



An Daras
Multi Academy Trust

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

"Together towards a bright, positive and successful future"



Friday 22nd September 2017



Dear Parents,

It's been another busy fortnight and the children continued to settle in very well. We have been focusing on behaviour and learning expectations. This means that your child may be finding the learning in the next class a little harder at the start of the year. Please make sure you are helping at home with reading as this is so important to your child's development. There are a number of clubs that have started. A huge thank you to everyone who has supported the clubs and our new payments for clubs. The funding for schools is much, much tougher this year than ever before. Please do visit our website as there is so much information on there to help you with any key questions about what your child is learning and what events are happening.

Regards, Mrs Saunders

Academy School Improvement:

We have been looking at teachers planning folders this last fortnight. We have also been having pupil progress meetings to identify learning goals this year for our pupils. We have also been busy establishing learning environments for the start of the year. We have a few external visits coming up from the MAT School Improvement team, and we will keep you updated.

Attendance

Wk Ending

15th September 2017

CLASS F	99.4%
CLASS 1	98.0%
CLASS 2	88.1%
CLASS 3	97.5%
CLASS 4	98.5%
CLASS 5	94.9%
CLASS 6	97.8%
CLASS 7	80.0%

Key Diary Dates

Weds 27th September	Year 6 Trip to Davidstow War Museum
Tues 3rd October	Year 1 Trip to Bodmin Recycling Centre
Weds 11th October	Year F Baking with Chartwells
Thurs 12th October	Whole School Harvest Assembly
Mon 16th October	Year F Trip to Bakery
Mon 16th October	Parents Meetings
Tues 17th October	Parents Meetings
Thurs 19th October	Whole School Outdoor Learning Day
Mon 23 Oct– Fri 27th	Half Term
W/c 13th November	Parents eat lunch week, rota to be confirmed
Weds 15th November	Whole School Learning Powers Day
Weds 29th November	Wave Project, non-uniform £1 donation
Weds 13th/Thurs 14th Dec	9.30am KS1 Nativity
Tues 19th December	1.30pm KS2 Christmas Carol at church
Weds 20th December	Last day of term



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01566 772170

Did you know Ms Neale is in Shanghai and
no it's not a holiday!

At St Stephens Community Academy attendance is tracked closely. Each Friday assembly the attendance for the week is shared and tracked on a school display. The winning class receives 10 minutes extra playtime as a reward.

Individual children are rewarded each term for having achieved 98.5% +attendance with a silver star and an attendance bar if they have achieved 98.5% across the year. When children achieve their 98.5% attendance in a term they are given a raffle ticket. If they get 100% attendance they get two raffle tickets. The raffle is drawn every term and the winning tickets will receive a £5 gift voucher.

The first meeting of the term will be at the school, on Thursday 5th October at 3:15pm. We are starting to plan out some initial ideas and activities for the school, and to decide how the PTFA will continue in the future. Please come along to the first meeting to find out what will be involved – just come to the office after school on the day. Many thanks, we look forward to hearing from you!

Please can we remind all parents that children need to be supervised until 8.45am on the school playground. Please also continue to supervise younger children at the end of the school day. Safety of all children and adults that use our school site is paramount.

Please can we ask that parents come and speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns. If you would like to speak with someone else please see Mrs Baxter our Parent Support Advisor, she is available for appointments on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. You can book this through the school office who manage her diary. Alternatively you can speak to a Senior Leader: Mrs Hopper, Ms Neale, Mrs Bartlett or Mrs Saunders. Please can we kindly remind parents to speak to all staff with respect. We have zero tolerance on levels of aggression by parents towards staff.

We have been looking at the key learning dispositions that 'good' learners have. We have been talking about these in assembly and are starting to display these around the school.



UNICEF

This week in school we have been focusing on **Article 31** of the Convention on the Rights of a Child: *'Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.'*

We had our first Unicef meeting for our Steering Group members last week. A big welcome to our new Year 6 members, Marley and Mia, and our new Year F members, Rocky and Charlotte.

Our Level 1 Assessment Day has been booked for Thursday 30th November 2017. Lots of work will be carried out by the Steering Group before then to ensure that we are as prepared as possible for this day!

The pupils have been reviewing their 'Class Charters' from last year and rewriting them to create their new ones for this term. These charters were sent home on Friday 15th September. If you didn't receive a copy, please speak to your child's class teacher or view them on our school website under the 'Unicef' section.

We are continuing with our 'Rights Child of the Week' this term with each class nominating a pupil to sit on our 'Rights Table' every Friday lunchtime. Pupils can be nominated by any adult in school as well as by their peers. They may be nominated for talking about their rights and responsibilities, for showing a positive attitude towards their learning or carrying out a positive act. Different members of staff will be sitting with the nominated pupils each week.

The 'Rights Child of the Week' over the past two weeks has been:

Rocky (Year F) for explaining to his class 'We have a right to be safe' and 'Our coats do not belong on the floor, they belong on our pegs.'

Erin (5) : For showing respect and good manners at all times.

Well done to Rocky and Erin and all the children who were nominated by their class over the past two weeks!

Welcome to Year F

Welcome to any new families who have joined our school this year, either in YF or across the school. The children have done very well, settling into school routines and learning how to be a member of their class and of the wider school community. Also a special well done, to the YF children who have tried out any of our range of clubs on offer this term. Considering their age and the newness of school, some of them have shown a huge amount of stamina by staying after hours to join in!

Outdoor Learning

Wild Tribe sessions have now started in Years 1,2,3 and 4, in which we have looked at a variety of topic linked themes. Well done to all those children who remembered their spare clothes / wellies, over-trousers and a coat. Sessions will take place on a Wednesday for Years 2 and 3, and on Thursdays for Years 3 and 4. Sometimes we bring the outdoors in, but it is better to have your clothes in school just in case!

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

We have made a start at lunchtimes, recycling plastic sandwich cartons, fruit pots and paper bags from the school packed lunches. These recyclables are proving to be very useful in Wild Tribe activities. Well done to the children for helping to recycle.



Chickens

Exciting news – chickens will be back on the school site from next week! Classes will be on a rota to look after them during school time ... look out for updates and news in future newsletters.



Can anyone help ?

We are looking for a replacement clothes rail, preferably on wheels, so that our outdoor learning waterproofs can be stored and wheeled around from class to class. If anyone has any idea about where we could find one, could you possibly let the school office know. Many thanks.

Arts News

First Access Keyboards have made a great start in Years Two and Three - we look forward to a concert at the end of term! Samba and Drama clubs have also made a brilliant start – watch out for St Stephen's Samba in the Carnival on Saturday 14th October; I am sure that Drama Club will also be putting on a performance of their work at some point – we certainly have some talented performers at St Stephens, from YF to Y6. On the afternoon of Thursday 21st, Year 4 had the first of two workshops delivered by Karen Hayes, the poet in residence at the Charles Causley house. She worked with the current Year 6s when they were in Y4 / Y5 and they wrote some excellent poetry as a result, so we are

looking forward to hearing this term's efforts! Singing is set to go up a gear at St Stephens, with help from Cornwall's Music Service, and also from Susan Phipps - who will be helping with Choir later on this term.

