

**Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher**



Dear Parents/Carers,

I always write this newsletter with such pride in our wonderful school but even more so this week. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of you as families and the kindness, responsibility and mutual respect that your children have been demonstrating. We have supported two very different but equally worthwhile charities: The Royal British Legion and Children in Need. We have raised £200.00 plus for both during this very difficult time –quite simply THANK YOU.

There has been lots of learning inside and outside the classroom as normal –a little bit of rain and the colder weather won't stop us! Just a little reminder to make sure your children have layers and warm, waterproof outside clothes, wellies and trainers, hats and gloves etc.

The children have once again been keeping fit and healthy with each class entering an activity in the Cornwall Virtual Winter Games-all scores were collated and sent by Miss Kempton on Thursday evening so fingers crossed.

I have ended the week giggling at all the wonderful odd socks the children are wearing to demonstrate that at St Stephens we are 'United Against Bullying'-what a great way to end another couple of busy and productive weeks.

Take care, stay safe and have a relaxing weekend everyone.

*Maura Furber*

## School Improvement



With Reading progress and attainment continuing to be such a high priority across our school our Recovery Curriculum Plan reflects this. I am delighted to inform you that we secured Trust funding for a new charging trolley and 30 new iPads to enable our Accelerated Reader quizzes and start tests to be undertaken more regularly. These are already in use LOTS throughout KS2 daily.

The other charging trolley with iPads has now been given a new home in KS1 so each part of the main school can access technology to support them in their learning.

The staff and children are delighted about this.

Obviously we are tracking the children's reading very closely to see where there are gaps in learning and to find ways to accelerate their progress and love of literature. This starts from day one in Pre-school with Read, Write, Inc. phonics and continues through early reading skills, comprehension work, book talk, intervention support and guided reading....**learning to read so they can read to learn.**

I am delighted to say that since September when we did an Accelerated Reader baseline assessment of the children from Y2 –Y6 the 'mean' progress of each class has been +5 months-not bad for a 2 month period! Thank you for all your continued support at home-the value of reading with your children cannot be overestimated.



## Children In Need Day @ St Stephens

Well Team St Stephens has totally smashed another charity event!

All week the children have been involved in the "Five to Thrive" programme organised by the children's ambassador Joe Wicks. Each day has had a different theme; Connect, Take notice, Be active, Be curious and the final day was for Giving. This is a unique programme of well being activities; activities to help you feel better about yourself as well as helping others.

We can only say a HUGE thankyou for participating, wearing sports kit on Friday so we could all join in live with Joe for the end of his 24 hour PE challenge! Great energy and very generous donations were sent in. We have raised the AMAZING total of £200.00 to send to Children In Need so they can continue to support those who need it most in the UK.

Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting our Fun Fit Friday. Also a special mention to our Pupil Forum who coordinated the posters and break time booster bagels with toppings for each class. Great job everyone.

Our children supporting, respecting and showing kindness to other children-British values in Action.  
WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD of them.





### New Music Representatives for St Stephens Community Academy

Before the half term holiday, two of our St Stephens students represented us in a new venture. The Cornwall Music Service Trust invited local schools to select one or two children to be spokespersons on matters relating to music. From St Stephens, Logan in Y6 was chosen, for his contributions to class keyboard lessons, and Amber in Y5, for her consistent contribution to music in the school over the last few years. As representatives, they will be awarded a badge, and will have to attend meetings by Zoom every month to share ideas with CMST staff and with children from other schools. As the first meeting was held at 4pm, Amber and Logan were able to go home and Zoom from the comfort of their own houses! They were asked about their musical experiences during lockdown, and what sorts of activities went on at school during more normal times. If anyone has anything they would like to say about music, or ideas to suggest, just see Logan or Amber and they can report it for you at the next meeting! Well done both, for being excellent school representatives- music plays such an important part in our school and it's great to know you are there ensuring it remains a priority.



### LEST WE FORGET

On the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour we remembered and reflected on the work of our service people, past and present, who help to protect us and our world. The school fell silent at the eleventh hour. The Last Post was played and the children showed their respect and thanks by holding a two minute silence. British Values in Action. We will never forget those



men and woman who have lost their lives, their families who need support and those still facing critical incidents every day to maintain safety and hope for a peaceful future.



May we also take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you for your generous donations .

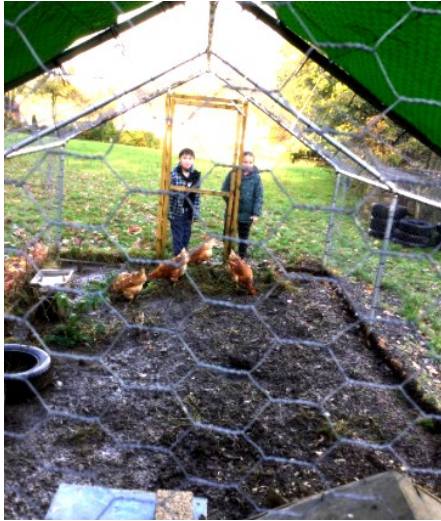
By buying poppies and other items provided by the Royal British Legion **we have raised the amazing total of £219.25** for this very worthy cause.



## Learning about our Environment

Year 5 have just started Wild Tribe with Mrs. Gilbert this half term.

We are focusing on the school garden and the first step is to get it cleaned up and clear the beds of weeds. The children also found the paving which is grown over and have started uncovering it. We are looking forward to tidying it all up and starting growing.



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Life skills are a constant and important part of our curriculum offer here at St Stephens. Being outside and being involved in worthwhile projects such as developing our garden has such a positive influence on our well-being and mental health.

Team work, co-operation and a real sense of achievement.

# EU CITIZENS LIVING IN THE UK PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS BY APPLYING TO THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME

If you are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, resident in the UK by 31 December 2020, you and your family members need to apply to the **EU Settlement Scheme** to continue living in the UK beyond 30 June 2021.



**Contact Citizens Advice Cornwall for EUSS advice and support:**

**Call 03333 440061** (free phone advice line)

**Email EUSS@citizensadvicecornwall.org.uk**

**Text ADVICE EUSS to 78866**  
and we will ring you back

**citizens  
advice**

**Cornwall**

Find out more and apply at:  
**gov.uk/eusettlementscheme**

Irish citizens or those with valid indefinite leave don't need to apply.



**HM Government**

**Don't forget to check out our Twitter page regularly!**



**St Stephens @ADMAT\_SSCA · 9 Nov**

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Class F all received a free book from the Book Trust, they enjoyed hearing the story in class and then took their own copy home.





## St Stephens are "United Against Bullying"



This week has been National Anti-Bullying Week . On Monday our 'remote' whole school assembly was based around this and our school value this week has been Individuality; something we celebrate at St Stephens. We recognise and embrace our wonderful differences and we are 'United Against Bullying' .

To demonstrate our support for this project the children wore odd socks on Friday ; a visual way to show we care and we are a team.

Alongside this, Plymouth Argyle have been running an Anti - Bullying Week Poster Competition. They have invited pupils in all the local schools to design their own Anti - Bullying Week Poster. Thank you to all of those who have handed in their entries. The winner of the competition is going to be selected Monday morning by Devon and Cornwall Police - Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) @DC\_PoliceCSAS. Good luck.



## A little stocking filler?

Many of the staff have been very impressed by a lady from Lifton who has been busy making Christmas masks at a very reasonable price. She has been sewing them to make people smile and keeping the cost to a minimum. Her name is Ali Bartlett and she can be found on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ali.bartlett.104>

Face coverings £1.50 each or 4 for £5.00

