



An Daras
Multi Academy Trust

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

"Together towards a bright, positive and successful future"



Issue 5 — 2nd December 2016



Dear Parents

It's nearly getting to the festive period. Next week we welcome you to our Nativity for Foundation and Key Stage One and the following week to St Stephens Church for our Carol Service. School remains busy with activity. Tempest came on Tuesday 29th November to take photos of our school activities for the website and school publications to showcase all the learning opportunities that take place at St Stephens Community Academy. We would like to thank all the parents that came into school for our tea and cake gathering with the pastoral team and our school outdoor learning day. We have been making plans for events days for Spring and Summer. Sadly the school did not fair well in the bad weather recently and our flat roof did leak. Thankfully we got Year 4 back into their classroom very quickly. We are working hard to ensure everything returns to normal. I would like to say a huge thank you to PFTA for all their hard work and efforts in their own time that they use to put together events for the school. The recent Christmas shopping event raised £458.40 for the school which is so valuable to helping us create experiences for the children in our care. At the end of year we will be sending out a shorter newsletter/ letter to wish you well over the Christmas. Regards, Miss Taylor Head of School

Academy School Improvement

We had our monitoring visit for the Area Resource Base on Monday 28th November and we are pleased to share it was a very successful visit. They reported on the great progress we have made since early Autumn last year. We will be continuing to visit other provision beyond Cornwall to keep enhancing our provision to make it even better than Good!

Attendance

Wk Ending 25.11.16

CLASS F	90.7%
CLASS 1	91.9 %
CLASS 2	93.8%
CLASS 3	95.5%
CLASS 4	93.6%
CLASS 5	95.3%
CLASS 6	93.6 %
CLASS 7	100 %

Outdoor Learning Day

Thank you to all staff, pupils, parents and governors who helped to make our second Outdoor Learning Day a success!

We had a variety of activities around which the children rotated in groups. These included planting our eight new apple trees, digging over the wild flower meadow, learning about the chickens, using the computers to design an outdoor classroom and making bird feeders. There were also art activities on offer which produced some fantastically creative pieces.

Our apple trees are local varieties of 'eaters' and 'cookers' and have been planted between the willow structure and the climbing equipment. It is hoped that they will start to fruit in about two years!



www.ststephenscornwall.co.uk

01566 772170



St Stephens Community Academy is a partner with Launceston Foodbank

If you or your family are struggling to make ends meet or have a short term crisis then please talk to Sharon Baxter who would be more than happy to speak to you whether this be by phone or face to face to help with food and other items can be offered almost immediately.

All information is strictly confidential.

Please let us help you; all it takes is one conversation.

Christmas Jumper Day

The final charity which our school will be supporting this term is **'Christmas Jumper Day' on Friday 16th December.** Children are able to wear a Christmas jumper to school and pay a donation towards the charity 'Save the Children' who organise this event. Many thanks.

Reception Admissions for 2017

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013, you will need to apply for a school place for September 2017. The application deadline is **23:59 on 15th January 2017.** Further application details are www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions or telephone 0300 1234 101

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.'*

This article has been relevant for various activities which have taken place within school over the past couple of weeks, for example, our 'Outdoor Learning' day and 'Building Learning Powers' day.

Our 'Bright Day' as part of Road Safety Awareness Week was held last Friday 25th November. **A total of £157.60. was raised which will be sent to the charity 'Brake' this week.** A huge thank you to everyone for supporting this charity and donating money.



Christmas Lights

Samba Band came together for their second local event of the season : switching on the town's Christmas Lights. The band played extremely well as a 'static' and then paraded a short distance to the Town Square – tricky in such a crowded area! Well done to our dedicated team, which also included the players from Windmill. We have now collected a few more members – new children from St Stephens as well as family and friends from both schools!

Lovely Lanterns

Look out for our lanterns in the Launceston Lantern Parade tonight – they'll be hard to miss! Year Five and visiting artist Chrissy Wallace, have worked extremely hard to put together two enormous Christmas partridges, plus pears – to fit the song, The Twelve Days of Christmas. Perhaps the numbers are not quite right, but we are using artistic licence! The parade leaves at 6pm, from the indoor market in the town centre. All are welcome to come and walk alongside, or carry a flag.



Class 3—Spanish Afternoon

Our wonderful Spanish afternoon including, singing a Spanish Song— Feliz Navidad and sharing our Spanish conversation.

Pre School News

We would like to inform parents/carers that we have a limited amount of 2 and 3 year old spaces at Pre-school so if you have recently received your golden ticket or have a child that you would like to attend our Pre-School please come and visit us for further information.

From September 2017 we will be offering 30 hours of free childcare for some 3 and 4 year old children. The eligibility for the additional 15 hours is where: Both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family), and each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage or national living wage. i.e. Earnings of £107 a week. If this applies to your family and you would like more information please contact us.

Two requests

Does anyone have a Rotovator or similar, that we could use to finish the turf-stripping for the wildflower meadow, so that we can sow in early Spring ?

Would anyone like to be put on a list for chicken-care duties over the week-ends (either day, not necessarily both)? If you feel you have the time to spare and would like to, please inform the school office or contact Kari Gilbert in Year Five.

Thanks

A huge thank you to Mrs Margaret Young of The Youth Council, who has donated £200 towards our outdoor learning projects; also £50 from the town, through local business, Hazard, for our music and arts work.

Also thanks to Rebecca Hannaford-Hill of R Design, Launceston for putting together our chicken run - and for providing all the materials, free of charge. Thank you to your team for the time and effort put in, it is much appreciated by us all.



Rotary
District 1175



RIBI YOUTH SPEAKS COMPETITION

Introduction to the Competition 2016-2017

The National Youth Speaks Competition is a well established and successful competition promoted by Rotary International in Britain and Ireland (RIBI) and is extremely well supported within District 1175, where it has been a feature of youth competitions for many years.

Within this District, it is a three-stage competition designed to support and encourage development of effective communication skills. Except for the Junior category, there are two further stages beyond the District competitions.

Aims

This competition aims to offer young people:

- an experience in speaking on a public platform as a member of a team
- an incentive to formulate ideas on topical subjects
- the discipline in dealing with a topic in a limited time
- the opportunity of learning and practising high standards of expression, presentation and appearance
- the impartial feedback and assessment of performance by experienced adjudicators

Who can take part?

Within this District, the competition is open to teams of three young people, in full time education, in three categories, or age groups:

Junior	7 to 10 years
Intermediate	11 to 13 years
Senior	14 to 17 years

on 31 August 2016

With the age qualifying date above, it should be noted that, when the competition actually takes place, some junior entrants may be 11 years old, some intermediate entrants may be 14 years old, and some senior entrants may be 18 years old.

Competitors: schools, colleges and other youth organisations can participate in a Club competition or a District competition that is outside the boundary of the Club or District in which they are situated, but can only complete in one Club competition or one District competition

Potential competitors should enter the competition , through their school, college or organisation, by contacting their local Rotary Club, and taking part in a preliminary competition organised by them. To find a club local to you, use the “club finder” facility in the top right-hand corner of the RIBI home web page <http://www.rotarygbi.org>

[More information can be picked up from the school office.](#)