



An Daras Trust
Igniting Curiosity Growing Capabilities

St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter

"Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality."



Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

Friday 13th September 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to the Autumn Term –I do hope you managed to have some sunny days over the holiday and enjoy some relaxing family time with your children. A special 'Team St Stephens' welcome to the new Reception class joining us this term and also the new pupils across the school. As in true St Stephens style we have started the term with 'gusto' and our new whole school theme "**Community and Inheritance**" has involved trips into the local community and visitors in to engage the children's curiosity from the onset. Please keep checking your child's classroom blog on the website under the heading 'Children' so you can share all their enrichment and class based learning. At the end of last term each child from Y1-Y6 was sent home with a **knowledge organiser** and **vocabulary word mat** that will be key for the work being taught at the beginning of this term. In this first week we've been finding out what they know and adapting our planning to deepen and extend that knowledge. Each class will have several 'topics' or 'lines of enquiry' under the whole school theme each term — approx. 4 weeks long. Each time a new 'topic' is started a new knowledge organiser and vocabulary mat will be sent home for you to support your child with their learning. These can also be accessed under your child's class information tab on the website just in case any get lost in bags! Each class also produces a **termly curriculum overview** that you should have received – please ask your child's class teacher if you have not received one as yet. We are trialling a new format this term that we hope will support you with ways to help at home, we know how important our partnership with you is to enable your child to flourish.

Please make sure you have seen the clubs we have on offer this term-we do try to offer something for everyone across the year –so please sign up if you haven't already done so. With that said please consider if your child is ready for after school commitments– I know last year several of the Reception children were simply too tired at the end of a school day to fully participate in this first school term.

I have enjoyed catching up with many of you at the school gate in the morning and around the school .Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns, queries or ideas for our wonderful school-my door is always open.

Maura Furber

Attendance

Week Ending

6th September 2019

CLASS F 100%

CLASS 1 100%

CLASS 2 92.9%

CLASS 3 100%

CLASS 4 96.4%

CLASS 5 94%

CLASS 6 100%

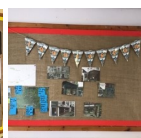
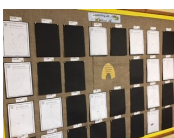
CLASS 7 100%

School Improvement



Not only have the teachers been busy preparing the classrooms and planning exciting learning opportunities for our new '**capabilities curriculum**' but our school building has also had some much needed improvements during the summer.

Despite the rain, our contractors have managed to replace our school roof and address areas inside the building that had been water damaged. **A huge thanks to our wonderful PTFA** who have sourced and bought rolls (and rolls and rolls) of hessian for our display boards in the classrooms and corridors. We wanted to become more eco friendly and use less paper whilst creating a calm and neutral backing to display the children's learning to the best effect. Another huge thanks



must go to the fabric shop in Launceston "**Threads**" for selling the fabric to us at a 'special rate'.



Building stronger families



Inheritance knowledge

Year 6 launched their learning in Science this week with two fantastic visits from Sharon at Ancient Art Falconry. Five different birds of prey visited us: a Little Owl, a Barn Owl, a Tawny Owl, a Harris Hawk and a Kestrel. By the end of the two days the children were

able to classify them into different species through considering their different characteristics. They also learnt about the anatomy of the birds of prey and how the Harris Hawk has evolved from a dinosaur - the Tetragon. They even got to dissect pellets to discover what the birds had been eating!



DO YOU HAVE ANY FREE TIME?

We are very lucky to have volunteers in our community who come in and listen to our children read and talk about their books on a regular basis-one of them is our Chair of Governors! BUT there is always the need for more support. Reading is such a priority for us here at St Stephens and any time you could offer (nothing is too small) would be so gratefully received. Please contact the office or your child's class teacher if this is something you'd be interested in doing. **THANK YOU.**



Polite reminder

No dogs in the school playgrounds.

Although they may be friendly to you, several pupils are allergic to animal hair and not everyone is confident around animals.



Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Pre School



The children have settled back in beautifully after the long summer break, it's been a busy week and we have welcomed our new intake who are getting used to the routines and making lots of new friends.

We are developing an outdoor construction area, this has been very popular, this photo shows a fantastic fort being built. We would like to expand this area and would be extremely grateful of any bits and pieces that you may be able to donate to us, items could include...guttering, pipes, tubing, rope, planks, crates, reels etc. These items create opportunities for open ended play and learning that promote many skills, including team work. If you have any items please drop them up to pre-school, many thanks.

A welcome from our new House Captains.

Welcome back to a new school year, we know it's going to be a great one ahead. We are here to guide you through a year of friendships, challenges and new adventures at Team St Stephens.



Management of Allergies in School.

I have no doubt that you will have seen recent news reports around allergens. This is an issue that we at St Stephens take extremely seriously and we understand our responsibility to the children and staff. I would like to reassure you that we are constantly reviewing our process and systems for the management of allergens and the prevention of allergy incidents. With this in mind I would like to request that

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL:

- Packs of nuts.
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (Children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Cakes made with nuts.

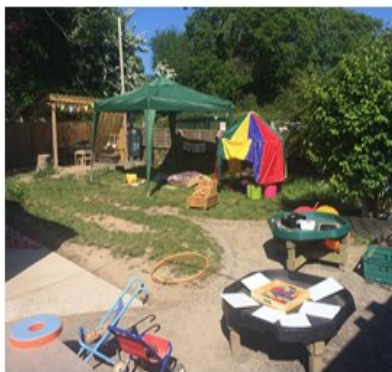
We really appreciate your support with this and apologise if your child cannot have a favourite healthy snack at school –they can have them at home obviously. Our 'Allergy Aware School' policy needs everyone to be alert to the dangers that may have life changing implications for our pupils and staff.

Please also remember to update the office of any medical changes for your child and keep any medication left in school regularly updated.

Thank you.



St Stephens
Pre-School



We currently have limited spaces available for Funded and Fee Paying 2-4 year olds.

Contact Marie for more information on 01566 777109

Flexible Childcare to suit your needs, Choose from our Session Times of:

Mon: 9:00-12:00 12:00-3:00 9:00-3:00
Tue: 9:00-12:00 12:00-3:00 9:00-3:00
Wed: 9:00-12:00 12:00-3:00 9:00-3:00
Thurs: 9:00-12:00 12:00-3:00 9:00-3:00
Fri: 9:00-12:00 12:00-3:00 9:00-3:00



St Stephens Community Academy
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Launceston
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www.ststephenscornwall.co.uk



CLUBS THIS TERM.

Wow what a great active start to our term.

This week saw the start of our **netball, Zumba, hockey, boxing and football clubs**. All were very well attended and the children were focussed learning new skills and enjoying working collaboratively – what a healthy lot we are! A huge **thank you to our volunteer parents, members of the community and staff for giving your time to offer these enrichment activities that are so important for our pupils at St Stephens.** **Samba/Carnival Club starts NEXT Tuesday.**



ARB

Class 7 have started their All About Me topic by recognising themselves in pictures, making faces in mirrors and putting cut up faces in order. We also had fun making new faces with different parts of each of us!



Music!

Today in assembly Mr Parkin gave a keyboard and drum kit demonstration to inspire our pupils to take up a musical instrument.

There are currently spaces available for keyboard and drum lessons with Mr Parkin, guitar lessons with Mr Lintell and cel-

lo/violins with Mrs Gilbert.

If your child is interested please speak to the office for more information.



Foundation

We are immensely proud of how the new Year F children have settled in to school this week. They have shown fantastic attitudes to all of their new experiences and immersed themselves in their learning. This week we have started our Daily RWI learning, beginning our journey into becoming competent readers and writers, enjoyed Funky Finger activities (including dough disco) to strengthen our fingers and hands for writing, learnt our class story 'We are Going on a Bear hunt' and performed it, attended our first 'Open the Book' assembly and enjoyed exploring all the learning opportunities in our classroom and outside area. On Tuesday 17th September at 2.45 pm in Class F, Mrs Hobbs and Mrs Lumby will be leading a RWI information session for parents of children in Class F. We will introduce you to the phonics scheme and it's terminology with the aim of enabling you to support your child/ren at home with their reading and writing. **It is really important that you attend as this is such a key area of learning.**



Year 1 and 2 Music lessons

Year 1 and 2 have enjoyed their first guitar lessons with Mrs Gilbert this week. They have been learning about the correct position to hold a guitar and about pitch.



CALLINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

19TH SEPTEMBER 2019
23RD SEPTEMBER 2019

AIMING TO BE THE MOST
EXCITING AND DYNAMIC
SCHOOL IN CORNWALL



FIND US ONLINE | WWW.CALLINGTONCC.NET

There are few decisions more important than choosing the right school for your child.

We invite you to come and visit us and see for yourself all that Callington Community College has to offer.

OPEN EVENING
Thursday 19th September
6pm - 8pm

OPEN MORNING
Monday 23rd September
9am - 10.30am

Launceston Road, Callington PL17 7DR
Tel: 01579 383292