



An Daras Trust  
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition;”

Friday 14th May 2021

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Another two weeks have flown past full of active outside learning, circus workshops, sports, clubs, live links with anti-racism ambassadors, youth council meetings and a charity event! Despite the change in the weather the team at St Stephens have continued to work and play hard -we really do recognise the value of resilience and co-operation here.

I have also had the pleasure of talking with lots of the children to find out what helps them with their writing and what feedback and marking they find the most useful. Pupil voice is so important here at St Stephens and the main findings were shared with all the staff. It's vital we work as a team to support the children to achieve the very best they can and we target the areas that need additional support. A key area for us now and looking forward is spelling and grammar teaching and learning.

We are all looking forward to running/walking a mile on May 28th - all monies raised will be used by our wonderful PTFA to buy resources for the school and to support enrichment activities. I hope you are able to gather some sponsors - every little helps-thank you in advance.

We hope that with restrictions changing we will be able to organise more events in the near future. We will be in touch ASAP regarding sports days, transition meetings and leavers events once risk assessments have been carried out.

Have a lovely weekend and fingers crossed for more sunshine.

*Maura Furber*

## School Improvement

Last Friday afternoon our Youth Council met via Teams with Mrs. Young, Launceston Council Chairperson, to discuss issues that effect young people in our community. These included how to make the square more inviting to bring people into the town, the impact a new library hub in the square would have and how the leisure center can be updated to increase the amount of young people that use it. We also learnt that Launceston are having a three day event in July to celebrate the community. The local schools have been invited to produce a 3D model linked to 'Climate Change' for the event.

Mrs. Young is going to provide some further information and some books to support our ideas.

We have also been very fortunate to secure an additional £400 for the Youth Councilors to pursue their Y6 garden project. This money will enable us to purchase a special bench and some planters for the area and the councilors are going to write to local garden centers to see if they will donate some plants and ground cover to help the development. **If you have any plants or planters you would be willing to donate to this school improvement please feel free to drop them into the school office or send in with your child. We would be VERY grateful.**

British Values well and truly in action today -well done Zac, Lillie, James and Meghan.

You represented our school brilliantly and as usual we are very proud of you.



## Show Racism The Red Card.

Last week, Y6 were proud to represent St Stephens, one of only four schools invited to take part in the 'Show Racism The Red Card' online event run by Plymouth Argyle.



This included players from both the men's and women's squads who shared personal experiences that really made the children consider the impact of our words and actions. A thought provoking and informative session.

There is no room for racism at St Stephens and we hope this event will help to positively shape our future citizens.



## Outdoor Learning

Year 1 and 2 have been experimenting with different ways to make music outside. Last week they were using sticks as percussion instruments. They have also been learning about hedgehogs (now an endangered species) in their outdoor learning. This week they were investigating the different foods that hedgehogs eat, where to find them and the impact upon hedgehogs if they don't have enough.





## Problem Solving in Pre-School

Following the children's interests in water play we set up our garden with pipes, stands, trays and buckets of water. The children created courses for the water to flow down, we tested how to make the water move faster and slower by adjusting the pipes. Whilst exploring capacity and its associated mathematical language, they also began to understand the importance of prediction and working things out through trial and error.



The water wall was very popular, the children worked together to adjust the pieces on the wall to improve the water flow. Great communication, negotiations and co-operation in action.



## Request for School Uniform and PE kits

A special request from our Parent Teacher Friends Association this week. They have requested all parents/carers to send in unwanted good quality, clean school uniform and PE kit to school. This will then be sold and all proceeds will help fund new resources and support enrichment activities for the children. They are currently applying for a grant to purchase a clothes rail and storage boxes because they would like to run a second-hand school uniform/PE kit stand regularly in school.

This is something we have wanted to start for a long time now because we recognise how quickly children grow out of their clothes and the expense involved. We are delighted to support this new venture. So check those cupboards and drawers and see if there is anything you could donate to this great idea. The PTFA would be so grateful. Any contributions can be popped into the main school office and details about the first sale will be released ASAP.

Thank you in advance for your valued support.



Pleated Gingham Dress



Grey Pinafore



Boys Tailored Shorts



NAVY BOYS SHORTS



White T-Shirt



Cardigan



Crew Neck Sweatshirt



V Neck Sweatshirt



Polo Shirt



## Class 7 - Gardening with Mrs Gilbert

This term we are gardening. We are digging the vegetable bed so that it is ready to grow plants in.



We planted sunflower seeds, courgettes and others too. We keep watering them and hope they will start to grow soon.



## Circus skills - balancing a peacock feather!

Wow, what amazing skills Y4 have.

This week we got to have a go at balancing and the trick behind it. The children were given a rather enormous peacock feather, which they had a go at balancing on themselves in a number of positions: the back of the hand, arm, fingertip and even their chin!!! The children were amazing and enjoyed knockout competitions to see who could control their balance the longest, some even managed to kneel down and stand up again without losing the feather being balanced on the end of their finger.

Great listening skills, co-ordination and concentration, alongside personal resilience-what a positive way to start the week.







Number Day is a maths fundraising day for the NSPCC, and it took place on Friday, 7 May 2021 this year. A day dedicated to maths may not sound the most exciting to everyone, but

Number Day is so much more than that. Number Day serves to celebrate the importance of maths as well as the importance of treating and raising children correctly.

As usual the families at St Stephens supported this annual fundraiser brilliantly. The effort made with 'number' themed clothing and the kind donations demonstrated the value we as a community place on this worthwhile charity. To date we have raised a wonderful £93.



Thank you.

**Meaningful May 2021**

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Make a list of what matters most to you and why	2 Do something kind for someone you really care about	3 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do	4 Take a step towards an important goal, however small	5 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together	6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful	7 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why
8 Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today	9 Notice the beauty in nature, even if you're stuck indoors	10 What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today	11 Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times	12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you	13 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder	14 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture
15 Do something to contribute to your local community	16 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger	17 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better	18 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful	19 Send a hand-written note to someone you care about	20 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful	21 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable
22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about	23 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost	24 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of	25 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today	26 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why	27 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful	28 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others
29 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight	30 Today do something to care for the natural world	31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future				

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**      **Happier · Kinder · Together**

## Physical well-being



Year Five have been enjoying the Cricket lessons this summer. So far we have focused on throwing and catching but also every week we play different Cricket games. We absolutely love this and are definitely improving week on week.



# CORMAC

## School Crossing Patrol vacancies in this area

Do you have time to spare or know someone that does?  
Concerned about children's safety,  
and would like to do your bit for  
the community?

Then becoming a School  
Crossing Patrol may be  
for you!

 For more information please email  
[schoolcrossingpatrol@cormactd.co.uk](mailto:schoolcrossingpatrol@cormactd.co.uk)

Tel: 01872323313



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