



An Daras Trust  
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

"Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality."



Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

Friday 11th October 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

Another couple of weeks full of exciting learning at St Stephens. We've managed to fit in a class trip, wild tribes sessions, guitar lessons, an amazing range of sport (although our first football tournament was postponed due to the weather!) a charity day, 7 school clubs each week and a Harvest Festival ...alongside all our other daily teaching and learning! We were also delighted to welcome colleagues from other AnDaras schools to St Stephens for some training. This was led by our school SENDCo, Mrs Bartlett and our Family Support Advisor, Mrs Baxter. Both ladies are fully qualified to lead Team Teach training - this is about Positive Handling Strategies for Pupils with Emotional or Behavioural Difficulties. A very positive and informative day was had by all.

I've enjoyed visiting the children in their classes and learning lots of new facts linked to the school theme "Community and Inheritance" - thank you for all your support with learning information on the **Knowledge Organisers** and helping at home with homework linked to the theme. Remember to keep checking the website and class blogs to see all the fabulous learning your children are involved in... sometimes they come home so tired after a busy day and when you ask what they've done they reply..."nothing" - rest assured this is definitely not the case! I look forward to meeting with you all next week during the parent/carer consultations and sharing all your children's wonderful achievements. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful half term holiday when we get there and fingers crossed for some sunshine!

Thank you for your continued support.

*Maura Furber*

## Attendance

Week Ending

4th October 2019

CLASS F	91.9%
CLASS 1	96.7%
CLASS 2	95%
CLASS 3	96.5%
CLASS 4	94.8%
CLASS 5	99.2%
CLASS 6	96.1%
CLASS 7	98.6%

## School Improvement

Over the past two years the Academy staff have undertaken action research into how children learn best via a project called Visible Learning. This has been based on the 'Mind Frame' work by John Hattie. After collating our evidence, trialling different strategies and presenting our findings, I was delighted to receive the following email this week from Laura McWhinnie Regional Director of Osiris Educational:

"I would like to congratulate you on your successful application to become a Level 2 Visible Learning plus Partner MAT. The case study that you have submitted, capturing your journey, was of high quality and provided a deep insight into how you have moved from evidence to impact. This is the first of its kind in the UK." A huge congratulations to all the staff who have worked tirelessly to enable such a fantastic result to be achieved. There are 10 'Mind Frames' for this project that have been illustrated on the next page of the newsletter. Please don't hesitate to ask for more information if you would like to know more.



Well Pupil Forum have totally 'smashed' another charity event. Last week they co-ordinated, advertised and collected money for the Brain Trust. We were delighted to support this charity event that has come about due to one of our parents, Emma Johnson, celebrating her daughter going into Year 1 at school. This is a momentous occasion as Emma was diagnosed with a brain tumour in pregnancy 5 years ago. The money raised will go to fund research and support families just like Emma's. Thank you for your generosity we have raised £161.10 in our 'Grey for a Day' event.



Our amazing Pupil Forum and "Grey for a Day"



#### Lost Property

Please pop into the office if you recognise any of the items pictured...we are building up quite a collection of special belongings. We will hold onto them until half term and then if not claimed we will take to a local charity shop.

## 10 MINDFRAMES for VISIBLE LEARNING

Created by John Hattie

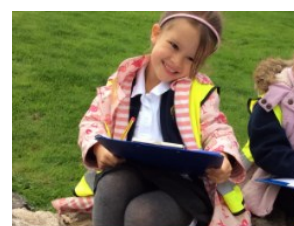


Visit [www.corwin.com/visiblelearning](http://www.corwin.com/visiblelearning)

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### History Trip

Last week Year 1 and 2 visited Launceston Castle and The Lawrence House Museum. Each of the classes have been learning about Launceston and Cornwall as part of their theme learning and this was a great way to bring the learning to life, making links with the 'real world'.



### Our Reading Dog

St Stephens Community Academy is excited to offer pupils an opportunity to participate in a special reading program. This program gives pupils the opportunity to interact with a trained registered therapy dog while at school, to help improve their reading skills by interacting and reading to the therapy dog. 'Stanley' is a gentle black Labrador, who will be coming into school on a Tuesday morning. He is well cared for and responsibly owned and trained as a 'Pets for Therapy' dog. Stanley has had extensive training in working with young children and is socially confident with children and adults, including groups. He is confident in a range of different environments and does not react to sudden noise or movement, he is extremely calm and relaxed. This week all the readers sent him to sleep!





## Harvest Festival



On Thursday we held a whole school Harvest celebration, each class shared a song, poem or reading with confidence and enthusiasm. Thank you to the teachers for all your hard work preparing the children for this special event. Check out the website for more pictures!



We were delighted to welcome Rev Malcolm Jones who shared a special message with us -all based around the letters that spell 'HARVEST!', two of our school governors and the 'Open the Book' group who visit KS1 every week to share stories from the Bible also attended. It was lovely to perform for them as a thank you for all their wonderful efforts and support of the school.



A huge thank you for all your donations for our Harvest Festival (including a large donation from Tesco) once again your generosity has been overwhelming. The year 6 pupils sold the produce in the afternoon and all proceeds made will be donated to Launceston Food bank. This is a school charity that is very dear to our school community. Not only do they help provide food for our breakfast club but they are a great support for many members of our local community and their families. Rev Malcolm, who is also a manager at the Food Bank, thanked everyone for their community support.



## Multi-Skills

Year 5 are really enjoying the multi-skills we have been learning with the Arena PE team. This half term



we have been learning multi skills and as part of that this week we have practiced Rugby skills, using the tag belts for finding space, tackling and avoiding tackles.



## Investigating helpful microbes

Year 6 investigated whether the yeast ( a helpful microbe) would grow faster with or without sugar ( which is a food source). We measured the height of each solution every 5 minutes. The



results were fascinating: we found that the yeast solution with the sugar grew the quickest because the yeast used the sugar as food.

## Maths Mastery with Manipulatives.

In Year 3 we have been learning how to find one, ten and one hundred more or less than a given number. We've been having lots of practice with base 10 equipment so that we can see clearly what happens when we do this. Using the base 10



has been particularly useful when we have faced calculations which involve bridging over ten 100 (e.g. 1 more than 639 or 10 more than 192).





### Guitar Lessons

Last week in Year 4 we had our third guitar lesson with Mrs Gilbert. Here are pictures of us playing Blues music! We have been learning how to play the different strings along to a rhythm. We are learning new skills and building our musical knowledge each week.



### [www.booktrust.org.uk](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)

Reading is always one of our key priorities at St Stephens. Learning to read and reading to learn must never be underestimated as a life long skill that enables children to achieve new things, discover new facts and become absorbed in amazing adventures.



We aim to develop a love of reading from the very early days and this can definitely be seen when the Foundation Class received their free Book Trust reading packs this week.



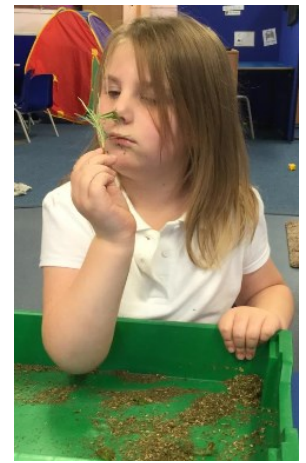
### Child-Led Learning

In the Foundation Stage we like to follow the children's interests. Lots of children showed an interest in home maintenance and builders so we have planned some enrichment activities around the idea. So far the children have enjoyed lots of activities such as; building pictures on the iPads/computer, water play with the guttering, wood working skills (sawing, hammering, screwing), building with various building equipment (marble runs, cubes, blocks, Lego) and have also enjoyed role playing as builders and carrying out home maintenance in the home corner.



### Learning about our sense of smell

Mrs Fry brought in lots of herbs and spices for Class 7 to smell. We smelt lavender, rosemary, mint and thyme. She also brought in spices like cinnamon and cloves. It was a surprise how different the smells were. In Wild Tribe we gathered more things that had a nice smell. We found petals, grass, raspberries and leaves. Back in class we chose which ones we wanted and mixed them together to make a perfume. They all had a lovely smell! We then had an idea to see if we froze them, would they still smell nice in the morning. So we did. When we got them out, we could still smell them even though they were frozen.



## Attendance

During Parent's Meetings next week, we will be giving you a copy of your child's attendance data. Our school target is 97.3 % and as you know we have attendance rewards for both classes and individual pupils to encourage good attendance.

If your child arrives after the 8.55 bell but before 9.15 they will receive a late mark. If they arrive after 9.15 they will be marked as an unauthorised absence for the morning session.

Please notify us as soon as possible if your child is unwell and we can record this as an authorised absence. If we do not receive a reason (we will try to contact ALL contacts for your child) the absence will be unauthorised.

Holiday will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, please email or write to the Head.

We are happy to give medication e.g. calpol if your child has a cold but is well enough to come to school. Please bring medication to reception and fill out a form.

Please try and keep medical/dental appointments outside school hours. Where this is not feasible, please take your child out of school for as little time as possible.

The reason we try to achieve good attendance is not about the school target – it is for your child's future.

- Attendance of 90% equates to one day off a fortnight, 80% is one day a week.
- The higher the overall absence rate, the lower the likely level of attainment at the end of KS2.
- Pupils with **no absence** are 1.3 times more likely to achieve Age Related Expectations or above, and 3.1 times more likely to achieve Greater Depth Standard or above, than pupils that missed 10-15% of all sessions.
- 73% of pupils who have **over 95% attendance** achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 Being fifteen minutes late every day is one and a quarter hours a week missed, often phonics in KS1.

We work closely with the Education Welfare Officer to monitor termly attendance and she will contact families where attendance is a persistent problem. Please remember, if you have any problems getting your child to school regularly – come and talk to us, we are happy to help.



**FIND THE BEAR WITH NO NAME!**



**BEARY SCARY HALLOWEEN BEAR HUNT**  
(Mon 21st Oct to Sat 2nd Nov 10am-4pm)

Visit The Bearhouse Gallery during our Half Term Beary Scary Halloween celebrations (21st Oct to 2nd Nov\*) to help us to find our 'Bear with No Name' for the chance to **win £100 of Charlie Bears Hug Notes** to spend in our shop. **Plus**, you get to choose the bear's name!



**WIN £100 Hug Notes**

\*Paw-notes: Not Sunday 27th October as the Gallery is closed on Sundays



**BEARY SCARY HALLOWEEN BEST DRESSED BEAR COMPETITION!**  
(Mon 21st Oct to Sat 2nd Nov 10am-4pm)



**WIN £50 Hug Notes**



**PLUS...**  
if you come in your own Beary Scary Halloween costume, we'll give you £5 off any collectable bear you purchase in the shop on the day!

Visit The Bearhouse Gallery during our Half Term Halloween celebrations (21st Oct to 2nd Nov\*) with your favourite Charlie Bear dressed in their best Beary Scary costume and we'll enter you into our prize draw to win £50 in Charlie Bears hug notes to spend in the shop.

\*Paw-notes: Not Sunday 27th October as the Gallery is closed on Sundays





# Art For All

Make Art & Make New Friends

## Family Workshop

At Launceston Library

Free - Drop in and stay as long as you like!



## Blockprinting

Saturday 12th October

10:30 to 12:30pm

Children under 10 years old must be accompanied by an adult.



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

West Devon Art Workshops  
[www.westdevonartworkshops.co.uk](http://www.westdevonartworkshops.co.uk)

## STERTS THEATRE

## Children's Shows AUTUMN 2019

### Lily & The Albatross

TALL TREE THEATRE  
TUES 22ND OCT  
STERTS THEATRE  
17.00  
£8/6

A tale of wild weather, wild birds and wild ambitions for ages 5+. With large wooden and metal puppets, live music and stories that speak to all generations, Lily & the Albatross is a heartfelt tale about achieving the achievable and never letting go of your childhood dreams



### Sterts Cinema Disney Aladdin

WEDS 23RD OCT  
STERTS THEATRE  
17.00  
£10/6

The exciting tale of the charming street rat Aladdin, the courageous and self-determined Princess Jasmine and the Genie who may be the key to their future. Showing on a big screen in the theatre! Rated PG



### Shivers & Shadows

SQUASHBOX  
FRI 25TH OCT  
STERTS STUDIO  
14:00 & 16:00  
£6

As the shadows lengthen and night draws in, a single candle flickers in the window of the old, abandoned mansion. Peeking through the cracked window pane you see a mysterious figure... Recommended for 6+



### AUDITIONS!

### Disney - The Little Mermaid

SUN 1ST DECEMBER  
STERTS STUDIO  
10:00 - 16:00

Following on from the success of 2019's production of Aladdin, the Sterts Theatre Juniors return with Disney's 'The Little Mermaid'. Open auditions for all 7-14 yr olds. Visit the Sterts website to register and for further details.

[@stertstheatre](https://www.facebook.com/stertstheatre) [@stertstheatre](https://www.instagram.com/stertstheatre) [@stertstheatre](https://www.twitter.com/stertstheatre)

Check out the full calendar on our website!  
[www.sterts.co.uk](http://www.sterts.co.uk) 01579 362382  
Upton Cross, Liskeard PL14 5AZ



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#saintssw

## SOCCER SCHOOLS | 10.00AM - 3.00PM

Location	Venue	Date	INFANT (KS1)		JUNIOR (KS2)		[3-4 YEARS]	
			Ages	Price	Ages	Price	Time	Price
Paignton	Paignton Academy	Monday 21st October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Dawlish	Dawlish Community College	Monday 21st October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Plymouth	Torbidge High School	Monday 21st October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Torquay	Torquay Boys' Grammar	Tuesday 22nd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Exeter	Bowhill Primary School	Tuesday 22nd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Crediton	Crediton FC	Tuesday 22nd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Ottery	Ottery Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22nd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
St Austell	Brannell School	Tuesday 22nd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Exeter	Exeter Arena	Wednesday 23rd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Dartmouth	Dartmouth Academy	Wednesday 23rd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Langport	Huish Leisure	Wednesday 30th October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00
Launceston	Launceston College	Wednesday 23rd October	5-7	£15.00	8-11	£15.00	2pm-2.45pm	£4.00

## TRAIN LIKE A PRO | 10.00AM - 3.00PM

Location	Venue	Date	TRAIN LIKE A PRO		SAINTS CADETS		EARLY DROP OFF (9.00AM)	
			Ages	Price	Ages	Price	Time	Price
Paignton	Paignton Academy	Monday 21st October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Dawlish	Dawlish Community College	Monday 21st October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Plymouth	Torbidge High School	Monday 21st October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Torquay	Torquay Boys' Grammar	Tuesday 22nd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Exeter	Bowhill Primary School	Tuesday 22nd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Crediton	Crediton FC	Tuesday 22nd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Ottery	Ottery Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22nd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
St Austell	Brannell School	Tuesday 22nd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Exeter	Exeter Arena	Wednesday 23rd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Dartmouth	Dartmouth Academy	Wednesday 23rd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Langport	Huish Leisure	Wednesday 30th October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00
Launceston	Launceston College	Wednesday 23rd October	9-12	£15.00	13-15	FREE	£18.00	£18.00

## GIRLS ONLY CAMPS | 10.00AM - 3.00PM

Location	Venue	Date	Ages	Price	Topic	EARLY DROP OFF (9.00AM)
Paignton	Paignton Academy	Monday 21st October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
Plymouth	Torbidge High	Monday 21st October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
Torquay	Torquay Boys' Grammar	Tuesday 22nd October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
St Austell	Brannell School	Tuesday 22nd October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
Crediton	Crediton FC	Tuesday 22nd October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
Ottery	Ottery Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22nd October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
Exeter	Exeter Arena	Wednesday 23rd October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00
Launceston	Launceston College	Wednesday 23rd October	5-12	£15.00	Skills Day	£18.00

## 1-2-1 COACHING



1 to 1 Football coaching allows the player and coach to form a unique understanding of what is needed to progress to the next level within the players' development. Following an initial consultation, our coaches can design and tailor a specific 1 to 1 training regime which will enable the player to develop and improve under professional guidance.

### KEY AREAS

- Skill Development e.g. Ball Mastery
- Striking and Finishing
- Strength and Conditioning
- Endurance, Speed, Agility and Quickness (SAQ)
- Speed Training
- Position specific, e.g. Goalkeeping
- Match Analysis (to develop game understanding)