



**An Daras**  
Multi Academy Trust

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

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



Friday 19th January 2018



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! Welcome back. The children have come back to school really well since the break and the school is buzzing with learning. We welcomed our two Shanghai teachers to St Stephens on Monday. They are here for a fortnight teaching maths in our Year 2 and 6 classes. Please do follow their experiences with us on Twitter. We have opened our school to schools in our MAT, and across the South West to come and see what they are doing. They teach with a range of visual approaches which we can learn from, but they can also learn a lot from how we teach. It's a short term but there are a number of events happening please follow our website calendar.

Regards, Mrs Saunders

## Academy School Improvement:

The first focus this last fortnight has been pupil progress meetings. This is where all the teachers meet with Mrs Saunders to discuss individual progress of children and set targets for the term. We have also been reviewing handwriting and looking closely at planning.

### Attendance

**Wk Ending  
12th January 2018**

CLASS F	95.7%
CLASS 1	96.0%
CLASS 2	96.2%
CLASS 3	98.1%
CLASS 4	100%
CLASS 5	98.3%
CLASS 6	98.6%
CLASS 7	91.4%

## Key Diary Dates

Tues 23rd January	Yr 3 Swimming starts
Weds 31st January	Bug Busting Day
Fri 2nd February	NSPCC Number Day
Weds 7th February	Year F visit from Launceston Food Bank
Fri 9th February	PTFA Valentine Disco
Mon 12th-Fri 16th Feb	Half Term
Weds 21st February	KS2 STEM visitor
Weds 21st February	Yr2 Parent mtg: end of KS1 Assessment
Fri 23rd February	Yr6 Parent mtg: end of KS2 Assessment
Tues 27th Feb	PTFA Film Club
Thurs 1st-Fri 2nd March	Year Three Residential, Slapton Sands
Weds 7th March	Class photos
Thurs 15th March	Yr2 Eden Project Trip



[www.ststephenscornwall.co.uk](http://www.ststephenscornwall.co.uk)

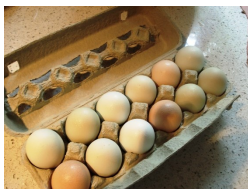
01566 772170

### Eggs for sale

Our hens are laying really well at the moment, despite the time of year : we are getting six a day, with a high frequency of double-yolkers!

Look out for our egg sales on Fridays, in the playground at 3:15pm

– or just ask at the office at any other times. £1 for 6.



### Thank-you to Barnecutts Bakery

Thank-you to Barnecutts in town, who donated twenty delicious scones for our cream-tea on Monday – a brilliant idea from Mrs Duckworth!



### Pupil Forum

Pupil forum have enjoyed meeting with Sue from Chartwells to discuss the new menu. We voted on different options and are looking forward to tasting them in the Summer Term.

### Can anybody help ?

We are looking for donations of wellies that you no longer use, particularly in the bigger sizes for KS2. This is because we now have den building activities on offer at lunchtimes in addition to working with the chickens - however the field is extremely muddy and children need to wear wellies, to take part in these activities. Any donations would be very gratefully received, thank-you.



We are also looking for any material that could be used as chicken bedding. This could be straw, sawdust, bark chippings or anything similar that is dry. Please contact the office if you are able to help. Many thanks.

Please can you help us with our focus on ensuring children are not using the technique 'seat belting;' this is where children are pulling or gabbing children on their jumper around their rucksack. We have had a specific focus on stopping this taking place in our school.

### Welcome to our Shanghai visitors

This Monday was an exciting day for the children and staff as we met and welcomed our two Maths teachers from Shanghai, for the first time. The children put on a fantastic assembly for them, in which every class performed a song or poem that represented Cornwall or England in some way. The children had also created some beautiful pieces of art on a Chinese theme, which are now displayed in the hall. This includes numbers written by Year Three and words written by children across YF and KS1 : our visitors, Arial and Shirley, were very impressed that they could read it all! After school, we had a traditional Cornish cream-tea : thank-you to the PTFA members and staff who came along to make it a successful, welcoming event.

The two teachers are over as part of Ms Neale's Maths teacher exchange – to demonstrate and compare ideas on the teaching of Maths. This week, teachers from the other ADMAT schools have come to watch our visitors' lessons and next week, we will have teachers coming from further afield to watch.

### Pre School

Thank you for being patient during our closure on Tuesday due to sickness. We have been very grateful that you have kept the children off when they have been poorly, it helps to control the spread of germs considerably.

We are focusing on 'winter' at the setting and the children are hoping for snow to build snowmen in the garden. We are also going on a winter hunt so please can you make sure the children have suitable clothing to go out and about in.



We are promoting positive behaviour at the Pre-School by rewarding the children with special award certificates, for being a good friend, happy helper and a polite person. This weeks certificates are awarded to Jessy for being a polite person, Evie for being a happy helper and Alex for being a good friend.



## Online Safety



### For Parents

Welcome to the Parents and Carers section of the Scomis Essential Online Safety Service Newsletter – January 2018.

Do you know that most social media sites have an official AGE LIMIT of 13 years?

**'Children unprepared for social media 'cliff edge' as they start secondary school.'**

The Children's Commissioner for England warns in a new report! ([www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk) 4/1/18)

The report examines:

- the effects of social media on 8 to 12 year-olds
- the way children use social media, and its effects on their wellbeing



'Life in Likes' shows how younger children use platforms which social media companies say are not designed for them.

Read the report in full at:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Childrens-Commissioner-for-England-Life-in-Likes-3.pdf>

The report identified that the most popular social media apps were Instagram, Musical.ly, Snapchat and WhatsApp.



Instagram

Instagram is a picture and video sharing app. Users can post content and use hashtags to share experiences, thoughts or memories with an online community. You can follow your friends, family, celebrities and even companies on Instagram. Instagram allows live streaming. Age 13+



Musical.ly

Musical.ly allows you to create, share and discover short videos. You can share videos with friends or with other Musical.ly users. Age 13+



Snapchat

Snapchat is an app that lets you send a photo, short video or message to your contacts. The 'snap' appears on screen for up to 10 seconds before disappearing, or there is an option to have no time limit. Age 13+



WhatsApp

WhatsApp is an instant messaging app which lets you send messages, images and videos in one to one and group chats. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group. Age 13+

Reviews provided by NSPCC's NetAware

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

We expect that many children will have received a 'technology device/gadget' for Christmas.

As a result they may have already signed up to some form of social media via an App or will be communicating through 'multiple-player' online games.

Do you know if your child is using social media?

Do you know if your child is playing 'multiple-player' online games?

Do you know if the privacy settings have been set up or even if there are privacy settings?

Have you checked their 'friends list' with your child/children?

Do you know the best online safety advice is to talk to your child and to engage with their use of the online world?

The following websites have produced 'conversation starters' for parents and carers and advice and guidance for use of social media:

Webwise - Firstly, ask your child about what social networking services they use.

<https://www.webwise.ie/parents/advice/social-networking-tips/>

Commonsensemedia – Most popular questions asked by parents/carers.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/social-media#>

InternetMatters – Share safely on social media.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/social-media/>

For more information contact Scomis  
Telephone: 01392 385300

Email: [scomis@devon.gov.uk](mailto:scomis@devon.gov.uk)

At the heart of everything  
we do is joined up thinking.

**SCOMIS**  
Your ICT Partner

**National Bug Busting Day: Wednesday 31 January 2018**  
**Please help keep nits out of St Stephens and nit comb everyone's hair on the 31st January.**

### Why take part on Bug Busting Days?

**Because informed, united action stops head lice from circulating endlessly.** Combing wet, conditioned hair with a Bug Buster comb is a reliable detection method even when very few lice are present. Thoroughly wet lice stay still; dry or damp lice move quickly away from disturbance evading detection.

<http://www.chc.org/homedir/mistakenadvice.cfm>

For more information please visit the school website or the NHS choices site.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

