



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



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

Friday 18th June 2021

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

How fantastic to start our Summer term with the sun shining. Its been so great to be outside with the children at lunchtime and chat about all the exciting learning they've been up to. Its wonderful to see our school grounds full of children playing cricket, football, climbing on the trim trail, playing music, gardening, reading, playing table tennis and netball, relaxing under the trees and talking with friends. We are so fortunate to have such extensive grounds that all the different 'bubbles' can find a space to play and relax.

This week you will have received an email with important information and dates for sports days, classroom transitions and meeting your child's new teacher meetings. We were so hoping that we could invite families back into school for these events but unfortunately due to the extended Government CV19 restrictions this sadly will not be possible. We will still hold the events but will have to share the fun via photos on class blog pages, through newsletters, emails and transition links on the school website. We do hope in September we can have face to face meetings with you again. Our new starter transitions into Year F will commence next week and our Leavers Service for the Y6 's is yet to be confirmed- we'll be in touch soon.

A huge thank you to our PTFA for organising the Y6 Leavers hoodies that the children are wearing with pride every day in school. Our PTFA would also like to say an ENORMOUS thank you to everyone who took part in the sponsored mile and the generous donations. I am delighted and somewhat overwhelmed to tell you that Team St Stephens raised £3,275.00. This will make such a huge impact on the enrichment activities and resources that the PTFA can fund for your children. Have a lovely weekend and here's to another fortnight of working hard and playing hard.

Maura Furber

School Improvement

This week the children across the school have been undertaking a variety of written assessments in reading, writing and maths. These, alongside our on-going professional observations, marking and feedback, help to give us a bigger picture of what skills and knowledge your children know and what the next steps are.

They have also been taking part in an online 'pupil voice' questionnaire linked to Visible Learning(Y2-Y6) This is to find out what helps our children learn and what they believe is important to move their learning forwards. Pupil voice is highly valued so we look forward to reading the outcomes of this survey.

As a Visible Learning school our aim is that..

Pupils take ownership of their own learning. They know where they are within the curriculum and what their next steps are. Using their target grids they can track their own progress. The pupils know what to do when they come across something they don't know and have strategies to progress with their learning. Pupils seek feedback and respond to it, and more importantly they give feedback to staff about their teaching.

It's also that time of year when the teachers are busy writing their end of year reports for every child. Its been such a 'different' year due to the lockdowns so the reports will reflect this.

Your child's report will be sent via an online live link from 9th July.

The school office will inform you when this is available.



Beach Tribe Adventures.

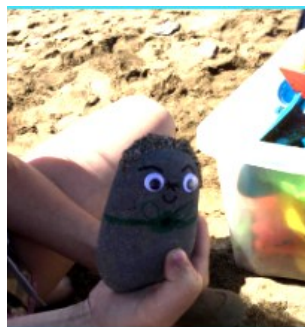
This week Year 3 and Year 4 were delighted to go on the first school trip since the Covid restrictions have been in place - and the sun shone.



In beach science, the children looked at 'Pesky Plastics'. How plastics and other pollutants can destroy our oceans and how we can try to reduce reuse and recycle our plastics so they do not end up in the ocean!



In a beach art activity, the children created their own "Beach Buddy" and had to make them their home. Sadly not all of the 'buddies' made it back to school ... we hope they are okay!



In a beach games activity, we practiced our throwing and catching skills using Frisbees and then we played a range of games with a parachute.



These activities really helped us with our team work and communication.

After lunch, we create fires using flint and steel and roasted marshmallows over it.

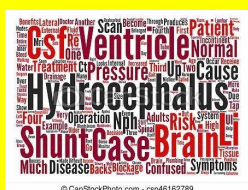
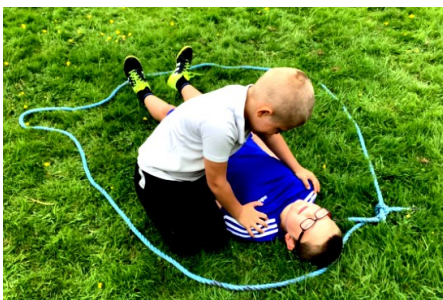


Terrific Teamwork in Year 2

Year 2 had a fantastic day taking part in Arena's Wild Tribe First Aid workshop.

Wild Tribe First Aid is an outdoor learning programme developed to incorporate the governments' inclusion of the following objectives in the updated Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing curriculum for primary children:

- Pupils Should Know...
 - How to make a clear and efficient call to emergency services if necessary.
 - Concepts of basic first aid, for example dealing with common injuries, including head injuries.
- ◆ The key points that the children learnt were:
 - What is first aid?
 - Recognising dangers and hazards
 - Conducting a primary survey on a casualty
 - Placing a casualty in the recovery position
 - Understanding what is in a first aid kit
 - How and when to call the emergency services
 - Common injuries and how to deal with them



Go Yellow for Shine 2021

On Friday 25th June, we're asking you to Go Yellow for Shine!

This is a special request from a parent of a child in our school to highlight Spina bifida and hydrocephalus, a condition that he lives with. Shine provides specialist support from before birth and throughout the life of anyone living with spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus, as well as to parents, families, carers and professional care staff.

Shine enables people to get the best out of life.

We would love to show our support by wearing something yellow ... a hat, a pair of socks, yellow face paint!

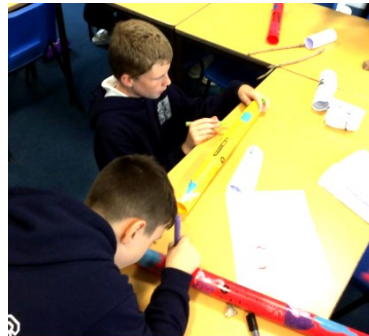
No donations required -quite simply lets "Celebrate Individuality".

Thank you

**Kensuke's Kingdom -A Musical World Tour:
Australia and the Didgeridoo.**

Inspired by their English text Year 6 have incorporated music into their themed learning to further understand the culture and setting of the story. We were very impressed by their musical skills and determination to hold a note... a didgeridoo is not the easiest of instruments to master!

After watching a film clip they were keen to create their own designs and trial them too. Check out the Y6 class blog on the website to watch action from the day!



Continuous Provision in Year F

This week in Year F our story in Drawing Club has been 'The Three Little Pigs.'

As part of our topic work, we have been looking at some famous structures, buildings or monuments from around the world. During busy learning, we have had a go at recreating some of these in lots of different ways. We tested some of them to see if they could be knocked down by the Big Bad Wolf (a fan!).



We have all enjoyed taking our learning outside

Exploring and Discovering In Class 7



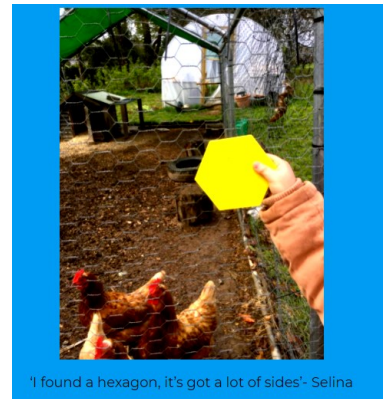
We have been searching the school grounds for minibeasts. We had to look in lots of different places and we had to be very careful.

We were good at looking carefully. We had magnifying glasses to help, they make things bigger so we could see them easier.

We found beetles, woodlice, centipedes with lots of legs and worms.

**In Pre-School we have been..."Going on a Shape Hunt".
Look at all the shapes we could identify in our school environment.**

Great mathematical vocabulary in the early years.



As we have had a flurry of illness across the school we thought this NHS guidance would be rather useful.

When should my child return to school?



| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Chicken Pox When all spots have crusted over | Conjunctivitis None* | Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode | Glandular Fever None* | Hand, foot & mouth None* | Impetigo When lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics |
| Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash | Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling | Scabies After first treatment | Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics | Slapped Cheek None* | Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics |
| Flu Until recovered | Head Lice None* | Threadworms None* | Tonsillitis None* | | |

This information is based on the Public Health Agency guide - full copy [here](#)

*No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed.



Community Kindness

Our friend's at the Lions Club have done it again! They have donated more amazing tablets to the children at St Stephens Community Academy.

We have decided that these will be used as Accelerated Reader prizes at the end of this Summer Term. EACH CHILD that

takes part in Accelerated Reader (Y2 –Y6) will have the chance to win one of these amazing devices –there is a one for each class! This means that each class will have a separate draw this time round rather than all the 100% tickets going in one hat!

So get reading everyone and aim for 100% to have the chance to win one of these amazing tablets.

The next AR prize draw is on ... THURSDAY 22nd JULY.

Good luck everyone!