



An Daras Trust  
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



**“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition;  
Celebrating Individuality.”**

**Friday 17th December  
2021**

**Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher**



Dear Parents/Carers,

So we have made it to the Christmas holidays and what a busy and joyful time its been here at St Stephens. We have loved being able to have you in to celebrate our Nativity and Carol services. I am so immensely proud of all the children, its no easy task remembering words, getting on a stage and having a real audience! Many thanks also for your generosity with our collection for the local Foodbank. They will be delighted to receive £160 and this will help so many families in our community through some tricky times.

As you will see from this final newsletter of 2021 the last few weeks have continued to be full of great learning, enrichment activities, charity events and fun. A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA for enabling us to give a Christmas treat to the children in the shape of Magic Martin. He is a wonderfully talented performer who has every child engaged in his entertaining show- a great way to end the term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing staff team that I’m so fortunate to work alongside every day. This term has been like no other in education I have ever experienced. The impact of lockdowns and CV19 will be with us for many months to come and I would like to commend their professionalism, inspiration, care and determination that every child will achieve and be successful. The whole child is something we nurture and without their dedication St Stephens wouldn’t work.

I would also like to thank you all for your on going support and kindness. Navigating our school through this term has not always been an easy task but I know that together we can continue to achieve great teaching and learning in a safe place for your children - always our top priority.

Last but not least I would like to wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas and I hope you manage to make new wonderful memories together during the break. Time together is so much more valuable than any expensive gift.

Here’s to a Peaceful New Year and we look forward to welcoming you all back on **Wednesday 5th January**.

*Maura Furber*



## School Improvement

During the Christmas break we are having the large mobile hut removed from the top carpark.

This is no longer fit for purpose or cost efficient. We will be replacing the area with a new shed for Pre-school storage and new fencing. This will also free up additional car parking space for the staff.

I am also currently working with the police and representatives from Kendall Kingscott to place a bid to Cornwall Council for new secure fencing, gates and security lighting around our school grounds.

I’ll keep you updated when I hear more.

May I thank all of you for remembering to use the pavements and footpaths when exiting and entering the school grounds instead of walking across the carpark and reminding your children to do the same.

Keeping you safe is such a key priority across all the site.



### Whoops- A -Daisy- Angel

Our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 children performed 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel' as this year's nativity. This is the delightful story of a disorganised but lovable angel who is chosen to show the way to Bethlehem.



A big well done to all the children in Year 2 for being brave and speaking loudly and clearly, and for the children in Year 1 and Year F for getting onto the stage and singing beautifully.

A huge thank you to all the staff involved also as you and I know a performance like this doesn't just happen!



### Book Trust

How lucky Class F have been to receive their very own pack of books to share and enjoy together at home. Book Trust is the UK's largest children's reading charity.

They are dedicated to getting children reading. Each year they reach millions of children across the UK with books, resources and support to help develop a love of reading. This is something we at St Stephens whole heartedly agree with and I think the children's faces say it all. WE LOVE READING.

## Carol Celebrations.

Even though we were unable to hold our normal service at St Stephens Church this year we were delighted that so many of you could join us in the school hall for this special event and that Mother Alison and Rev Nicky were able to join our event to give their Christmas blessing.

The children sang beautifully, the readers spoke clearly to tell the Christmas story and the instrument group played brilliantly. A very big well done to everyone involved and all the staff for their hard work coordinating the event. It's definitely beginning to feel a lot like Christmas at St Stephens.



## PTFA Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

The school was filled with wonderful colourful Christmas jumpers on Wednesday - and with your generosity we have managed to raise £73 for our school funds. This money will be used to fund future enrichment activities for the children and resources to support the teaching and learning in school. Some of the money raised last year

was spent on 'Magic Martin' -who came and entertained the EYFS, KS1 and KS2 children this week for a special Christmas treat.

A huge thank you to our wonderful Kitchen team who created a Christmas lunch to remember -totally DELICIOUS and thank you to our two PTFA helpers who helped make the service run smoothly.



## Zero Gravity Super Star

A HUGE well done to Adela (Y5) who came first in the South West Regional Schools Trampoline Championships 2021.

Adela competed against 19 other children in her category and left with the winning medal and super tee-shirt to remember her fantastic achievement. We are very proud of you young lady and can't wait to see where your talent leads you to next.



### Air Ambulance Charity Fundraiser

Last week we were delighted to be joined by Julia Jeffery, the Fundraising Officer for Cornwall Air Ambulance, to receive our cheque for £201.10. This was money raised by our 'Wear something Bright' in memory of Eloise Hooper who attended our Area Resource Base (Class 7). We were very touched that Eloise's parents also came to join us for the presentation in Class 7 and with our House Captains.



Julia wrote the following in our school Comments Book...

"Thank you so much to all the children that helped to raise money for the Cornwall Air Ambulance in loving memory of Eloise Hooper. You've all helped to keep the helicopter flying and saving lives across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.  
You're all amazing."



### Wild Tribe -Fire!!

As part of our theme learning about 'The Gunpowder Plot', Year 1 have been learning about fires in wild tribe for our outdoor learning. We have been discussing fire safety and what a fire needs.



Year 1 have really enjoyed building their fires, practicing with the flint and steel to light the fire and even toasting marshmallows! Yummy!

### Accelerated Reader Prize Draw.

Congratulations to the winners of our last Accelerated Reader Prize draw for 2021. Due to CV19 restrictions we were unable to secure 'active rewards' but felt that book vouchers were a perfect answer. Our 100% winners, and seem to agree!

Many thanks to our Kitchen Manager, Mrs Bennelick for kindly donating the first prize book voucher for £10.00



### Charity in our Community



Firstly we would like to thank you all on behalf of the Launceston Food Bank. Donations made after the Nativity performances and Carol Celebrations have been counted and we are delighted to tell you that as a school community we have raised £160.00 for this wonderfully worthwhile and much needed charity.

#### **Poppy Appeal**

We are also delighted to inform you that we raised the grand total of £354.76 earlier in the year for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. This support makes a real difference to those in the Armed Forces community. Without our support they wouldn't be able to do all the work and give the support they offer.

Please also see information on our Air Ambulance Charity event later in this newsletter. As usual your generosity towards others is wonderful.

**A huge thank you to our Pupil Forum for organising different events to support a variety of charities close to our hearts.**



Thank you  
for your support

Every poppy counts



### Fond Farewells to two Learning Support Assistants

We would like to wish much luck and happiness to Mrs Lisa Cowling and Ms Sarah Franks who are leaving us this term to start new jobs in the New Year. Mrs Cowling has been at St Stephens for many years and has worked across the whole school. The staff and children will greatly miss her kindness, patience and expertise. Ms Franks hasn't been with us very long but we know her ARB colleagues will miss her ready laughter and care for the children in Class 7.

Both highly valued members of our school community, we would like to remind them once part of Team St Stephens ALWAYS part of Team St Stephens! We hope they keep in touch and visit us when they can. They will always be welcome.



### Bringing History Alive

As part of our studies of the Windrush generation, Year Five have tried looked at the climate, foods grown and diet in the Caribbean. We then cooked some traditional Jamaican food. We tried fried plantain, rice and peas and everybody's favourite Jamaica cake. Everybody tried it and a lot were surprised by what they enjoyed and didn't enjoy!

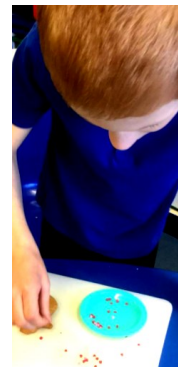


### Making Gingerbread in Class 7

Today we had a go at making gingerbread people and biscuits. We took it in turns to help with the weighing and mixing of ingredients. After it had been in the fridge for a while, we used cutters to make different shapes.

They cooked in the oven while we had our lunch. Then the fun part. We had sprinkles, writing icing and little chocolate discs to make buttons with. It was brilliant drawing the faces and thinking about how to decorate.

Later we will pack them up to take home. Yum!



### Festive Fun in Pre-School.

There has been a wealth of Christmas joy and activity in our Pre-school this week. From making Christmas wreaths and beautiful sparkly decorations for our homes to writing letters to Father Christmas with our wishes. We have been counting down the days on our Advent calendar and making delicious star cookies, singing songs and Christmas rhymes. We hope our families enjoy our Christmas Performances on Class DoJo. We wish you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.



**Spirit of Christmas**  
Celebrate Christmas Around the Town  
Hornby Kiosks, Children's Magical Entertainment, All Day Christmas Market, Mulled Wine, Christmas Fair, Nativity Performances.

**Launceston Friday Market.**  
Pannier Market Carpark  
3, 10, 17 Dec 2021 10 - 7  
December Only

**50/50 LOTTERY**  
£1 EACH  
DRAWN DURING LATE NIGHT SHOPPING ON FRIDAY 17 DEC

**LATE NIGHT SHOPPING**  
Launceston shops are working together to bring you three days of late night shopping alongside festive entertainment. Many of Launceston's shops will be open through until 7pm on:  
Friday 3rd December 2021  
Friday 10th December 2021  
Friday 17th December 2021  
#LoveLaunceston #ShopLocal

**Launceston Late Nights**

**Launceston WINTER FESTIVAL**  
Beer | Gin | Mulled Wine | Food | Markets  
Live Music | Late Night Shopping | Lottery

**THE COUNTRYMEN**  
Benji Matthews

Friday 17 December 4 - 10pm Launceston Town Centre

Beer tokens available for a discounted rate (£3.50ea.) at the Chamber stand during the Launceston Friday Markets in the Pannier Market Carpark on 3rd & 10th December



# CHRISTMAS ROADSHOWS

EAST CORNWALL & NORTH DEVON 2021

**LANIVET COMMUNITY HUB**  
20th December  
**BUDE FOOTBALL CLUB**  
21st December  
**DUCHY COLLEGE, STOKE CLIMSLAND**  
29th December  
**ST TEATH FOOTBALL CLUB**  
30th December  
**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, LAUNCESTON**  
30th December



**9.30am - 3.30pm**  
Boys and girls of all abilities aged 5-15

**Book now 01752 562561 ext. 4**  
[argylecommunitytrust.co.uk](http://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk)

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## LEARN. PLAY. SUCCEED

### December Kindness 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank
12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	13 See how many different people you can smile at today	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	15 Contact an older neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving
19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated	20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need	21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!
26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2022	

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

