



An Daras
Multi Academy Trust

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

"Together towards a bright, positive and successful future"



Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

Friday 2nd November 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back everyone to a new half term. I'm delighted to see the children so enthusiastic to return and demonstrate their learning 'powers'. Once again we will be reinforcing our school values and expectations at the beginning of this term –it is key that our 'Three School Rules' are followed to ensure all pupils and staff can work happily and productively together. Just to remind you they are...1: Follow instructions with thought and care,2: Show good manners at all times and 3: Care for everyone and everything.

The staff have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned for this half term e.g. working with local crafts people , inter school sporting events, music sessions, after school clubs and in this first week back we have all enjoyed using the new climbing walls now located in the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. Please can I ask you to supervise your own children at the beginning and end of day as the walls are not to be climbed on until break and lunch times. It was so lovely to meet many of you at the parent/carers consultations at the end of last term. Many of you mentioned that you would like to become more involved in the school—our door is always open for helpers! Do you have some spare time to hear children read, play games, or test them on their times tables? Perhaps you would like to help run a club or share some of your skills. Please come and tell the office. I am delighted that our Chair of Governors, Mrs Ann Nicholson, is a regular in school, sharing and enjoying books with the children.

Is it too early to mention the 'Christmas' word? Look out for 'Diary Dates' to ensure you know what is happening at St. Stephens and when. Thank you for your continued support and don't hesitate to get in touch if I can help in any way.

Maura Furber

Attendance

Wk Ending 19th October

CLASS F	94.1%
CLASS 1	92.8%
CLASS 2	98.8%
CLASS 3	96.4%
CLASS 4	96.5%
CLASS 5	96.6%
CLASS 6	96.7%
CLASS 7	97.5%

St Stephens Football Tournament

On Tuesday 30th October we welcomed Princetown and Coads Green to St Stephens for a football tournament. All teams showed great sportsmanship and teamwork. Well done to all of the boys and girls who took part.



Climbing Walls!

The pupils are delighted with their new climbing walls in the key stage 1 and 2 playgrounds, and other outdoor learning lunchtime activities. These were installed over half term. If your children need any expert advice, our new member of staff is a volunteer Cliff Rescue Officer so Spider Man watch out!



New Class 3 Teacher

A warm welcome to our newest member of staff; Miss Victoria Vincent, who will be teaching the Year 3 Class every Thursday and Friday.



Extreme Reading Challenge

We want to see you reading in strange places, with silly costumes and as many wacky ideas as possible. Just remember to stay safe and get help from an adult if you need to! Please send your entries to ststephens@andaras.org by **Friday 30th November**.



Year 5 Trip to Launceston Castle

At the end of the first half term, Year Five visited Launceston Castle as part of their topic on Invaders! They learnt about how the Normans built the castle originally and what the strengths and weaknesses of Motte and Bailey castles were. Some also challenged their fear of heights!



Diary Dates (KS2 Carol Date to be confirmed)

Tues 6 November	1pm Whole School Outdoor Learning
Tues 6 November	3.15pm PTFA open meeting
Thurs 8 November	1pm KS1 Remembrance Afternoon
Tues 13 November	1pm Year 2 Baking Bread with Chartwells
Mon 3-Fri 7 December	1pm KS1 Nativity Practice
Mon 10 December	1pm KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal
Fri 14th December	1pm Year 2 Trip, Launceston Christmas Trees
Weds 12-Thurs 13 Dec	9.30am KS1 Nativity Play
Tues 18th December	1pm KS1 Christmas Show—Magic Martin
Weds 19th December	12noon Pupil Christmas lunch
Thurs 20th December	Last day of term

Wool Weaving

This week we were delighted to welcome Kay Walker, a local traditional crafts person, into our school, to teach the children from years 4 and 6 her wool weaving techniques. This enrichment workshop gave the children the opportunity to learn a new skill, find out more about the world of work and create an original textile mat.



Odd Socks Day will take place on the first day of Anti Bullying Week, Monday 12th November to help raise awareness. The theme this year is 'choose respect.' Here at St Stephens we will be having 'choose respect' assemblies, lessons and take part in the Odd Sock Day.

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/>



All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks, it couldn't be simpler!

Fortnite

We've had lots of children discussing the game 'Fortnite' and saying that they were playing on it. Fortnite has an age rating of 12 due to the violent nature of the game, so no child in our school should really be playing it. The other concern is that it has a chat section within the game that allows players to chat freely with each other, which again is another online safety concern. The following link is a guide to the game for parents and may help you to navigate the difficult world of parenting your child's online world.

<https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/>

Year 6 will be selling **poppies** and other items (50p-£1) during breaktimes from Monday. Alternatively if you would like to purchase them from the office then feel free!



FOLK2FOLK are launching a 2018 **Christmas Card Competition** and are looking for local primary schools to participate where their pupils can get creative and design their own Christmas cards.

The brief is to design a Christmas card and the topic is 'The 12 days of Christmas'. They will split the ages into 3 categories; Years 1 & 2, Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6.

The designs will then be judged by the friendly marketing team at FOLK2FOLK and the winner will get their artwork printed on the FOLK2FOLK Christmas cards sent to customers and partners across the country.

They will be looking at getting the designs **in by the 12th Nov and a member of FOLK2FOLK staff can collect these from the school at lunchtime.**

The winner will be announced on the 26th November and the cards will be printed and sent out the first week of December.

Guidelines:

Each submission will need to include the pupil's name and age group.

Prizes:

1st Place – Their design is printed on the Christmas cards which will be sent out across the country along with a £20 book voucher.

Runner up years 5 & 6 – £20 book voucher

Runner up years 3 & 4 – £20 book voucher

Runner up years 1 & 2 – £20 book voucher



PTFA

Thank you to everyone who came to the Halloween Disco—what a lot of fabulous costumes and we raised a brilliant £339.16. **You are all invited to our open meeting on Tues 6th November, after school. This is where we will be planning our diary dates for events—any suggestions and help welcome!**

Whole School Outdoor Learning Afternoon

Tuesday 6th November. Children should bring old clothes to change into. 50p donation gratefully received towards the cost of the workshops. Thanks.