematical skills in Year 6.



Information Classification: PUBLIC

# Incredible Years

for parents of 6 to 11 years olds

Do you need advice on supporting children's behaviour?

### Session includes:

- Play
- Being a positive parent
- Promoting self esteem
- Praise and rewards
- Developing routines
- Difficult behaviour



### Further information

Date : Weekly on Fridays **4th March 2022- 24th June 2022** (not half term)

Time : 10am-12.30pm

Venue : **Launceston St.Stephens Family Hub**, St.Stephens Community Academy  
Roydon Road, Launceston PL15 8HL

To request a place visit: [www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelpclub](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelpclub)

For more information, please contact our Early Help Team on 01872 32277

Pupil Forum are holding a fundraising event on  
11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Wear your scarf  
to school day  
11th Feb 2022

SCARF

SCARF stands for:

Safety

Caring

Achievement

Resilience

Friendship

Please wear a scarf to school on this day and bring  
in a donation.

We are raising money for the Pastoral Team at St  
Stephens so they can buy resources to support the  
mental health of children in our school.