



An Daras Trust  
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



**"Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality."** Monday 20th April 2020



**Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a restful Easter break and welcome to our very first remote summer term!

We've all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you're doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time. It's definitely been a strange and challenging time, so it's ok if you and your child feel wobbly and worried at the moment. We're here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by emailing me at [ststephens@andaras.org](mailto:ststephens@andaras.org) or contacting your child class teacher direct via J2E (Y1-Y6) or Evidence Me (Pre-school, Class 7 and YF). We will all try our utmost to get back to you asap and hopefully have the answers to your questions.

We miss the children very much, but we must follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we're carrying on with this remote working and provision for vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers.

But just because we're not all in the same building, doesn't mean we can't have some fun together! Your children will have lots of activities they can get stuck into over the summer term – so keep a close eye on their home learning tab of their class page on our school website or the virtual learning platform they use.

We also love seeing the children's fantastic learning at home – please keep sending their work in by post, taking a picture and sending via email, or via your virtual learning platform as we would like to showcase it in our fortnightly newsletters and on the website.

We can't say yet when we'll be able to open the school fully, but rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected.

Let's get cracking with our summer term!

Warm regards,

*Maura Furber*

## School Improvement-PARTNERSHIP

**We couldn't do this without YOU and your support.** Your kind words and messages are keeping us all going . I hope you don't mind if I share a few of the wonderful and uplifting messages sent to us during this 'lockdown' period.

- "I so wanted to say how amazing you all are and that we couldn't ask to be part of a better school xx"
- "St Stephens will get through this...massive credit to the staff."
- "Thank you very much -And please stay safe"
- "Hope you're all well. Lots of love from us all x"
- "They 're all missing their teachers and friends and hoping everyone is staying safe-thank you."
- "We miss you all. Many thanks for your lovely email."
- "We miss your smiling face every morning."
- "Take care n stay safe X"
- "Hope you are all keeping well, we are missing everyone "
- "Take care of yourself and family and remember you're doing amazing for everything you have to do at the moment."
- "Thank you I hope you are well and staying safe "
- "The teachers are doing a fantastic job and are a credit to the school. We really hope to see you soon, we miss you all."



**Quite simply 'THANK YOU' -All of us at Team St Stephens greatly appreciate this recognition and kindness.**



### Reading Challenge

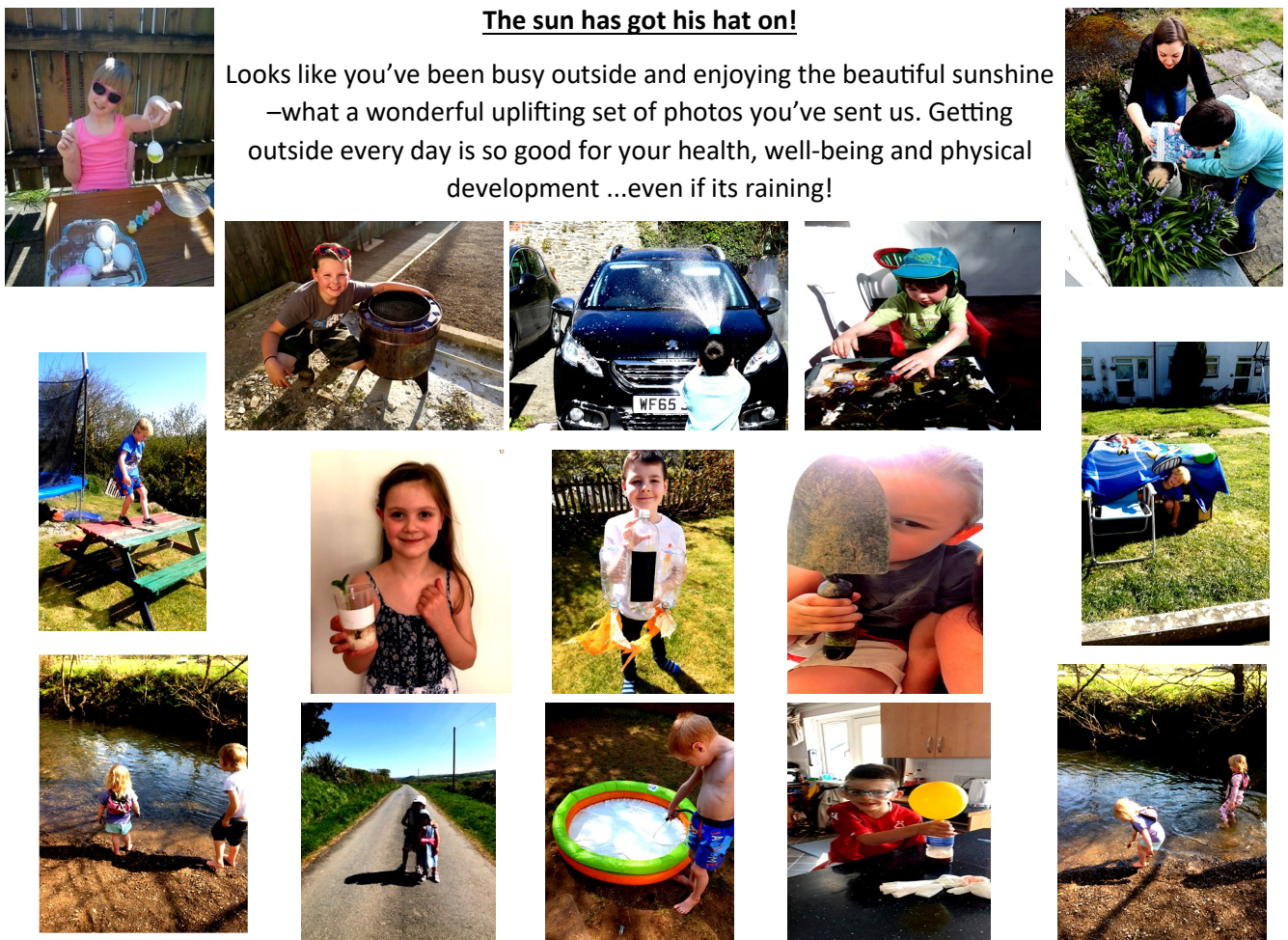
Thank you to everyone who has taken up Mrs Mead's **EXTREME Reading Challenge** this week where the children were asked to read for 20 minutes in an unusual (safe) place.



Great work St Stephens– nothing better than a good book ANYWHERE!

### The sun has got his hat on!

Looks like you've been busy outside and enjoying the beautiful sunshine –what a wonderful uplifting set of photos you've sent us. Getting outside every day is so good for your health, well-being and physical development ...even if its raining!



## An invitation for parents to join Challenge Sport and Education on a live link

Dear Parents/Carers.

During lockdown, we understand it isn't as easy for children and parents to be active at home. So we have decided to host a Question & Answer session to discuss ways to keep ourselves and our children active during lockdown.

We will cover FAQs we've received and seen on social media from teachers and parents, as well as demonstrating various skill-based and fitness-based challenges for you to try with your children.

We will also be 'opening the floor' to your questions, so be sure to have some ready!

The aim of the Q&A session is for parents to leave with plenty of ideas to keep their children active during lockdown.

It would be great to have as many of you tuning in as possible, so please see further details below:

**Date:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

**Time:** 10am – 11am

**Subject:** Incorporating sport into home lives – skill & fitness-based challenges for children and their parents

**Where:** Live YouTube stream – link will be shared via our social media accounts:

Facebook – click [here](#) to like

Twitter – click [here](#) to follow – @challenge\_se

Instagram – click [here](#) to follow – @challengesportandeducation

**Misc:** As session is recorded on YouTube, it will be available to watch back at a later date

**See you all on Wednesday,**

Ben & Team Challenge



### Ready Steady Cook!

We are so impressed with your cooking skills being demonstrated .

**It would be great to create a St Stephens recipe book together. Please can you send me your favourite recipe and, if you can, a picture of you creating the delicious food too! Please send to [ststephens@andaras.org](mailto:ststephens@andaras.org)**



I'm hungry just thinking about it!

Escaping the world

Lock down is hard,  
we find it very tough.  
We also find it boring,  
so let's turn out our stuff!

I turned out all my Lego,  
and built a massive town.  
Here there is no virus,  
so we can travel around!

There is a big white rocket,  
where you can travel to space.  
Look at all the shining stars,  
all racing around the place!

Or ride a big red fire engine,  
and save a cat from a tree.  
Use a very long hose,  
to put out the fire you see.

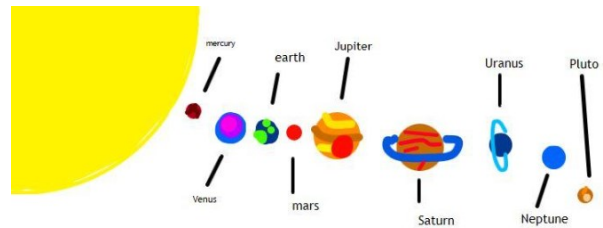
Or splash around the crystal blue pool,  
playing with your friends.  
Eat a delicious ice-cream,  
the adventure never ends!

When it's time to pack up,  
and put my town away.  
I think of all my adventures,  
and play another day.

by Amber (Year 4)

17.4.20

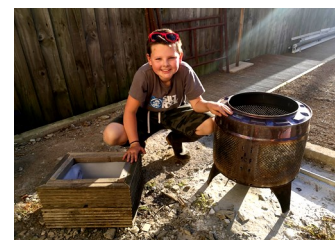
Thank you everyone for all your amazing home learning .This page shows just a snapshot of how amazing you all are at working hard and learning at home .



Also VERY proud to see how you are co-operating and supporting your younger brothers and sisters. They will never forget your love and kindness.

Life Skills In Action

A huge well done to Oscar (Year 6) for demonstrating excellent observation and listening skills. By following dad's expert instructions he has created a beautiful planter and a fire pit for home. Oscar how much would it cost for you to make us some new planters for school ? Would it be cheaper the more we request? Great life skills , concentration and determination –great job young man.



# CORONAVIRUS

## Fact sheet for kids



### WHAT IS CORONAVIRUS?

A coronavirus is a type of virus. Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new strain of coronavirus, which means no-one has caught it before and our bodies are not immune (protected) from it yet. It spreads very quickly and is making a lot of people poorly at the moment.

### HOW DOES A VIRUS WORK?

1. Your body is made up of millions of tiny cells.
2. Viruses can't survive outside the body for long, so they try to get into our cells.
3. When viruses get inside our cells, we get infected.
4. Once a cell is 'infected', the virus multiplies and can spread around the body.
5. Our body produces antibodies that fight the virus and help us get better.

### WHY IS CORONAVIRUS DANGEROUS?

If the virus gets into the cells in our lungs, it can stop the cells from doing their job, which is to help us breathe.



### WHO CAN CATCH IT?



Children can catch the virus just as easily as adults, but it doesn't make them as poorly.

Adults who are already poorly and elderly people are the most affected, but most people can get better from it.

### HOW CAN WE PROTECT OURSELVES?

The virus can spread very easily and we carry it and pass it onto others even if we don't feel poorly ourselves.

There are 2 important things we can do to protect ourselves, our friends and our family.



#### WASH YOUR HANDS

Washing your hands with soap and water helps get rid of the virus. This will prevent the virus from getting into our bodies and spreading to other people. Let's all remind one another to wash our hands!



#### AVOID OTHER PEOPLE

To stop the virus spreading, we need to keep away from other people and stay at home for a time. But don't worry - life will go back to normal!

### HOW ARE SCIENTISTS TRYING TO KEEP US SAFE?

Scientists are working hard to find a Coronavirus vaccine. A vaccine can help protect the body from being infected.



### REMEMBER

IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW CATCHES CORONAVIRUS.



AT HOME  
SHOULDN'T  
MEAN   
AT RISK

#YOUARENOTALONE

FIND SUPPORT AT:  
[gov.uk/domestic-abuse](https://www.gov.uk/domestic-abuse)

STAY AT HOME



PROTECT THE NHS



SAVE LIVES

