



An Daras Trust  
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



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

**Friday 26th November  
2021**

**Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher**



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been so lovely to see so many of you at our face to face parent/carer meetings this week. These meetings are so important to us and it has felt like ‘forever’ since we have been able to meet you in this way. Many thanks for your consideration and following our protocols on the evenings. Your safety and the safety of the staff is key. I don’t think CV19 is going anywhere soon but once again we have been so fortunate that we have had such few positive cases. Unfortunately coughs, colds and sickness bugs are catching us out! The weather has certainly become considerably colder so please can I remind you to ensure your child wears warm clothing to school. Hats, gloves, warm socks/tights and a thick coat are definitely the order of the day! May I also remind you to make sure your child’s items are clearly labelled. Talking of clothes ...**our PTFA will be doing a ‘Wear Your Christmas Jumper’ fundraiser on December 15th.** This is also our Christmas lunch day at school. If you have any pre-loved jumpers that are too small for your child this year we would be more than happy for you to drop them into the school office. The PTFA will then add them to their pre-loved clothing sale before the **Christmas Jumper Day.**

As usual we have been very busy in school and I hope the class blogs, website and this newsletter showcase a small amount of the wonderful learning opportunities that happen here every week. This week I have also met our school Governing body and been able to share our school plans and our key actions to move us forward and address the gaps left by lockdowns and remote learning. We are delighted to welcome four new members into the group including two parents of children in the school. Please look on our Governance section on the website for more information.

Thank you as always for your wonderful support

*Maura Furber*

## School Improvement

Due to an unforeseen miscommunication last week we have changed our system regarding **Year 5 and Year 6 pupils walking home** following after school clubs at the end of the day.

- Due to the dark weather ALL children, including Y5 and Y6 pupils who have permission to walk home, **MUST** be collected from after school clubs. This will be reviewed in the February half term when the nights become lighter. If your child cannot be collected they will not be able to attend the club.
- Also we have been sending texts out to alert you if your child’s club has been changed or cancelled. Although our system informs us when the text has been delivered we have now been made aware that they are not always read. Our texts about club changes in the future will ask you to contact the school to confirm you have received the information.
- Verbal consent will not be accepted -all permission for Y5 and Y6 pupils to walk home **MUST** be in writing.
- The office has contacted EVERYONE to please update your contacts/ consent to pick your child up from school. This can be done on-line via the Parent Lite App previously sent. Please contact the office if unsure.

As a school we pride ourselves on our care of the children, on-going risk assessments and safeguarding practice but when it becomes apparent that there is a link that doesn’t work anymore, for whatever reason, further checks are made instantly and more robust controls are put into place. The above changes are due to this and we thank you for your support in these going forward.

We would like to sincerely apologise to the family for any upset the previous miscommunication made.



### Our Children in Need Day.

The children at school have been generously donating money to be sent to the Cornwall Air Ambulance. Last Friday, on Children in Need day, our Pupil Forum felt we should use the day for **our** Children in Need.

This was for a very personal reason.

On Friday 19th we were remembering and commemorating a darling girl, Eloise Hooper, who attended our school, who sadly died in the summer holidays. The fantastic Air Ambulance had previously been on site the term before and supported the child and her family. At her funeral, all donations made were for the Air Ambulance to show the parents gratitude for such a wonderful organisation. The parents fully supported the day in memory of their dear daughter.



The Pupil Forum requested that all the children should be dressed in bright colours because Eloise LOVED to draw and colour. Her favourite colour was red - perfect for the Air Ambulance.

Thank you everyone so much for your generosity -our House Captains have been busy counting the money so we will let you know the exact amount raised ASAP ....its currently over £180 . A HUGE thanks .

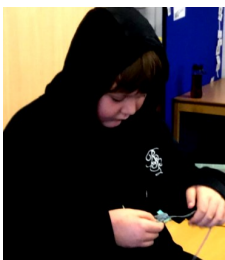


### Making Christmas Decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival

We are getting ready to decorate our tree for the Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary Magdalene's Church starting next week. We are making decorations thinking about how we **reuse and recycle** items.

Our little Christmas trees have been made from old cereal packets, we used old clear food pots to make baubles, we have used scrap paper and newspaper to make paper chains and sparkly discs. The glitter decorations have been saved from someone throwing them out. We are now making little pom-pom decorations from some scraps of wool we had in the classroom.

All of this is very fiddly and it is really good to practise and improve our fine motor skills and hand eye co-ordination. We are looking forward to seeing the tree finished and decorated.





## Beebombs



We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Launceston Rotary club for their amazingly kind donation of 5 boxes of Beebombs. Each bomb contains 18 species of wild flowers, native to Britain and confirmed by the RHS as 'Perfect for Pollinators' Each Beebomb will return 21 squared feet of the 97% of wildflower habitat Britain has lost since World War 2.



Each class has been able to 'throw' their bombs in different parts of our wonderful school grounds so fingers crossed some of the flowers will bloom in the first year, the perennials may take 2 years. Today we were delighted to be joined by Mr John Barnes, the Environmental Officer for the Rotary club, who was photographed gifting the boxes to our House Captains and then working with Class 3 to plant their bombs. He also kindly answered their many questions about flowers and the environment. We do hope he returns soon so we can develop a good relationship with him and involve Rotary in future eco projects.



## One Kind Word

Last week we celebrated Anti Bullying Week. This is an annual event with the aim to raise awareness and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. We like to celebrate what makes us unique at St Stephens and we have chosen to visually support this week by wearing odd socks to school last Monday!



The theme this year is ....One Kind Word. We watched a song in assembly and we know that one kind word can show our mutual respect and tolerance of others. If you can be anything in this world ....be kind.



**London's Burning....**  
**bringing history alive in Year 2.**



Year 2 really enjoyed setting fire to our own Pudding Lane. We researched, designed and made Tudor houses as part of our DT learning. We then burnt the houses, looking how the fire spread and talking about fire



safety. We also sang the traditional version of London's Burning whilst the flames were rising.

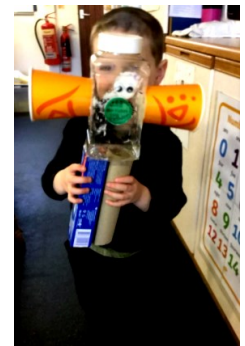


**What a memorable experience for all!**



**Creativity Leads the Play.**

Using our loose parts tubes to dress up as robots, this child led play led to lots of beautiful robot talk (segmenting words). To extend the Robot play the children were given the opportunity to build their own robots from recycling materials. Great opportunities for small and large physical development, building determination and definitely lots to talk about!

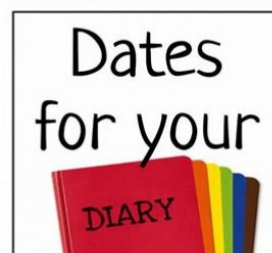


We are developing 'Dynamic Designers' who can choose the materials and resources to make their creations and express their ideas and 'Talented Tool Users' who can manipulate and control, exploring new tools and different materials.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Lots going on at the end of term so make sure you don't miss anything!**

- ◆ **EYFS/KS1 Nativity Performances** . Tickets only (2 per family). Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th December @ 9.30 a.m. in School Hall.
- ◆ **KS2 Carol Service** . Tickets only (2 per family). Tuesday 14th December @ 9.30 a.m. & 1.45 p.m. and Wednesday 15th December @ 9.30 a.m. in School Hall. Further information regarding tickets to be sent out next week.
- ◆ **School Christmas Lunch**. Children to wear CHRISTMAS JUMPERS today to raise funds for our PTFA (Suggested donation £1.00) Any pre-loved Christmas jumpers to be handed into the school office ASAP please to be sold via the PTFA for funds. PLEASE can KS2 pupils bring their Christmas Jumpers into school to change into AFTER the KS2 Carol Service that morning.
- ◆ **Magic Martin shows for ALL classes**-thanks to our wonderful PTFA. Thursday 16th December.
- ◆ **Last Day of Autumn Term** : Friday 17th December 2021
- ◆ **First Day of Spring Term**: Wednesday 5th January 2022



## Football Tournament

A HUGE congratulations to our Football team who took part in a football festival this week. The event was organised by Plymouth Argyle and Launceston College. In the morning they honed their football skills with 6 other schools and in the afternoon a tournament was held.

We are so incredibly proud to let you know that overall St Stephens came 3rd.

They won 4 matches, drew in 5 matches and didn't lose any!

Mrs Bye who accompanied the children also wanted to share what fantastic manners, sportsmanship and resilience the team demonstrated, working and supporting each other brilliantly.



Go Team St Stephens-  
a great result on all fronts.





Market House Arcade  
From 3rd December 2021

# Magical Winter Experience

Ticket includes:

Meet Santa

Balloon Crafts

Gifts for every child

Print of your photo with Santa

Booking is essential.

[www.bookwhen.com/maddielili](http://www.bookwhen.com/maddielili)

Raising money  
for  
Little Harbour  
Children's Hospice  
on behalf of Freddy



Tickets from £10