



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



Friday 14th January
2022

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition;
Celebrating Individuality.”



Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly a very Happy New Year to you if I haven't already said it in person to you over the past two weeks. The children have all come back refreshed and all are keen to share their holiday news with us. We are also delighted to welcome several new pupils this term -the more the merrier! I've really enjoyed 'catching -up' with the children and I love that one child said to me that her best Christmas present was 'having my family all together'. Precious times indeed. I think this has been made all the more poignant by the growing numbers of people being affected by the new CV19 variant. I do know that many companies are struggling with staffing at this time. We too have this issue with our kitchen team and food suppliers so a huge thank you to everyone for pulling together to ensure a hot meal is available each day - even if its slightly different from the original menu. We have also struggled with staff sickness (non-covid related) over the past few weeks so fingers crossed we have a full compliment of staff going forward.

As a school we have been thinking about our goals and ambitions for the new year. The children have shared several ideas they have with me to include in our school vision plan. These include more charity work, becoming better eco warriors and being responsible for keeping our school environment tidy -a place for everything and everything in its place. Some great suggestions. **If you have anything that you feel you would like to see improve or you have new 'ambitions' for Team St Stephens please do let me know -the more ideas the better.** Please see the School Improvement section below.

It's great that clubs have started this week, we are so pleased to be able to offer such a wide range of activities for the children. Please ensure that if your child is taking part in an outside club e.g. cross country running, that they have suitable footwear, warm clothing and waterproofs. Fingers crossed this rain stops soon! May I also remind you that NO children (Y5 and 6) are allowed to walk home from after school clubs without an adult. This will be reviewed after February half term.

Enjoy the newsletter and here's to an exciting Spring Term at St Stephens!

Maura Furber

School Improvement

As a team we are currently reviewing our **Vision into Practice.**

We are considering the following questions in the short term (1/2 years) medium term (3/4 years) and long term (5/6 years).

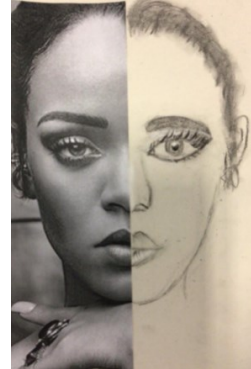
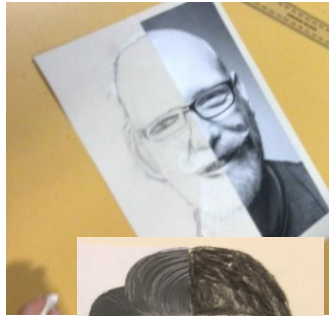
- ◆ What do we want pupils to experience?
- ◆ What do we want them to achieve?
- ◆ How can we make our school distinctive through delivery of our vision into practice?
- ◆ How broad is our curriculum ambition?
- ◆ What do we want to be exceptional in our school?
- ◆ What staff training or resources will we need?
- ◆ What do we want pupils to say about our school?

We would love to have your ideas or opinions on any of the above-please send your thoughts in via email or come and speak with us. Any vision is only positive if we all work together as a team.



Year Six Portraits in Art.

In previous sessions, the children have had the opportunity to use charcoal to become familiar with how to use it to best effect. They have also drawn on their skills of symmetry in maths today to help them reflect the images/facial features.



Enjoy looking at the progress Year Six have made. More examples can be seen on our blog page.



Children On The Edge #childrenontheedge SUPPORTING CHILD RIGHTS

As a UNICEF Rights School we strongly believe that every child has the right to be free and to thrive, according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). However, children in marginalised communities often face abuse, exploitation, exclusion, neglect, and even death; their plight is frequently considered too challenging to tackle. The charity 'Children on the Edge' ensure that where they work, everyone in the child's environment is aware of and committed to respecting the universal rights enshrined in the CRC. By working alongside communities to co-create protective environments that generate hope, life, colour and fun, we enable children to realise their rights.

Ms Gilbert has been working via the Cornwall Music Makers to develop a connection with children in a school in Bangladesh. Please watch the Christmas greeting our Year 1 and Year 2 children sent and the greeting they received back.

https://www.instagram.com/p/CX0xlbv3s/?utm_medium=share_sheet



We can't wait to see how this develops.



.Artwork inspired by
“Parliament Through the Fog” by Claude Monet



In our artwork in Year 4 we have been looking at the use of shades and tones. We have done this by studying the picture ‘Parliament through the fog’ by the famous artist Claude Monet. We carefully

observed how he had managed his colours to create a feeling of reflection and foggy weather.



Year 5 Working Scientifically.



On the Year Five curriculum is the very exciting topic of Space! This week we have been examining our Solar System.



We have looked at our eight planets and have tried to understand the size and distance between them.

One of the experiments we did was to create a scaled down version of our Solar system outside with scale versions of the planets.



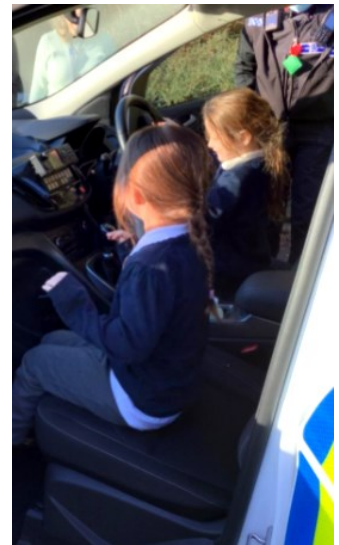
PCSO Community Visit.

Year F were lucky enough to have a visit by PCSO Sarah Ross. Sarah talked to us about road safety and stranger awareness as part of our 'keeping ourselves safe' learning.

We learnt about Pelican and Zebra crossings, to wear bright colours when walking near the road, and to hold an adults hand as we cross the road. We also learnt what to do if we were to get lost in town, and what to do if a stranger tried to talk to us.



We all got to sit in her police car and turn the lights and sirens on. The sirens were really loud, but it was lots of fun!



School Library News

Thank you to our fantastic PTFA for the wonderful new book box for our school library. As you can see its full of amazing books and in use already!

Reading will always be a key priority for us here at St Stephens so to be able to display books and make them accessible to the children is vital to spark their interest.

Thanks from us all.



A Fond Farewell to the wonderful Mrs Duckworth

We would like to wish much luck and happiness to Mrs Jamie Duckworth who is leaving us this week to start a new job at Launceston College as part of their Pastoral Team. Mrs Duckworth has been a highly valued member of our school community who we are going to miss tremendously. Having been at St Stephens for many years she has worked in every class as a Teaching Assistant and Higher Level Teaching Assistant. She has also run many after school clubs that the children have enjoyed attending.



The whole team will greatly miss her passion for learning, her expertise and sheer joy that she brings to work every day. She is rarely seen without a smile or a kind word.

We would like to remind her that once part of Team St Stephens ALWAYS a part of Team St Stephens!

We hope she keeps in touch and visits us when she can. How lucky our children are that they get to see her again when they attend Launceston College in the future.

Good Luck Mrs D.

Happier January 2022

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Find three things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why	5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others
8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime	12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today
15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	18 Get back in contact with an old friend	19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge	21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone
22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment	24 Take a small step towards an important goal	25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently
29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	30 See how many people you can smile at today	31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future				



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

FREE Counselling Service in Launceston

About our Counselling

What is SILC?

Step Into Learning has been successfully running counselling courses for a number of years and have now created SILC to provide a beneficial free counselling service to the community of Launceston.



A Counselling Coordinator manages the provision with two counselling supervisors to ensure the highest ethical practice is maintained and that the client and the trainee counsellor can meet in a safe environment. All of the management team are highly qualified counsellors with years of specialised training and experience.

Contact us



01566 701823



silc@vlearningnet.org.uk



Unit 1, Number One Business Centre
Western Road Launceston
PL15 7FJ



SILC
Free Counselling Service

"We cannot change anything until we accept it."
- Carl Jung

Making a referral

If you think an adult or young person would benefit from counselling, it can be helpful to discuss it with them first to see what they think. However, if you want to chat with the Counselling Coordinator first to talk the situation over, you are always welcome to do so. Adults or young people are welcome to make contact with SILC themselves.



Who will my counsellor be?

Our trainee counsellors are:

- In the final year of their diploma qualification and have been assessed as "fit to practice"
- Fully insured under the V Learning Net company Insurance Policy
- Receive regular professional supervision
- Members of or in the process of joining a governing body such as BACP or NCS

What can I expect from my sessions?

Therapy offers you a safe, confidential place to talk about your life and anything that may be confusing, painful, or uncomfortable. It allows you to talk with someone trained to listen attentively and help you improve things (BACP 2010). Counselling can help to give you the tools to move forward in your life by being listened to and supported as you make sense of your situation.

