



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 10th May 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

As I am writing this I am thinking about our fabulous Year 5 pupils getting ready to bed down for the night on HMS Belfast - I cannot imagine a safer place to be during this wet weather! What amazing memories are being created for your children and a HUGE thank you must go to Mr Hunt and his fabulous team for organising, planning, costing and leading this great learning adventure. Check our website for updates and photos of this wonderful trip. I think they all may be somewhat exhausted on Friday— and that's just the staff!

Meanwhile back at school we have been involved in a host of sporting and creative events yet again. From cricket sessions to swimming lessons and singing at Launceston Town Hall with other pupils in our MAT, to performing with international boys' choirs from South Africa and Russia, there is never a dull moment in our Academy.

Alongside this our English and Maths learning has been focused on any 'gaps' that we have identified and encouraging the children to self assess and edit their work. The Year 2 pupils have been demonstrating their learning stamina and impressing us with their recall and knowledge during their Standardised Assessment Tests (SAT's). We wish all our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck for next week when they sit their SAT's—do your very best everyone and remember we are so proud of all your talents including all those we do not test. Rest, eat well and believe in yourself.

The trial for our 'Magic Breakfast' - warm bagels for all every morning before school—has gone brilliantly. The children have eagerly run towards the distribution points each day and are keen to let us know they are enjoying the additional "fuel for learning." This will now happen every day of the school term.

My door is always open if I can help in any way— either catch me in the playground in the mornings or make an appointment at the office for a more convenient time. Please keep checking our website, Twitter feed and class blogs to find out about all our learning here at St Stephens!

Maura Furber

Attendance

Wk Ending 3rd May 2019

CLASS F	93.7%
CLASS 1	97.8%
CLASS 2	98.5%
CLASS 3	97.8%
CLASS 4	95.4%
CLASS 5	95.0%
CLASS 6	93.0%
CLASS 7	80.0%

School Improvement

As mentioned in our last newsletter we are focussing on our curriculum offer across the Multi Academy Trust. Reviewing our **Intent, Implementation and Impact** has made us consider what is the most important learning opportunities and subject knowledge for our pupils at St Stephens Academy—**What do we want them to remember when they leave us?** With this in mind I felt it was essential to ask the most important people in our school-the pupils! This week in assembly we have been discussing what makes an **inspirational curriculum— what else could we do better?** Lots of ideas have been shared and the pupils are regularly adding to the curriculum sheet I have in my office. Lots of children love the opportunities to learn geography and history facts and new skills in context not just in a book, e.g. cooking or building. It is important that we have the correct resources when working in Art or Design Technology so we can make exciting things. More sport is another key request, especially learning new games such as basketball. Many pupils want maths to be more cross curricular and they enjoy challenges in all areas. A different set of clubs e.g. gardening has been suggested and learning about famous people who have inspired others. All the school love visits and visitors. The list is growing daily and all ideas will be seriously considered when planning what and how we will be teaching our curriculum. **If you have any ideas we would love to hear them too.**



Year 1 have been investigating capacity in maths. Our challenge was to investigate whether the tallest container had the largest capacity. We used a range of containers, rice, spoons and funnels to assist with our investigation! We also used key vocabulary cards to help when describing the amount in a container.



Class 3 have been learning how to make **Stone Age** fires in Wild Tribe linked to their history topic. They then wrote instructions to share with others.

Excellent communication skills.



As part of their Roman topic Year 4 have been researching what Roman shields look like in Design Technology, planning designs and then turning them into reality with available resources.



Then after researching different defensive formations of the Roman army. They decided in their groups which defensive strategy they preferred and set up their formation. Then, their defensive strategy was tested by the rest of year 4, armed with balls.

History well and truly in action!



International Boys' Choirs Workshop

Imagine achingly beautiful harmonies, sung by rich voices - and high, soaring notes sung with precision, over a deep bass.

On 3rd May, ten of our talented young performers from St Stephens attended an amazing choir event at the Town Hall in Launceston. We spent the afternoon watching and singing with two International Boys Choirs: St Stithians Boys from South Africa, and Dubna Boys from Russia. The event was organised by Cornwall's Music Hub and included musical games and singing in four-part harmony as a whole ensemble.



Through this opportunity, children experienced a wealth of culture in song and dance and were also able to talk to the boys from the choirs, as well as to children from the other local schools that took part.

These ten children have all contributed in special ways to the music and performance life of St Stephens school and are also known to practice music / performance of their own, at home. Well done to all of them for representing St Stephens so fantastically. We look forward to any future events and opportunities for more of our amazing St Stephens children.



Y5 Residential

Year 5 have had an amazing residential in London. After an early start on Wednesday they arrived safely and had some lunch before heading into the Science Museum. Lots of opportunities to ignite curiosity and broaden knowledge...as well as having great fun!



They had the once in a lifetime opportunity to sleep on the HMS Belfast, dinner out and sightseeing with good friends

As if this wasn't enough a tour of the Houses of Parliament, a trip on the London Eye and ... HOME!

A huge thank you to Mr Hunt, Mrs Duckworth, Mrs Paul and Mr Gilbert for all your hard work making this amazing trip a reality; a memory for all the children to treasure.

RNLI Visit—write up by Zak and Jess (Year 6) Today in the school hall at St Stephens Community Academy, Jack and Tremain from Bude lifeguard crew talked to the children about **STAYING SAFE** on the beach and in the sea.

Useful information;

All lifeguards wear red shorts and yellow t-shirts, so that they can be easily identified on the beach, during the summer season in Cornwall.

Lifeguards patrol our beaches from 10:00am to 6:00pm daily

Some important safety rules;

- Always swim where there are lifeguards present on the beach
- Always make sure you wear sunglasses, a sunhat and plenty of sunscreen
- Always stay together on the beach and in the sea.

Flags to look out for on the beach;

The red and yellow flags mean lifeguards are on patrol.

The red flag means dangerous to bathe or swim and you should not enter the water.

The quarter black and white flag indicates the area zoned for surf craft and Malibu boards

The orange wind sock flag indicates wind direction.

If you see somebody is in danger or having difficulties in the sea contact 999 or 112

and ask for the coastguard. Remember never enter the water to try and save a person that is struggling in the water.



Without a doubt Jake and Tremain gave us some amazing facts about being a lifeguard and most importantly staying safe on the beach and in the sea.

Year F 'Superhero Topic'

Year F have had great fun the past two weeks completing their 'Superhero' themed learning! They have designed and created their own Superhero masks as well as making and tasting healthy fruit 'Supersmoothies'!



Year F Open Afternoon

On Tuesday 30th April, Year F welcomed parents to share their learning journey in our 'Open Afternoon'. They really enjoyed showing their Mum's and Dad's all of the learning that they had completed. Their parents were able to comment on their child's learning and add their thoughts to their child's learning journey. Thank you to all the parents that were able to attend.



Democracy in Action

Last week two of our Youth Councillors attended a meeting with pupils from other local schools and Mayor Margaret in Launceston Museum! The aim of the meeting was for the children of the community to share their thoughts and ideas of how to



convert the exhibitions into more 'child - friendly zones with more interactive displays. Mia's favourite area was the Garden Room because there was lots of space to run and play and it had an old telephone box to go inside. Cody preferred the War Room because they had different gas masks to look at, he particularly liked the baby's whole body gas mask and all the information about local men who fought in World War II.

Cricket

Launceston Cricket Club offers opportunities for boys and girls to learn and play cricket; please follow these links to find out more:

Cricket All Stars for 5-8 year olds: <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/At/launceston>

Launceston Cricket Club Juniors for 9-15 year olds: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/launcestoncricketclub.uk>

Launceston Cricket Club Juniors runs sessions every Friday in the summer at 6pm. Everyone is welcome and we offer skilled coaching and a family atmosphere - come along and find out what we have to offer.



Songfest at Launceston College

Last night members of St Stephens choir joined with other local schools to perform songs from their Songfest show at Launceston College.

What a fabulous evening! Well done all. What a singing school we truly are!



Junior Tennis – Pay and Play

Mondays from 4.30 p.m. to 5.25 p.m. £1

Launceston College Playing Fields

From 5 – 11 years of age

Rackets and balls provided

Info Jenny Worth jaw53@hotmail.com 07766592519



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What an Eggciting time we had in

Pre –School!

Mrs.Furber had the quite impossible task of choosing the 'most creative' Easter bonnet. After much deliberation the winning Easter egg prize was awarded to Penny. All the other entrants also received a little prize for tremendous effort.

Many thanks to all the parents and carers for their support and enthusiasm for this event.



Reminder...Our Pre-School leavers group photo will be taken at 9am on Friday 17th May, if your child doesn't usually attend on a Friday morning, please can you bring them in at 9am so that they can have their picture taken. We hope to see as many of you as possible, the photo is a lovely keepsake and a reminder of your child's time with us.