

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

Friday 8th February 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write this I cannot believe the change in the weather! It was good to see that our lines of communication with you enabled our priority, the pupils, to remain safe and get home without any major disruptions. This week we have also had a successful practice of our 'Lockdown' drill –this was managed in a calm and orderly manner- the priority is to keep the children safe and this will be a routine exercise just like our termly fire drills. A very big thank you to those of you that were able to join us last week to share books with your children as part of our National Storytelling Week. Reading is such a priority so many thanks for all your support with this important 'job'. We love to welcome you into school so if you have a few hours to spare to share books each week please see your child's class teacher. Due to the school closure on Friday 1st February we had to postpone the NSPCC Number Day until this week-wow what amazing effort you all went to. Using and applying number facts and strategies is key to mathematical thinking and the children were immersed in this throughout the day with fun and engaging activities planned by the teachers. We also managed to raise a staggering £120 to donate to this very worthwhile charity –we love that our children can support and make a difference to other children's lives. With this thought in mind please make sure you read the article in this newsletter about Dominic in Y6 who is an ambassador for a children's cancer charity and how we, as a school, would like to support his amazing achievements. This week we also welcomed teachers from St Marks into our school to observe maths teaching in Year 1-it's so positive to share expertise across schools for our professional development and to confirm what a great job our teachers are doing . This has been confirmed by the pupils themselves-check out each class' responses to the Pupil Surveys that have been held over the past few weeks-look under the Class Information pages on the website.

I know the next few weeks will continue to be full of learning. Remember to keep checking the website for updates on your child's class blog, school Twitter account or school news link. Thank you for your continued support.

Maura Furber

Attendance

Wk Ending 01/02/2019

CLASS F	97.4%
CLASS 1	92.8%
CLASS 2	96.2%
CLASS 3	83.8%
CLASS 4	89.8%
CLASS 5	97.1%
CLASS 6	94.4%
CLASS 7	82.9%



Accelerated
Reader

School Improvement

I am delighted to say that St Stephens has invested in purchasing the Accelerated Reader programme. Reading is one of our key priorities in our School Improvement Plan. We have audited all the books in our library and are currently preparing them so they are ready to use linked to Accelerated Reader. This is a time consuming job but we know it will make such an impact on your child's love of reading.

What is Accelerated Reader (AR)? AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his/her own level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.) AR gives both children and teachers feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses to help your child set targets and direct ongoing reading practice.

Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them and at the correct level.

More details to follow SOON!



Diary Dates

Monday 11th February	Class F trip to Fire Station
Tuesday 12th February	Classes F & 1 Maths Day
Friday 15th February	Teddy Donation Day
Friday 15th February	PTFA Valentines Disco
Mon 18th – Fri 22nd February	Half Term
Friday 1st March	Year 6 Parent Meeting
Mon 4th & Tues 5th March	Parent Consultations (all teachers)
Tuesday 5th March	St Piran's Day March
Tuesday 12th March	Year 2 Trip to Eden Project
Friday 5th April	PTFA Non Uniform Day & Easter Bingo
Mon 8th–Mon 22nd April	Easter Holidays back Tues 23rd April
Weds 8th– Thurs 9th May	Year 5 Residential, London
Mon 13th–Thurs 16th May	Year 6 SATS
Weds 19th–Fri 21st June	Year 6 Residential, Camp Kernow
Monday 24th June	KS1 Sports Day
Tuesday 25th June	KS2 Sports Day

Home-Start Kernow aims to support families experiencing stress and difficulties. This is achieved by offering practical and emotional support to families through the use of trained volunteers offering 2 - 3 hours per week. Home Start Kernow is a voluntary organisation offering support, friendship and practical help to families experiencing stress or difficulties. Families must have at least one child under five.

For more information please ask at reception to speak to Sharon Baxter (Parent Support) at St Stephens Community Academy.

www.homestartkernow.org.uk

**Home
Start**
Support and friendship
for families



FREE ENTRY

BLUE LIGHT OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 24 FEBRUARY | 11AM TO 3PM | CORNWALL AIR AMBULANCE TREVITHICK DOWNS NEWQUAY TR8 4DY

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CORNWALL AIR AMBULANCE
SEE THE HELICOPTER | MEET THE CREW | PARAMEDIC DEMOS

EXCITING DISPLAYS FROM OTHER LOCAL EMERGENCY SERVICES

Firearms & Dogs team • RNLI • Blood Bikes • Extrication team • HM Coastguard • Devon & Cornwall Police • Cornwall Fire & Rescue

PLUS POP-UP SHOP | RAFFLE | REFRESHMENTS SERVED ALL DAY | CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

CORNWALLAIRAMBULANCETRUST.ORG

Cornwall Air Ambulance Trust, Trevithick Downs, Newquay TR8 4DY | Registered charity 1133295
01637 889926 | cornwallairambulancetrust.org | enquiries@cornwallairambulancetrust.org

**NEW HELI
appeal**
Solving more time
Solving more lives

Class F welcomed back local PCSO Mark this week as part of their 'People who Help Us' topic. The children learnt lots about his job role and responsibilities as well as asking him lots of questions that they had thought of. They were lucky enough to try on real police hats and jackets which they all loved. A big thank you to Mark for taking the time out of his very busy schedule to come and talk to us.



Playground Leaders

Today we were delighted to welcome Mrs. Ham from ARENA sports to lead a training session for our future Playground Leaders. The Year 4 and 5 pupils had to consider what qualities makes a good leader, what organisation skills they will need to develop and what activities will be inclusive so that everyone will be welcomed to participate. It was a busy day filled with paperwork and practical opportunities. Mrs. Ham came to see me at the end of the day to highly commend the group of pupils for excellent learning behaviours and to say it had been an absolute pleasure to work with them today. I can't wait to see their training being put into action in our playgrounds soon.



Foodbank Appeal

Due to the Foodbank feeding an unprecedented amount of people at present, their food stocks are extremely low. In January they fed 225 people compared to 85 last January. They have put out an urgent appeal for food donations as well as toilet rolls, baby wipes and deodorants. If you wish to make a donation feel free to drop anything in to the office and we will pass it on to them.

With half term fast approaching, we understand that the holidays can put an extra pressure on families. Please be aware that if you are in need of support the Foodbank has it's own criteria and you **do not** have to be on any form of benefit. Please either pop in to the school office or see Mrs Baxter and we can go through the application form and see if you qualify for a food voucher.



Pre School

Last week we said goodbye to Sarah Basford who has now joined the team at St Catherine's. We will miss her very much but wish her lots of luck in her new role.

Today we welcomed a new member of staff Abbie Davies who will be working with us on Wednesdays and Fridays. The children have had lots of fun getting to know her today.



Number Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our annual fundraising event for the NSPCC on our Number Day. There were some fantastic, imaginative costumes throughout the school and we all had fun with numbers throughout the day. Each class also represented the number 9 in variety of ways demonstrating our improving fluency with number sense. An amazing total of £120 has been raised - thank you



ARB



The ARB have been learning about 'People who help Us' this half term. We have found out about postmen, doctors, nurses, dentists, and this week, the police. We



learnt about what the police do and how they help people. We have had lots of fun dressing up and pretending to be the police.

Bring on the Smiles - BOTS

BOTS is a community development project founded by Carla Antonia Riley-Wood, who sadly passed away recently after a second battle with cancer. BOTS raises money and awareness for childhood cancer patients. Dominic (Y6) and his family met Carla, after he wanted to donate some teddies that were rescued from a garage when a friend was moving house-he preferred to make sure the donations didn't just end up in a shop.

The rest is history as they say.

Dominic decided he wanted to do more; he collected more donations and came up with the idea of asking his Dad and his biker friends to hold a mini ride out. The result was 50+ bikers and over 250 teddies in 2016.

This event was so popular the bikers requested to do it again. This time Dominic wanted to make sure the bikers had something to eat at the end! So with his family's support he hit social media and eventually ended up with stalls, hot food, a bouncy castle, face painting, a raffle, a DJ and much more. This time however the donations were books. (2017) The charity have since switched back to teddies and toys as books were tricky to carry on the bikes! 80+ Bikes came this time with the support of 'Chequered Flag' and he had so many toy donations and cash donations that the project decided to Bring on the Smiles to other children. Money donations went to BOTS as they needed specific items/toys, new toys and donations to Little Harbour (a children's hospice) and other toys to CHICKS (a respite centre for families and children effected by illness/disability).



So many people helped Dominic put the events together but we at St Stephens are overwhelmed by his quiet, modest determination to show compassion and support for those in need. We only found out about his work by chance through a conversation in the playground. We are incredibly proud to have a student that exemplifies our school and British values and to recognise that

Dominic is now an Ambassador for BOTS. If you would like to find out more information please check out his Facebook page (Bring on the Smiles Annual Ride Out) or Twitter account (@BOTS)

The third 'Ride Out' was unfortunately cancelled due to bad weather and broken bikes but Dominic is still planning on hosting this again. This is why we would love our school to support the future work of the project and in memory of the lady who inspired Dominic.

Can you help?

We are asking you to donate good quality, clean teddies. If each child in the school gave just one teddy we could make a huge difference to over 200 children. If you would like to support this amazing charity please can I ask you to bring in your donation on

FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2019 –this is the last day before half term .

Thank you everyone and our message to Dominic is keep up your inspirational work.



Michael Morpurgo is one of Britain's best-loved story makers, and Michael Morpurgo Month is a celebration of all his work! It's a great opportunity to introduce children to wonderful stories they haven't read yet, and to get them talking about these brilliant adventures. It would be fantastic to encourage pupils to read one (or more) of his books. We have lots of his stories in school if your child is interested in reading some.



Christmas Diary Competition

Thank you for all the entries sent in for our Christmas Diary Competition, I've had great fun reading all about your adventures at home. After a lot of consideration I have chosen two winners, Hollie and Adela. I was so impressed with the vocabulary used and the presentation of the work - these will be something to treasure and look back on when you are older girls.

