

Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

Friday 14th September 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly I am delighted and honoured to have been appointed as the new Head teacher for St. Stephens Academy and it has been an absolute pleasure getting to know the pupils, staff and some of you at the school gate over the past week and a half. From my experience of working in education for over 20 years I know that a successful and happy school depends on us all working together so if we haven't met yet please come and say hello or, if you'd prefer, you are also welcome to contact me by email or phone. I am looking forward to bringing stability to the school and finding out more about our strengths and areas we need to develop. I believe it is vital that any changes we make in this new chapter of the school's history are supported by you and the whole school community so I will endeavour to keep you well informed. With a successful home-school partnership built on our shared values and the dedicated, hard working team I have inherited I am enthusiastic about the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. I am passionate about learning and believe every pupil can and will achieve using their different strengths and talents. Rest assured the pupils will **always** be St. Stephens main priority.

Maura Furber

Polite Reminder

We appreciate that the roads are very busy during the start and end of the school day but please may we remind you that the garages outside the school gates are private property and should not be blocked at any time.



Attendance

Wk Ending 07/09/2018

CLASS F	100%
CLASS 1	88%
CLASS 2	93%
CLASS 3	100%
CLASS 4	96%
CLASS 5	87%
CLASS 6	85.7%
CLASS 7	68.8%

Behaviour Ladders

This term we have introduced a new system to recognise and reward our pupils demonstrating excellent **learning behaviours**. You may have heard them mention going up a ladder! More details will follow soon but before then you may receive a text via 'School Comms' or a postcard home to share how proud we are. They may come home with a special sticker or prize from the 'gold box'-rewards for going above and beyond the high expectations that we expect from them in our normal daily practice.



We are also very aware that **we can all** have 'bad' days. Our new system recognises this and gives pupils the opportunity to 'turn it around', reflect on their behaviour and learn from their mistakes. I have been so impressed with the pupils and their determination to shine. They have come back to school enthusiastic, ready to learn and talk about their challenges and how to overcome them.

Climbing up the 'praise' ladder to the top!

Help Please!

The ARB are keen to improve our outside area. We are looking for any of the items listed below to help create a more multi-sensory space for the pupils of the ARB.

- **crates**
- **old tyres- various sizes**
- **plants- herbs, grasses, shrubs**
- **artificial grass- offcuts**
- **foam puzzle pieces for flooring**
- **old planters- large**
- **gravel/ bark/ pebbles/ stones etc.**
- **shed!**
- **rocker toys**
- **old pots/ pans/ bowls/ cooking utensils**
- **wooden boxes**
- **pulleys**
- **round guttering/ half guttering**
- **large play vehicles- diggers/ trucks/ tractors etc.**
- **garden screening**
- **paint-outdoor/ masonry, wood or metal**



If you have any of these to donate please bring to the ARB or to the school office.

Thank you so much for your support.



HARVEST CELEBRATION

Friday 12th October

This year we will be raising money for the Launceston Foodbank. As in previous years, we kindly ask that pupils bring in a donation of food which will form the centre piece of our Harvest Celebration. There will then be an opportunity for everyone to buy some of the donated items in the afternoon, during our Harvest Sale. The proceeds of which will go to Launceston Foodbank <https://launceston.foodbank.org.uk/>



Plastic Free Schools!

We are really excited to have been chosen to take part in the 'Surfers Against Sewage' Plastic Free schools programme. This will involve tackling unnecessary single-use plastics in school and also inspiring government and industry to make positive steps in the same direction. We are really excited about this opportunity and challenge because we all care so much about our environment and making a difference. More details will follow as we know more information.



**SURFERS
AGAINST
SEWAGE**

Online Safety

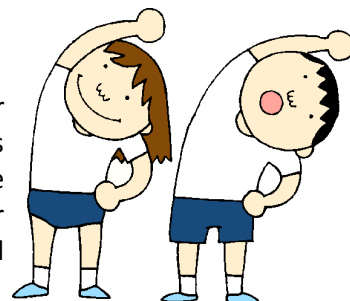
Keeping your child safe online is a priority for every parent but with Halloween approaching can we remind you to make sure you are monitoring your child's access. As Halloween approaches we often hear of games or images that are passed around that young children find very scary. Last year it was clowns and this year we are aware of 'the MOMO challenge'. Please take time to check on your children's online activities and do come and talk to us if you need any support. Our website lists a number of organisations that support parents with online safety.



Reminder about 'Safe Practice' in P.E and during after school sports clubs

Jewellery – In line with school policy, children should only be wearing watches and stud earrings to school plus items of jewellery worn for religious reasons. Wrist watches must be removed before P.E. lessons, and earrings should be removed where possible. There may be some occasions where a personal adornment cannot reasonably be removed. In such circumstances, consideration should be given to making the wearing of the item 'safe' for the activities concerned, both for the wearer and other participants.

Clothing and Footwear – For hall based activities children are expected to wear shorts and T-shirts. Dance and Gymnastics should be undertaken in bare feet, unless children have a foot complaint —when plimsolls may be worn. Warmer clothes are necessary for outdoor activities, which will continue during cold weather. Outdoor games should be undertaken in suitable trainers and must be laced correctly. For all activities long hair should be tied back.



Thank you from Year F!

Year F pupils would like to say a huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Vanstone of Vanstone's Garage who kindly donated lots of 'loose parts' for the development of our outdoor area and continuous provision. Items included guttering, pallets, nuts and bolts and fantastic personalised number plates! These items have been added to our lunchtime and classroom provision to help develop the children's imagination and creativity. The children are really looking forward to using the new number plates as part of their 'Cars' topic soon.

Pre School

Welcome back to all our families for the Autumn Term.

Our new children are settling in well and we will be looking at the Owl Baby story next week to help the children feel more secure in their new environment.

With the weather becoming more unpredictable this term, please ensure your child has a coat with them every day.



St Stephens Community Academy PTFA

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Everyone is welcome.

Stay informed and get involved.

At 3.20pm

Wednesday 10th October 2018

Please wait at main reception after school.



Parentkind
Member Association