

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

24th January 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

At last we have had some sunshine—long may it continue albeit it is still rather chilly! Please make sure your children have suitable clothing (coats, hats, gloves etc.) because we do like to get outside as much as possible. Another couple of busy weeks here at St Stephens with lots of clubs, enrichment sports and creative writing sessions in two classes, as well as visitors from other schools visiting us to observe good practice. Never a dull moment here!

A huge thank you to all of you who returned the Parent Satisfaction Surveys. I will be collating the results next week so look out for the outcomes soon. Your opinions and ideas help to shape the curriculum and support the next steps in our schools development so they are very important to us as a team of learners working together.

I was delighted to welcome our Trust CEO last week and took great pride in showing off how wonderful our school is. He fully supports our current curriculum priorities, noted the impact the learning environment improvements have made and enjoyed speaking with polite and well mannered pupils across the school. Next week we welcome Neil Swait, our Academy Improvement Officer and practicing Lead Ofsted Inspector, to St Stephens. His focus will be on early reading, phonics and reading for pleasure. I will share his thoughts in my next newsletter. Talking of reading ...**if you have any spare time we would love you to come in and share books and support our pupils love of reading.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Maura Furber

Attendance

Week Ending 17th
January 2020

CLASS F	95.0%
CLASS 1	97.3%
CLASS 2	97.9%
CLASS 3	96.8%
CLASS 4	96.1%
CLASS 5	99.6%
CLASS 6	99.6%
CLASS 7	100%



School Improvement

“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality.”

Visible Learning Plus Partner School Award

The An Daras Trust has a lot to celebrate after its original five Trust schools, including St Stephens, each received the Visible Learning Plus Partner School Award. The original Trust schools — North Pertherwin, St Catherine's, St Stephens Community Academy, Werrington and Windmill Hill Academy — embarked on the professional development journey 'Visible Learning' back in August 2016 and have since received awards commending their commitment to forward-thinking long-term training programmes for staff.



Follow the link below to have a look at the full article published in the Cornish and Devon Post
<http://www.thepost.uk.com/article.cfm?id=114281&headline=Award%20for%20An%20Daras%20Trust§ionls=news&searchyear=2020>

Polite Reminder

Several children are forgetting their PE kits each week.

Please may

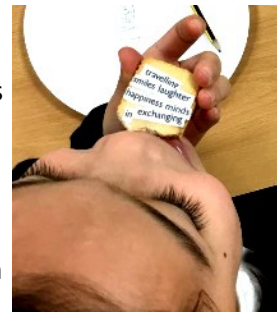
we ask you to ensure they have their kit in school every Monday - especially joggers and sturdy trainers with the cold weather—so they are ready for their lessons and clubs.



Vocabulary Enrichment



Class 3 had a visit from Arts Ambassador Sally Crabtree. Sally is an author, book designer and creative literacy expert who has performed in a variety of places including the V&A and Royal Festival Hall in the UK and through 'Authors Abroad' she has been to school in China, the Middle East and Borneo to inspire creativity through words and curiosity. During her visit the 'Poet-tree' lady helped them to write 'Cinquains'. They sang songs, played with words and rhymes and made edible poems from words and biscuits - yum!! After they had written their poems they made magic rings to defend themselves from the Word Giant so they can keep the words safe and use them again and again.... How lucky we are at St Stephens to have such inspiring people to work with and fuel our ambitions.



Exploring Forces

As part of our Science learning, Year 2 have been learning about how objects move on different surfaces. They completed an investigation, focusing on collecting data and drawing a conclusion.



Fundamental Movements

Last week YF started their sessions with Arena. They learnt how to jump and bound, making sure they used their arms and landed on the balls of their feet. They had to listen really hard to all of the instructions and enjoyed the time with Mrs. Nash.



Sharing Exemplary Practice

Last week we were delighted to welcome the Deputy Headteacher and English Lead from Tregadillett Primary School. They had requested support with how to run guided reading sessions. They observed a lesson in Y2 with Mrs Hooper and in Y6 with Ms Neale. Both of our teachers discussed and modelled the Intent, Implementation and Impact within our whole class reading sessions.

They kindly left a comment in our Comment Book that said..

"Thank you for letting us come and observe guided reading. What a lovely school."



They are now heading back to their school to action their guided reading provision.

It is so fantastic to share expertise with other professionals.



Friday 7th February is...



Dress as a Digit

On Friday 7th February, pupils are invited to Dress as a Digit with a contribution of £1, for our annual fundraising event to support the work of the NSPCC. Throughout the day pupils will participate in a range of activities incorporating numbers. Remember to look at the school website and your child's class blog to see the fabulous costumes and fun activities.

NSPCC

Science experimenting Space!



Year five have started their new topic of Space! The first experiment was to put a pencil in water. What happens? It bends!...or does it. It's all about direct and indirect evidence. The same way we know the Earth is flat. Great investigations on the way!



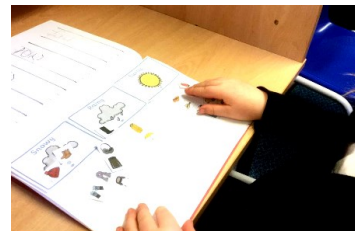
Investigating how light travels.



Year 6 have started their new Science unit by investigating how light travels in straight lines. They will use this learning to explain how shadows are formed. Throughout this activity, they also continued to develop their Capability target of Relationships and Leadership by working together in teams.



Learning about the weather



This half term Class 7 are learning about the weather. Last week they made some rain drop prints after looking at the rain on the window.



This week the children have been sorting clothes and working out what to wear in different weather.



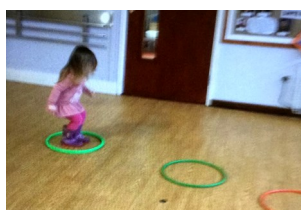


Guitar Lessons

This term Year 4 are continuing to develop their music skills and appreciation of the guitar. They have now learnt

all the string names and have begun to learn how to play chords. They have been using the 'Charanga' programme to support new learning and Mrs Gilbert has given them a password and link so they can practice at home. They don't need to own a guitar to work at home because the programme also lets you consolidate musical understanding through online games.

The class love this enrichment opportunity weekly although they do get blisters on their thumbs!!!!



up and down steps. The children have really enjoyed learning new movements and will love to show you what they can do.

Pre-School

This week at Pre-school we have been learning how to move our bodies in different ways. We can jump, hop, crawl and weave around objects. While we practise these movements we are also developing our speaking and listening skills. You may like to practise this when you walk to school, stopping and starting when asked, weaving around bollards or walking



Badminton Festival

On Tuesday afternoon Year 5 took part in a Badminton festival hosted by Launceston College. The whole of Year 5 took part in a workshop of eight different badminton skills designed by and run by current year 9 students at the College. There were several other schools taking part and all the

groups were mixed so when they transition to College they will have already started making friends. Year 5 had two solid hours of skills and exercise! We all left exhausted but had great fun.



Gymnastics

This week, Year 1 have been exploring the gymnastics equipment in the hall. The children have been climbing, swinging, sliding and balancing using the different apparatus.



The children had lots of fun, and some even conquered fears of heights! We are proud of all of their hard work and efforts using the equipment.

Smiley Happy People

Childcare for children, Childcare for you

Friendly, Fun Stay & Play in our baby room 0-2yrs

All welcome. Bring a friend.
Meet our staff, make new friends
and play with your child in a
curiosity led environment.



Thursday 30th January 1:30pm-3pm
Music
Wednesday 12th February 9:30am-11am
Valentine's
Thursday 27th February 1:30pm-3pm
Sensory
Wednesday 11th March 9:30am-11am
Loose parts
Thursday 26th March 1:30pm-3pm -
Spring

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