



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality.”

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

10th January 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to our new school term, a new decade and a New Year! I know that 2020 will prove to be another eventful year here at St Stephens. It’s wonderful to see all the children so full of enthusiasm to return and we would like to welcome Mrs Laura Mead for the next two terms – she is a very experienced teacher who has already met and taught the Y3 class that she will be responsible for.

We have started a new whole school theme entitled **“Innovation and Sources”** this term. Look out for new **Knowledge Organisers** and **Transferable Word Mats** linked to new learning that came home this week. (We decided not to send them home over Christmas as we thought things may be a tad busy!) **Please support your child to learn the facts and find out more so they can impress us with their first learning quiz in 2020!** Your child will also have received their new homework grid and curriculum overview for the term. Please speak with the class teachers if you are unsure of anything and don’t forget copies of everything will be on your child’s class information page on our school website.

You will also have received a list of clubs we will be providing this term. As you can see we have tried to cater for a range of ages and interests and I have to say the amount of clubs we have on offer is fantastic - many thanks to the staff and members of the community who make these possible. Please can you fill in which clubs your child/ren would like to attend so we can collate numbers and let you know if you have been successful. Please send in ASAP as we would like to confirm numbers before clubs commence week beginning 13.01.2020. So here’s to another exciting term - remember my door is always open if you have any questions or concerns and finally ...a very Happy New Year to you all.

Maura Furber

Attendance

Week Ending 20/12/19

CLASS F	95.6%
CLASS 1	92.0%
CLASS 2	97.2%
CLASS 3	88.0%
CLASS 4	93.7%
CLASS 5	93.3%
CLASS 6	97.5%
CLASS 7	90%

School Improvement

“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality.”

As you will already be aware it is that time of year when we send out our **Parent Satisfaction Surveys. These will be sent out next Monday 13th January**
Your opinions, ideas and thoughts are so important to us. Together with shared expectations and aspirations we can shape the opportunities, review the current curriculum offer and further strengthen our ambitions for the main priority - your children.

Please may you complete and return the survey **by Friday 31st January**. Forms can be returned to your child’s class teacher or to the main school office.
Thank you in advance for your support.



Budding Bread Makers.

On Thursday Year 6 were involved in a food design and technology day. They began by researching the origins of bread and bread making before moving on to some market research. They tasted a variety of seven different bread flavour and evaluated them against a set criteria. Based on this, they designed their own bread recipe, made it, baked it and then (most importantly) tasted it. The children were amazing and have all widened their bread tasting palette!



Accelerated Reader

At the end of last term we held our prize draw for the pupils that have achieved 100% in their AR quizzes throughout the half term. The lucky winners were Ruby who won a ticket for 2 to Trethorne Leisure Park and Hollie who won a ticket for her and a friend to attend a Plymouth Argyle training day at Home Park during the Christmas break. We are delighted to tell you that not only did Hollie attend the day with her sister but she was awarded "Player of the Course". The day involved skills sessions, penalty shoot outs and a mini tournament with 25 other children from around the area.



Once again a HUGE thank you to our local community for supporting our reading drive and enabling our pupils to access these enrichment activities.



As you are aware the charity that we were supporting with our Christmas collections was Action for Children- Kernow Young Carers: there are 64 young carers in the Launceston area, some of whom are our pupils. I am

delighted to inform you that **due to your generosity we have raised £ 215.70**

for this charity that is so important in our local community. When Robert Moule from the charity heard this news his response was...

"Wow that is fantastic! Thank you so much, this money will be used to help the most affected young carers .Thanks again for choosing Young Carers as your charity".



Read Write Inc. Staff

Training. This week our



Foundation and Key Stage 1 teachers undertook their first day of Read Write Inc. training along with other teachers from across the Trust. With early reading and phonics being such a key priority in our school, this training means that our staff keep up to date and regularly review their current practice so it is fit for purpose. Learning to read and then reading to learn and for pleasure is always of paramount importance at St Stephens.

As a Trauma Informed School we acknowledge that our pupil's mental health and well-being is of utmost importance to ensure they are ready to learn. Through a variety of activities in school we promote positivity that embraces our school vision. Every Monday in our assembly we discuss a school value and ways we can demonstrate our British values. When this 'Action for Happiness' calendar arrived we thought it would be a wonderful way for you to support our work at home. Each day has simple ideas to try together. Look on their website for more inspiring ideas.

Here's to a very 'Happy' year of valuable resolutions.

HAPPY NEW YEAR CALENDAR - JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions" - Dalai Lama			1 Find three good things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Spread a bit of happiness by doing kind things for others	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for in life and why
5 Get moving. Do something physically active (ideally outdoors)	6 Say something positive to everyone you meet today	7 Take ten minutes to sit still and just breathe	8 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	9 Learn something new and share it with others	10 Thank three people you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Have a friendly chat with a stranger
12 Switch off all your tech 2 hours before bedtime	13 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	14 Take a different route today and see what you notice	15 Put a worry into perspective and try to just let it go	16 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	17 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today	18 Make something happen for a good cause
19 Get back in contact with an old friend you miss	20 Go to bed in good time and give yourself time to recharge	21 Take a small step towards an important goal	22 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone	23 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	24 Today do something fun and invite others to join you	25 Put away your devices and focus fully on who you're with
26 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Count how many people you can smile at today	29 Use one of your personal strengths in a new way	30 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently	31 Write down your hopes and plans for the future	

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS



www.actionforhappiness.org

Find out more about the Ten Keys to Happier Living, including books, guides, posters and more here: www.actionforhappiness.org/10-keys

Stick Man

As the hook for our new learning theme, 'everyday materials', Year 1 have been reading the story Stick Man and creating their own stick people. On Wednesday, Year 1 explored the forest area and collected sticks that they thought would make a good stick person. The children also discovered some new flowers beginning to sprout through the ground and an interesting fungus growing on a log. Once the children had chosen their sticks they were able to select a variety of materials in order to

create and dress their stick people, giving them their own characters and individuality. They all look amazing! The children have also been creating fantasy worlds during their computer lesson that their stick people would visit on their journeys away from the Family Tree. Year 1 have

returned to school with fantastic attitudes towards their learning and behaviour, we are incredibly proud!



New Emergency Dentist

West Country Dental Care in Bodmin provide urgent and emergency dental treatment for people who don't have their own dentist. If you require an emergency appointment please call: 03334 050 290 Opening hours 8.30-17.00

They also run an out of hours emergency clinic.

Clubs

Just a reminder that all clubs start next week (week commencing Monday 13th January 2020)

Caribbean Cooking - Year 5

At the end of last term, Year Five were studying the Windrush Generation for our theme of Community and Inheritance. As part of this in Design and Technology we looked at the climate, plants that grow, foods that can be cooked with those plants and then where they would be on the Healthy Plate. We researched different

traditional foods and then finally cooked plantain, rice and peas and for dessert Jamaican Ginger Cake! All the children were open to trying all the different foods and judging by the empty plates really enjoyed it all.



Class 3 Guitar Lessons

This half term Year 3 are fortunate to be receiving guitar lessons from Mrs Gilbert, our Music Lead. This week the children have been practicing: keeping a steady beat, following the conductor/keeping in time as well as reading music - beats and rests

