



Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't believe we have reached December already and the Christmas spirit is definitely starting to 'twinkle' at St Stephens. Thanks go to our House Captains who have decorated our Christmas tree beautifully in the entrance and there was a special delivery of a cheeky elf into class 2 this week!

Just a reminder that the children can bring in Christmas cards from NEXT Monday 7th –Friday 11th. The House Captains will then sort them to go out on the last day of term.

I know the classes have also been learning lyrics and practicing songs to entertain you via our J2E internet platform. We are so sad that we can't invite you to our traditional Christmas events; the play and carol service, but the teachers have been very creative and have found a way to bring the celebrations to you. Remember to send in your consent for your child to be involved if you haven't already done so.

The staff and pupils have been working so hard as a team of learners, the children's stamina to complete tasks has improved and thank you for your on going assistance with homework. We are determined to maintain our high expectations and revisit prior learning to ensure learning missed during lockdown is secure. School is a very joyful place to be, the children are incredibly settled and happy. We are delighted that we have been able to remain open to keep life as normal as possible for them during this somewhat unsettled time and our robust risk assessments are keeping everyone safe whilst maintaining the fun. Thank you for your continued support.

Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or queries and here's to another busy few weeks leading up to the Christmas break.

Maura Furber

Our School Eco-Leaders 2020-2021

Our newly elected Eco Leads are already straight into their first project. We will be collecting old stationary (pens, board markers etc.) to be recycled into new products such as park benches and dustbins. Each class now has a 'Stationary Recycling' box. One of our parent, Mrs Walker, has kindly offered to collect them half termly ...or as often as we need, to take to the collection point.

A BIG thank you to her for this support.

Well done Oscar, Hollie, Dexter, Megan, Harry, Phoebe, Jessica and William. A great team already.



School Improvement

Eco Team.

If you would like to support this Eco project please send in any of the items below with your child and they can pop them into their class 'Stationary Recycling' box.



FIRE!!!!!!

Year 2 really enjoyed setting fire to our own pudding lane. We designed and made Tudor houses as part of our DT learning. We then burnt the houses, looking at how the fire spread. We also sang the traditional version of London's Burning whilst the flames were rising. What a memorable experience for all! Bringing history alive.



Youth Council Meeting

On 24th November our newly elected Youth Councillors held their first zoom meeting with the Chair of the Town Council, Mrs Margaret Young to introduce themselves and find out what their role involved. Usually the councillors meet with representatives from all the schools in Launceston in the Town Hall or Guildhall however due to CV19 this is not currently possible. We hope to organise a meeting with them all as soon as possible. Mrs. Young explained that their job is to consider what Launceston needs -what the children need-and what they would like Launceston in the future to look like.



The council have a £3000.00 budget for the schools and we have already secured £400.00 for early reading books in EYFS/KS1 for the Read Write Inc programme. A BIG thank you to the council for agreeing to this. The Youth Councillors are now going to look at the cost of benches for outside their classroom and to create a sensory garden especially for the Y6 cohort- somewhere to sit and relax or have their packed lunches in fine weather.

The meeting closed with the customary refreshments and cake!

Job well done Lillie, James, Meghan and Zac.

Dates for your Diary

Christmas Jumper Days:



- **Years F-Y2 : Friday 11th December**
- **Years 3-6 : Tuesday 15th December**
- **Class 7(ARB) : Wednesday 16th December**

Please can we ask you to send in a £1.00 donation for this event. All money raised will go to our wonderful PTFA for future resources/events for your children.

Christmas Dinner Day : Wednesday 16th December

Christmas 'Magic Martin' shows funded by the PTFA : Thursday 17th December Children can come into school in non-school uniform on this day.

Last day of Autumn term :18.12.2020. First day of Spring Term: 05.01.2021

Science Learning in Class 7



We had so much fun today making shadows. We started in the sensory room with torches and small shadow puppets. We made shadows that got bigger and smaller by moving the puppet or the torch.



Then we went outside. We had to stand with the sun behind us and then we made lots of shadow shapes on the fence.



Eco Warriors @ St Stephens

Each week our Eco Lead, Mrs. Gilbert, will be sending you a weekly 'Young Climate Warrior' challenge via email. We hope you enjoy them. Please upload onto your J2E learning page for us to share –there may be some house points given by Mrs. Gilbert for your wonderful ideas!



Shampoo, margarine, shower gel, even chips, deodorant, bread and ice cream – what do they have in common? Palm oil that is not sustainably managed is impacting on climate change.

Be a detective – which of your bathroom products contain palm oil? Check if they are RSPO certified (Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil)

Clue – hunt for 'PALM', 'STEAR', 'LAUR', or 'GLYC'

Palm oil -driven land use change in Indonesia and Malaysia emits roughly 500 million tonnes of carbon (equivalent) each year, contributing 1.4% of global net emissions.

Over 200 different names are used for labelling palm oil products. These include: Palmate, Palmitate, Glyceryl, Stearate, Stearic Acid, Palm Stearine, Sodium Lauryl Sulfate, Sodium Kernelate.

Sustainable Palm Oil is the way forward – look for RSPO certification. A boycott would lead to alternatives being grown – which could lead to more destruction. Palm oil trees produce 4-10 times more oil per hectare than soybean, coconut, rapeseed or sunflower oil crops.



www.youngclimatewarriors.org

Continuing our Eco theme you might like to check out the following
Music from the Moor - By Music From the Moor Community
Junk Band - YouTube (outlook.com)

You may recognise several people! This is a community project based at St Stephens set up by Mrs. Gilbert. Once we can have more in the 'bubble' we'll be looking for new members.



Drawing Skills in Art

This term in class 3 we have been working on our observational drawings. We have been using line, pattern and tone in our drawings



to add detail, such as light and dark and patterns such as brickwork and tiles.



Here are some pictures of us creating imaginary rooflines based on the final set design of

“The Firebird “

by Natalia Gontcharova.



KINDNESS CALENDAR: DECEMBER 2020



MONDAY



7 Leave a positive message for someone else to find

14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one

21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you

28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy

TUESDAY

1 Share the Kindness Calendar with others and spread kindness

8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member

15 Contact an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day

22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed

29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people

WEDNESDAY

2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are

9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead

16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to

23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness

30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why

THURSDAY

3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment

10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them

17 Practice gratitude. List the kind things others have done for you

24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh

31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2021

FRIDAY

4 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today

11 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today

18 Give away something that you have been holding on to

25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!

SATURDAY

5 Make a gift for someone who is homeless or feeling lonely

12 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank

19 Buy locally and support independent shops near you

26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature

SUNDAY

6 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about

13 See how many different people you can smile at today

20 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated

27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat

Let's look beyond our differences and help each other. Every act of kindness matters



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

#DoGoodDecember

www.actionforhappiness.org

Learn more about this month's theme at www.actionforhappiness.org/do-good-december

Keep Calm • Stay Wise • Be Kind

Christmas Competition from Virtual Work Experience Ltd.

Father Christmas is worried about how to deliver presents across the world in the middle of the Pandemic

He wants original ideas from you on how he can get the job done safely and quickly

There are prizes of £100 Amazon vouchers for the two winners:

Category One - up to Year 6 Category Two - up to Year 11

Entries need to be received by email on or before Monday 7th December 2020

The Winners will be announced on Friday 11th December 2020

Winning entries will be displayed on our home page

You can send Drawings, Essays, Videos, PowerPoints, anything you choose

Your ideas must be clear and totally original

The Judge's decision will be final

Entries must be sent to

competitions@vwes.co.uk



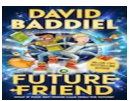
*Scholastic Book Shop
Great present ideas
All proceeds to the ARB*



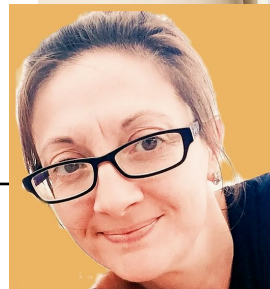
Just follow the link below

<https://book-parties.scholastic.co.uk/party/st-stephens-school-arb>

Please share with friends and family



Orders by 17th December for Christmas



Author Visit in EYFS/KS1

On Monday 7th December, Years F, 1 and 2 are going to be having a virtual author visit (via Zoom) from children's author Michelle Fitzsimmons. The children will be having a story time session (including props and puppets) followed by some question and answer time. Michelle will kindly be donating a free signed copy of her most recent book 'Is it Christmas Now?' to the school.

She is also offering signed copies of her books at a reduced rate for families of children at St Stephens. You can order these via her website <https://www.michellefitzsimmons.co.uk/>

This should be a really memorable and exciting experience for the children. Such a great opportunity to hear from a local author (Michelle lives in Tavistock).

Advent Sheep Trail

In the run up to Christmas lots of knitted sheep will start popping up in shop windows all around the town and we challenge you to spot them and find out their names.

There's an activity sheet with more details of this event, which is free to enter, which can be picked up from the Tourist Office or The Christian Book Shop from 7th December. Once completed and returned there is a gift for each participant.

This sheep trail will tell parts of the Christmas Nativity Story and includes searching for sheep in shop windows. There is also a colouring sheet which can be brought to St Stephens Church on 23rd December where families are invited to a 'crib service' at 3pm.



For more information please contact

Revd Nicki Farr revnfarr@icloud.com





PRO20

SPORTS ACADEMY

ONLY £12

Christmas Football Courses

- Trethorne Golf Club: **23rd & 30th December**
- Camelford FC: **29th December**
- Wadebridge FC: **31st December**

Our Pro20 Holiday Camps give children aged 5-14 years the opportunity to enjoy football in a safe and fun environment whilst having the opportunity to shine.



Skills and technical based learning with team tactical games held in the morning. Following a quiz packed lunch, the afternoon will include tournament-based football games where teams will have the opportunity to score many points in various ways.

Gifts and Prizes to be won throughout the day in various competitions.

9am-3pm

Please bring the following:

- Appropriate Clothing
- Both Football Boots & Trainers
- Packed Lunch & Water Bottle



Registration starts at 8:45am



Every Participant receives a PRO20 T-Shirt

Book Now: www.pro20sports.com
Email: pro20sports@gmail.com
Mob: 07980130080

