



**An Daras**  
Multi Academy Trust

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

*"Together towards a bright, positive and successful future"*



**Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher**

**Friday 15th March 2019**



Dear Parents/Carers,

It was lovely to speak with so many of you during the recent parent's evening, your ideas and views of the school are so important to us so we can truly work together to provide the very best education and care we can for your children. Alongside this you will have received a letter on Friday explaining the education funding cuts that all schools are faced with –this current climate is indeed a tricky one to manage, please rest assured the Academy will do its utmost to ensure quality teaching and learning opportunities for all.

Once again St Stephens' pupils have been involved in a wide variety of enrichment activities alongside their daily English and Maths inputs. We were definitely the talk of Launceston when our fabulous Samba band, under the wonderful lead of Mrs Gilbert, hit the streets for the annual St Piran's Day March. This week has seen our Year 2 pupils working at The Eden Project and the Foundation Class headed to Tinhays' Building supplies. It has also been National Science Week and our school value has been 'Curiosity'; this has certainly been demonstrated across the school. Check out our website and Twitter feed to see what investigating and research we've been up to. Make sure you check out all our news in the main reception too...we now have the monitor working!

A huge well done to our netballers on Tuesday who took part in a High 5 tournament at Launceston College. Your sportsmanship was impeccable and the results prove what hard work and dedication can do. Many thanks to Mr.Bullock for organising this event for us. We have also been joined by teachers from Launceston College in our school –this is linked to the transition visits for our Year 6's.

Once again I have been so impressed with the generosity of you all on Comic Relief Day. A great turn out in your PJ's everyone and many thanks for raising £147.60 in the process.

Many thanks for your continued support, as you know my door is always open .

*Maura Furber*

## Attendance

**Wk Ending 8th March 2019**

<b>CLASS F</b>	<b>96.0%</b>
<b>CLASS 1</b>	<b>91.9%</b>
<b>CLASS 2</b>	<b>93.8%</b>
<b>CLASS 3</b>	<b>90.7%</b>
<b>CLASS 4</b>	<b>98.5%</b>
<b>CLASS 5</b>	<b>99.3%</b>
<b>CLASS 6</b>	<b>92.6%</b>
<b>CLASS 7</b>	<b>86.0%</b>

## School Improvement

Over the next few weeks the Senior Leadership Team at St Stephens will be meeting with all the Class Teachers to discuss the progress and attainment of the children in their class. This is key to ensure we offer the best opportunities for your children to flourish and identify how different learning needs and strengths can be met.

I am delighted to say that our Academy Improvement Officer, Mr Neil Swaite, who is a practicing Ofsted Inspector, came to visit us last Thursday. He noted that the leaders have an accurate and realistic view of the school's performance and have high aspirations for both staff and pupils. Evidence in school documentation shows that teachers have a precise understanding of where gaps in pupils' knowledge, understanding and skills are occurring and are taking appropriate steps to address these. He recognised the positive whole team impact, strong parental support, sharing of good practice and that pupils' good behaviour for learning remains a strength.

Onwards and Upwards Team St Stephens!



St Stephens  
does  
World Book  
Day  
in style!

What is  
your  
favourite  
book?



Once again the staff and pupils shared their passion for reading on World Book Day. We had great fun sharing our favourite books and dressing up as the main characters. Thanks for all the wonderful costumes. Keep your eyes peeled for our picture in the Cornish and Devon Post. It was great fun trying to guess who everyone was and from which book they were from. Remember to spend your £1 book token by the 31st March 2019. Have a look at <https://www.worldbookday.com/> for more resources and competitions to enter.

## Pre School

For **World Book Day** The children all dressed up as their favourite character from a book, we had fun sharing special books from home that the children brought in for the day.



Well done to all those who have been bringing in batteries for recycling—we've had some massive donations! Keep up the good work!



Today, Year F visited Tinhay Building Supplies in Newport Industrial Estate as their class topic has been 'Builders'. The children had the opportunity to have a tour of the shop and outside area to see all of the different items which they sell.

They learnt what materials a builder needs and asked the staff different questions which they had thought of. A big thank you to Tinhay for allowing Year F to visit and taking the time out of their busy day to talk to us. The children learnt lots, listened well and behaved wonderfully. Finally, a big thank you to our parent helpers for coming on the trip with us.



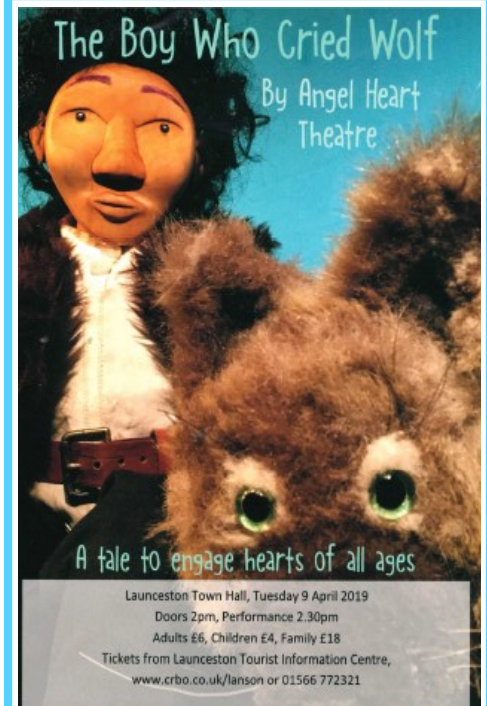
*Year 2 had the most amazing time at The Eden Project as part of science week. We took part in the workshop 'Ready, Steady, Grow'. The children learnt effective ways to explore and observe plants close up, by investigating seeds from around the world and making the connection from plant to seed. We all planted a nasturtium seed and found out how to care for them so that they thrive back at school. The workshop took place in the Spiral Garden and in one of the classrooms in the Core education centre. Afterwards we visited the Rainforest and Mediterranean Biome, as well as walking in the rain and splashing through the puddles in the outdoor garden.*





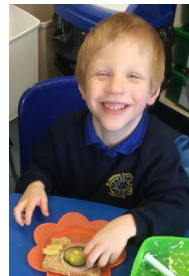
## St Piran's Day March

On Tuesday 5th March St Stephens Community Academy Samba band were the talk of Launceston in the St Piran's Day March. Along with hundreds of other children from the local schools, including 5 other schools from the Andaras MAT, our samba band joined the procession and played with great enthusiasm. All the schools sang Cornish songs, took part in traditional dancing, ate a wonderful pasty lunch provided by Launceston Council and shared performances in this celebration. St Piran is one of the patron saints of Cornwall and a celebration is held on the 5th March every year. A huge thank you to Mrs. Gilbert for teaching and leading the band and to the parents who supported the event and helped with the organisation. Well done St Stephens - amazing team work, great resilience and wonderful creative talent on show.



Running time 55 mins  
Age suitability 3-10 years

## ARB



Recently we have been reading books by Julia Donaldson. We started by reading 'The Gruffalo' and making Gruffalo faces and we even made 'Owl on Toast'!

We also had lots of fun making pancakes on pancake day – although the best part was eating them!!



## Youth Council

Recently our wonderful school council representatives attended another **Youth Council** meeting - this time it was held in the grand setting of the Guildhall. On our behalf they accepted a cheque for £300.00 for the new dictionaries kindly donated by the Mayor. Many thanks Mayor Margaret!

Agenda items included: environment and wildlife conservation, decisions regarding council reserve funding and a representation from Launceston Refugee Support Group. The council discussed the grant application for a refugee family that will be welcomed into our community within a couple of months. Our councillors also shared the results of the school poll they organised and held to identify what we would like in Priory Park from the council budget. The majority of St Stephens requested a skate park to be built. Let's see what happens...

Wonderful British and School Values in action - Democracy, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of Others, Rule of Law and Individual Liberty .





## Netball Tournament

Well done to St Stephens High 5 Netball Team who came third this week in a tournament held at Launceston College. Great sportsmanship, resilience and team work was demonstrated at the event. A big thank you to Mr Bullock for organising the event.

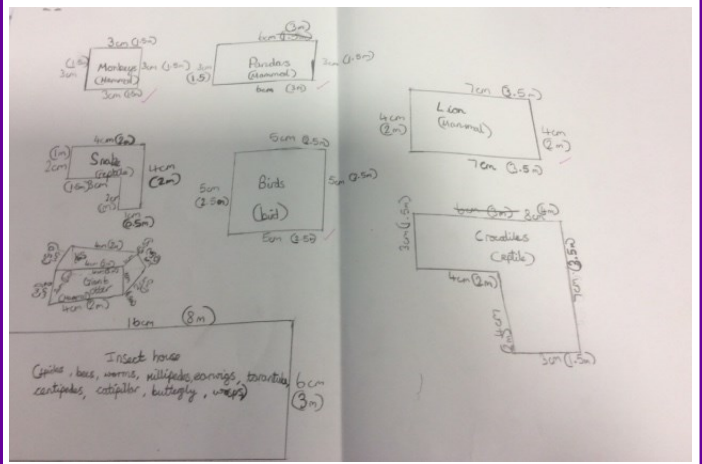


## Science Week—Year 6

During Science Week, Year 6 have been using their reading comprehension skills to learn about famous Scientists, such as: Sir David Attenborough and Professor Stephen Hawking. Also they have used their maths skills to make a scaled drawing of a zoo and used the formula for the perimeter of a rectangle to calculate the length of fencing required for each enclosure. Fantastic learning Year 6, well done.

*Design a zoo with enclosures for the different species of animals.*  
*Consider all enclosures need to be either a rectangle or calculate with a perimeter of 8 dimensions (length + width) = 16m*  
*When planning my zoo I used a SCALE FACTOR of 1/10*  
*The formula for finding the perimeter of a rectangle is:*  
 $(2 \times L) + (2 \times W) =$

Enclosure	Calculations for the perimeter	Length of fencing required
Tigers (mammals)	$8 \times 4 = 32 \div 2 = 16m$	16m ✓
Monkeys (birds)	$(2 \times 10) + (2 \times 4) = 28m$ $28 \div 2 = 14m$	14m ✓
Different types of lizards (reptiles)	$8 \times 8 = 64 \div 2 = 32m$	32m ✓
Spider (arachnids)	$(16 \times 2) + (2 \times 1) = 34$ $34 \div 2 = 17m$	17m ✓
Chickadee (mammals)	$4 + 8 + 8 + 4 + 4 = 28$ $28 \div 2 = 14m$	14m ✓
Total amount of fencing required (in m)		91m ✓



Reminder: the NHS guidelines state that children suffering from diarrhoea/vomiting should not return to school for 48 hours from the last episode. Please can we ask that you follow these guidelines to help prevent the spread of illness through the school.



## Comic Relief Pyjama Day!

Once again the children of St Stephens have demonstrated their British Values of mutual respect and tolerance of others alongside individual liberty, by raising an amazing £147.60 for Comic Relief.



A huge thank you for supporting this and allowing your children to wear their pyjamas to school.