



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 28th February 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of our Spring term here at St Stephens. Let’s hope the weather becomes kinder to us and storm Dennis is well and truly on the way out! I hope you managed to have a wonderful time with your family over the half term, it’s been lovely hearing the children’s exciting ‘holiday news’ throughout the week. As always they have come back ready to tackle new challenges with determination and enthusiasm.

I look forward to meeting with you next week during Parent/Carer consultations-it’s one of the best bits of the job discussing and sharing your child’s achievements. Just to remind you Years F,2,4 and 6 are holding the longer 20 mins sessions during the school day this term where you can look through your child’s work with them and Years 1,3 and 5 will be after school in the hall on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th in the traditional format. Please ensure you’ve signed up for a meeting, it’s so important for your child to know and see us working in partnership **for them**.

Once again this is a term full of sports festivals, tournaments and clubs alongside our weekly PE sessions and Wild Tribe lessons. Please may I remind you to ensure your child has **a full kit in school at all times**. PE promotes opportunities for children to be **creative, cooperative and competitive** and to face up to different challenges both as individuals and in groups. A 'good workout' helps ease stress, tension and anxiety and will result in better attention in class.

Many thanks for your continued support, please don’t hesitate to come and see me if you have any queries, concerns or ideas for our wonderful school. *Maura Furber*

## Attendance

Week Ending  
14th February 2020

CLASS F	95.4%
CLASS 1	98%
CLASS 2	95.7%
CLASS 3	96.8%
CLASS 4	94.6%
CLASS 5	97.5%
CLASS 6	96.3%
CLASS 7	73.3%

## School Improvement

**“ Embracing Learning; Inspiring Ambition; Celebrating Individuality.”**



I am currently in the process of writing my Headteacher report to present to our Governing Body prior to our termly meeting and I am delighted to say that we will be welcoming Joan Heaton onto our Local Governing Body. Joan is an active Town Councillor and a keen environmentalist who is also very

interested in well-being and mental health issues. All her skills will be put to good use indeed!

At the meeting we shall be reviewing the impact our curriculum provision is having on our pupils’ outcomes to date, with the focus on our five main priorities as noted in our Academy Improvement Plan. If you would like to read this it can be found on the website under the tab ‘Key Information’ and then ‘Academy Improvement’.

If you are unsure who is actually in our Governing Body please look on the website or on the Parent Notice Board at the gate entrance to the playground.

If you would like to become involved in our school as a governor please don’t hesitate to let me know or inform the office staff– as a parent there is no better way to fully understand the running of your child’s school.



### Pre School



This half term, Pre-School children are taking part in 'tiny tots' sessions led by the Plymouth Argyle community trust team. Today we took part in the first session. The children played games, learnt how to dribble a ball and worked in teams to complete challenges.

'Look Miss Whitley, I'm like a Penguin'-Daisy

'I can use my feet to kick the ball'- Maddie



### Youth Speak District Competition



Youth Speak is a national competition run by the Rotary Club. It is an opportunity for young people to develop the ability to speak on a public platform, carry out research and formulate ideas, improve self-confidence and presentation skills and work as a team. At the end of last half term "The Green Gang" brilliantly represented St Stephens in the District Youth Speaks competition held at Callington Community College. Their passionate and professional presentation on global warming made us all exceptionally proud.

Although they did not make it through to the next heat they are most definitely winners in our eyes. Amazing team work, excellent manners and pride in their own achievements.

#inspiring ambition



### 500 Words



Year 5 have been looking at a fantastic book, Lemony Snicket's 13 Words. They used it to write their own fantastic stories based on random words. They were so good that they decided to submit

the stories to BBC 500 Words! They have submitted their stories and received a certificate from 500 Words. Now we just have to wait and see how they do against the rest of the country. But this year 500 Words have added a lucky dip. Anyone who submits a story could win an invitation for themselves and an adult to the final of 500 words and also 500 books for the school. We are very proud of how hard the children have worked on these stories and wish them all the best of luck!

### Accelerated Reader

Congratulations to the two lucky 100% prize winners this time, Poppy in Y3 and Bella in Y4. Our community continues to support our reading drive amazingly. The prizes this time were a family bowling ticket to use at

Harlequins in Bude and two 30 day swimming passes to use at Splash also in Bude. Thank you to you all for supporting your child's reading- we truly believe the more you read today, the more you are going to learn.



### Community Cohesion with Cedar Grange

Music Club have been out and about again, with a visit to Cedar Grange residential care home.

The children sang partner songs that we practice during Tuesday Music Assemblies, as well as pieces from the Song Fest programme.

It was amazing to hear that some of the people in the audience joined in with our singing, even though they communicate very little during their day-to-day lives: a tribute to what music can bring, particularly in the hands of enthusiastic children!

All who went to perform were a real credit to St Stephens, to their families and to themselves, giving a huge amount of energy, empathy and joy. Well done!



### Safer Internet Day



**Safer Internet Day 2020** Tuesday 11 February

#Free to be...  
...creative  
...honest  
...yourself  
...kind  
...respectful  
...happy  
...different  
...our selves online

Let's create an internet where we are free to be ourselves

UK Safer Internet Centre  
#SaferInternetDay  
saferinternetday.org.uk

Year 6 explored the theme of 'online identity' and being a responsible digital citizen.

We looked at how using an Avatar can protect our identity but can also express who we are. We finished the session with a Safer Internet Quiz, which we were very good at.



### Community visit to the local garage

Year F went on a trip to Vanstone's Garage. They learnt lots about what happens to cars when they go into the garage, including changing a tyre and spraying a car that has been damaged.

'We felt an air filter. It felt like cotton candy.'

Allysia  
'We went in the oven, it was for baking paint onto cars.'

Sasha  
'They have to mix the coloured paints to make the right colour.'

Eleanor  
'They use a spray gun to spray the paint onto the cars.'

Alice  
'The man drove onto the spinning pipes to test his breaks on his van.'

Rory  
'He showed us how to take a tyre off of a wheel and put it on again.'

Imogen C









### Here comes the sun (we hope...)

In Class 7 we have been learning about what it is like when it is sunny. We read the story 'Spot goes on holiday' and talked about the things we like to do when it is warm.

We made our own suns out of tissue paper. We had a beach party. We started by choosing clothes we might wear to the beach. We then went into the sensory room and found the paddling pool set up. We 'paddled' and was splashed with water sprays. We had sand too- just like being on the beach.

The children looked at light beams through water, and saw rainbows and light beams on the paper. We noticed that when we shone the light at old CDs, we found more rainbows. We made sun-catchers out of CDs and shiny beads. We hung them on the trees where they would catch the sunlight.

### Sugar Smart Minis

In response to a significant increase in the rise of both obesity and diabetes in children, ARENA have developed a range of programmes which are all aimed at encouraging children to become Sugar Smart.

Year 2 took part in Sugar Smart Mini's where they learnt about which food contain the most sugar and how exercise and healthy eating keep our bodies healthy.





### Headlice

Unfortunately we've had an outbreak of Headlice in school. Please check and if necessary treat your child/ren's hair over the weekend. Many thanks.

## **JUNIOR BAKE OFF**

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S  
BEST YOUNG BAKERS  
AGED 9 - 15

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
SUNDAY 5th APRIL 2020**

Enquiries:  
[applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)



### Sport Leaders

Arena led a wonderful day full of practical and theoretical Sport Leader workshops with some of our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils alongside our KS2 Mealtime Support Assistants. We aim to utilise these skills to review our lunchtime provision for our pupils in both Key Stages to ensure we really develop healthy and physically active pupils. We want this to result in better attention in class and as a way of giving our pupils more opportunities to be creative, cooperative and competitive.



### Mornings at St Stephens

Due to the busy nature of first thing in school, please leave any messages for teachers with either the adult on duty at the school gate or with the office. Alternatively, you can make an appointment to speak with the teacher at a later time. All children will now be going straight into their classrooms from the school gate. After trialling this in Year 6 last year we realise how beneficial this was to allow them to settle in class and be ready for learning promptly. No time to waste here at St Stephens!

## Help us to transform Ridgegrove green spaces

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February

Come to the workshop when we can explore the design of open spaces around Ridgegrove Lane. Refreshments provided.

St Thomas Church Hall, Riverside, Launceston, PL15 8DH, 11am - 1pm

For more information please email Melissa Muir: mm815@exeter.ac.uk

Everyone welcome, including children who must be accompanied by adults



## Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

### How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

### How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

### How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

#### If you need to cough or sneeze



- Catch it with a tissue
- Bin it
- Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser

#### You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



- After breaks & sport activities
- Before cooking & eating
- On arrival at any childcare or educational setting
- After using the toilet
- Before leaving home

- ✓ Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands

- ✓ Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles

- ✓ If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels

Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: [campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools)

### What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have traveled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call NHS 111 for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings [gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19). Parents can visit [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Wuhan and Hubei Province in China should self-isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See [NHS.UK](https://www.nhs.uk) for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately



IN AID OF SOUTHGATE COLTS FC

# EASTER BINGO!

7  
45  
66

TRETHORNE LEISURE FARM

## Friday 20th March

Doors open 6.30pm | Eyes down 7.30pm

3  
7

### CASH FLYER FANTASTIC HOUSE DRAW

21  
13

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