



St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition;
Celebrating Individuality.”

Friday 25th March
2022

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Well I think we can truly say that Covid 19 has found its way to St Stephens. Unfortunately, despite our robust risk assessments and measures in place, we could not compete with all restrictions lifted outside of the school grounds. We do recognise that this virus is something that we will all have to learn to live with but the current guidance for schools does still stipulate that any member of staff or pupil who has tested positive must stay off site. At the moment we are advised that the day you test positive is classed as 0 (zero)and then to count to day 5 to retake the test. From day 5 onwards if you get two negative tests on two consecutive days you can then return. Note -if still positive on day 10 you can return. Our CEO and Trust Directors are currently reviewing the new legislation on testing and isolating from April 1st. Once we have a confirmed directive I will inform you ASAP. It almost feels like another lockdown in school at the moment . Whilst writing this today we have 17 staff off (plus 2 more in the kitchen employed by Chartwells) and 75 children absent. This is not all due to CV19 -we have been ‘hit’ with chickenpox and upset stomachs to add insult to injury! Due to the high rate of infection we have also made the sad decision to cancel face to face parent consultations . **A mid -term mini paper report will be given to your child on Friday 1st April -check those bags!** I would like to say an **ENORMOUS** and heartfelt **thank you to the amazing team at St Stephens** . Every day has brought new challenges and every member of staff has worked brilliantly together to overcome them and ensure the school stays open to provide the very best provision we can during these tricky times. As a UNICEF Rights school we know that “*Every child has the right to an education*” and we will endeavour to remain open. Unfortunately Class 7 staffing has been particularly badly affected and so we had to close for a few days -we plan to be open next Monday as normal ...everything crossed!

Many thanks as always for your wonderful support and consideration with all the decisions we have had to make. I do hope the sun continues to shine for us all this weekend and I hope we see more of you back next week.

Take care

Maura Furber

School Improvement

Over the past few weeks the teachers have been reviewing our curriculum offer, identifying what has worked, what needs adapting and when/why it needs to be taught. We have been highlighting the key skills progression and what the character of each area is. This is a ‘work in progress’ as all good curriculums should be- flexible and regularly reviewed to best fit the pupil’s needs. Alongside this as a team we have been identifying the key priorities for the pupils in our school; what a Y6 pupils’ ‘end point’ in each subject should look like. Identifying key skills and knowledge from the National Curriculum each subject leader has created a visual representation of our ‘end’ aspirations. **These can be found on our website under the Key Information tab and ‘Our Successful Learners St Stephens’ End Points’.** Here are a few examples.





UNICEF Ukrainian Refugee Humanitarian Support.

Last Friday Team St Stephens demonstrated their value of Advocacy for Children's Rights by wearing the colours of the Ukrainian flag to show their humanitarian support. For several weeks we have been talking about what it must be like for millions of children and their families having to leave the place they love and make a difficult journey to a new safe home. As a UNICEF Rights school we know that all children have the right to live in a world without war, to be safe and protected and to have enough to eat and drink. The money that we have had donated today -almost £200 so far-will be sent to the UNICEF Ukrainian Appeal. Thank you to all our wonderful families for their generous support.



11-20 March
British
Science
Week
2022



Science bombs in KS2

British Science Week is organised by the British Science Association yearly and this year took place between 11th and 20th March. We love science at St Stephens.

During the week we had a fantastic workshop about reactions. We learnt that a chemical reaction means a change has taken place and something new has been created. We watched carbon dioxide form in liquids and loved seeing the reaction between mints and carbonated drink. What an explosion!



We also learnt about the fizzing (Carbon Dioxide) of bath bombs and created our own using citric acid, sodium carbonate and sweetly scented bath salts. We are looking forward to using them in our baths at home.



Understanding our World in Year F

This week, we have been celebrating Science Week along with the rest of the school. This year's focus was 'Growth.'

In Year F we have been:

- painting pictures of daffodils
- observing our frogspawn which has now grown into tadpoles
- building bridges with Lego in the classroom
- building big bridges with the large scale construction during



our outdoor learning

- investigating the different sizes and shapes of seeds in different fruits
- looking at and drawing the human life cycle (we have previously looked at the life cycle of a frog and chicken)



- retelling the story of Jack and the Beanstalk during our Drawing Club sessions
- playing games where we have to take turns, roll a dice and move our counter up the beanstalk.



We also took part in a Sciencedipity workshop.

What super scientists we are!

Science with Sciencedipity in Pre -School

We were so excited to be joined by Sciencedipity in school during National Science Week .Thank you Mrs. Walsh (Our school science lead) for organising the visitors.

We watched, listened, experimented and worked with ...bubbles! We even all had the opportunity to stand inside a GIANT bubble.

We watched lots of different experiments using different coloured oils and water. It was fun making small bubbles using the pipettes. When the light caught the bubbles they shone with beautiful colours.



"The bubble is bigger than me!" Tyler
"I'm making bubbles" Amber



The Swinging Sixties with our Year Sixes!

In our topic work, we are looking at how different aspects of life have changed throughout the century. We started by looking at how cinema has changed and compared a silent movie that we watched a section of to films of today. We considered changes in technology, special effects, cinema experiences themselves and the way films are advertised.

This week we studied how the lives of young people have changed. We analysed: changes in fashion trends, music of the time and influences from the USA, dance trends and crazes and other interesting changes.

These photos show us having a go at a number of Sixties dance crazes - The Twist, The Jerk, The loco-motion, The Chicken head, The Hitchhiker, The swim, The Pony and other crazy shoulder shaking trends.



Life Lessons for Healthy Living in Class 7

As part of our life skills curriculum we made smoothies together last week. We had bananas, raspberries and strawberries. Some of us tried fruit that we hadn't tasted before and found that we liked it.

We started by cutting the fruit very carefully. Then we took in turns to make our own drink.

We put fruit into the blender, some plain yoghurt and then some milk. Next we turned the blender on. It was very loud and fast. It mixed everything together and turned to a pink liquid.

Tasting the smoothies was the best part- delicious!



Sciencedipity scientists in Class 1

We were really excited to welcome 'Sciencedipity' to St. Stephens for science week this year. Each class had a brilliant workshop which included chemistry demonstrations and exploring chemical reactions, as well as making bubbling potions and exploring bubbles.



In Year 1, the children thoroughly enjoyed the awe inspiring demonstrations and making their own bath bombs to take home.

Here are of the things the children in Year 1 had to say about their experience:

'We learnt how to make bath bombs and I'm really excited to try mine out at home!'

'The powder and the colouring mixed together to make a red bath bomb.'

'We had to carefully measure out our ingredients - a bit like making a cake!'

'I enjoyed watching the coloured liquids...they mixed together and made a chemical reaction!'

'The chemical reaction made bubbles form...they looked like asteroids!'

'We went outside and watched what happened when mints were put in the fizzy drink.'

'The sweets went in the coke and exploded up and out everywhere!'

'I enjoyed the explosion - it went so high in the air!'

'My favourite part was when the coke exploded!'

'I had lots of fun, I loved it!'



TECgirls | Tresorys Kernow

CREATECH MAKING WORKSHOP



Stop-Motion Animation

Use clay, paper and re-purposed materials to create stop-motion animations that tell 'Your Climate Story'. Design your own stage, create your story and bring it to life with technical filming and editing skills!

Message in a Bottle

Using simple electronics like circuit tape and LEDs to transform old plastic bottles into light-up pieces of art. These art pieces will act as climate 'Call To Actions' to encourage visitors to pick up their rubbish.



26th March 2022
10:00 - 16:00
Launceston
Town Hall

Free Event



CREATIVE
KERNOW





LAUNCESTON

FREE
for ALL
children
eligible for
free school
meals

Week 1
11th - 14th April

Launceston
College Sports
Hall
PL15 9J

Fun activities &
a free meal for
children aged 5-12



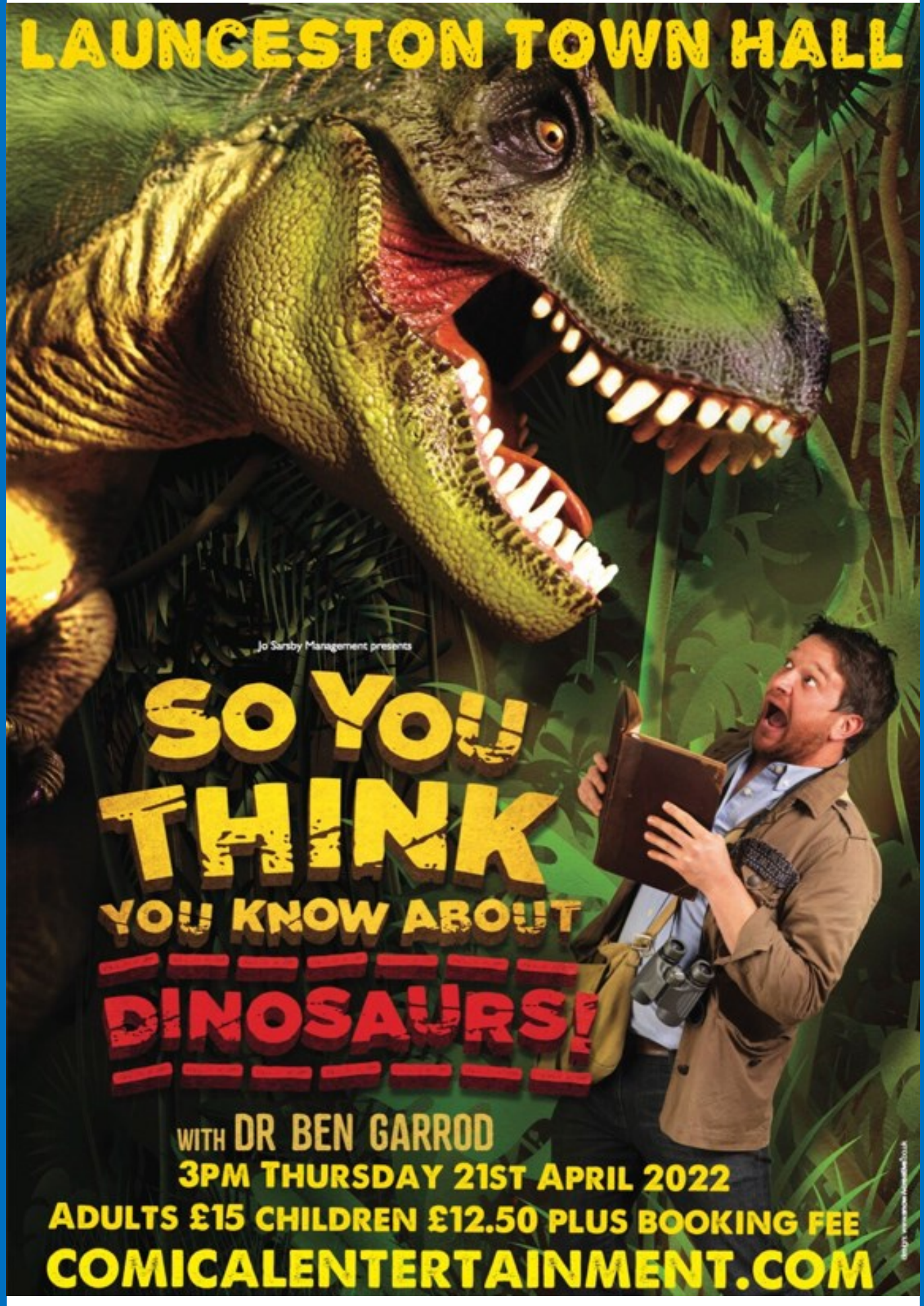
BOOK NOW!

<https://bit.ly/3L20kJz>



LEARN. PLAY. SUCCEED

LAUNCESTON TOWN HALL



Jo Sarsby Management presents

**SO YOU
THINK
YOU KNOW ABOUT
DINOSAURS!**

WITH DR BEN GARROD

3PM THURSDAY 21ST APRIL 2022

ADULTS £15 CHILDREN £12.50 PLUS BOOKING FEE

COMICALENTERTAINMENT.COM

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