



**An Daras**  
Multi Academy Trust

# St Stephens Community Academy Fortnightly Family Newsletter



*"Together towards a bright, positive and successful future"*

**Mrs. Maura Furber -Headteacher**



Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly a very big thank you to those of you that completed the Parent Satisfaction Survey. Your 'picture' of our school and ways to improve, or ideas to consider for our future development, really supports our School Improvement Plan and we highly value your opinions. The results are on our school website under the 'Parents' section—please follow the drop down menu to the parent satisfaction survey results. We shall be surveying the pupils over the next few weeks to collect their views and aspirations—I will inform you when the results are published on their class information pages. Once again St Stephens has had a productive and enriched curriculum over the past two weeks. A huge thank you to Ms Susan Phipps and the PTFA who enabled the Year 3 and 4 pupils to attend the dress rehearsal of the smash hit musical Matilda —what an amazing opportunity for our children. The Foundation children also welcomed in family and friends to their classroom last week to enjoy different writing activities together—it is so important that our partnership starts from the very first days of the learning journey, so thank you so much for your participation in these events. As a staff we have had P.E. training from ARENA so we can offer more opportunities to engage and inspire health and fitness across our school— we shall be introducing 'imoves' into our weekly practice in the active schools challenge to create happier, healthier learners! We have also been incredibly fortunate to have been accepted into the Early Years Mathematics Research Group (cohort 3), supported by Cornwall and West Devon Maths Hub (CoDe) and the NCETM <https://www.ncetm.org.uk> . Congratulations to Miss Moore and Mrs. Morris who will be undertaking school tasks and sharing expertise and good practice with colleagues across the region so the teaching and learning opportunities we offer your children at St Stephens are enhanced and maths skills further embedded. I am also incredibly proud of the recognition the staff have received from our Member of Parliament this week for their fantastic achievement raising standards for your children. Please see the letter below.

I'm sure the next few weeks will be equally busy and full of learning —please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or queries—my door is always open. Remember to keep checking the website for updates —if you need any help using our website please do not hesitate to ask the staff to show you. Thank you for your continued support.

*Maura Furber*

## Attendance

### Wk Ending

CLASS F	96.2%
CLASS 1	98.5%
CLASS 2	95.8%
CLASS 3	96.2%
CLASS 4	92.6%
CLASS 5	97.7%
CLASS 6	94.4%
CLASS 7	94%

18th January 2019

## School Improvement

Across the Multi Academy Trust (MAT) we have invested time and training to introduce 'Lockdown' procedures in our schools. Over the next few weeks we shall be having a lockdown drill at St Stephens following our plan. We will regularly test this plan. The children will be taught what to do if the school has to be 'locked down' because we need to keep them safe. There are several reasons why this may happen e.g. a gas leak at a local factory or a reported incident/civil disturbance in the local community (with the potential to pose a risk to staff and pupils in the school). Please be reassured that the school understands your concern for your child's welfare and that everything that can possibly be done to ensure the children's safety will be done. It is also vital to reinforce the message that when the school is in a full lockdown situation the switchboard and entrances will be un-manned, external doors locked and nobody is allowed in or out. Should parents present at the school during a lockdown under no circumstances will members of staff leave the building to communicate directly with them—including a practice drill. Our plan will be practiced in a calm and orderly manner, the priority is to keep the children safe and this will be a routine exercise just like our termly fire drills. If you have any questions please make an appointment to come and see me.



NSPCC

# Number Day 2019

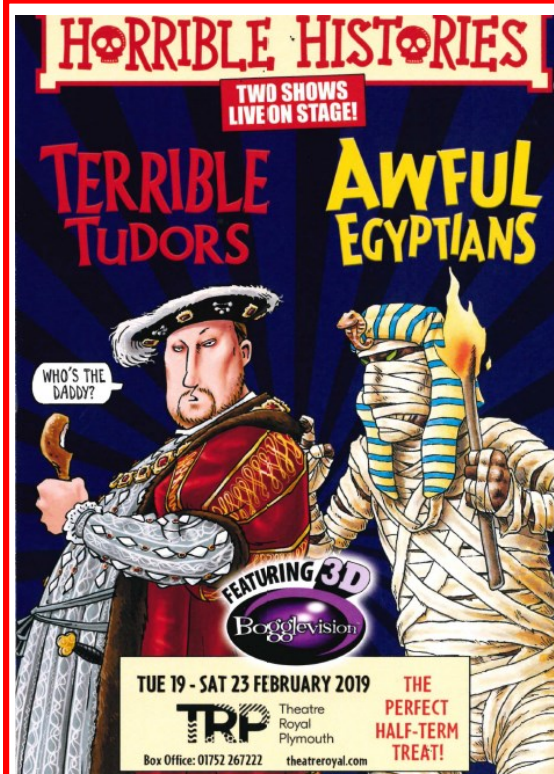
Friday 1st February it is NUMBER DAY

## Dress as a Digit

On Friday 1st February, pupils are invited to Dress as a Digit with a contribution of £1, for our annual fundraising event to support the work of the NSPCC. Throughout the day pupils will participate in a range of activities incorporating numbers. Remember to look at the school website and your child's class blog to see the fabulous costumes and fun activities.

### Class F—Parent Reader

Parent Reader required...If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer some time to hear F children read please let the class teachers know.



### Year 6 Maths

Year 6 have been using the 'Decimal Point Dance' and Base 10 equipment to support their learning about the place value of decimal numbers. They investigated whether this statement is 'Always, Sometimes, Never' True:

*"The more decimal places a number has, the smaller the number is."*



This term, **Year 6** are studying **how Britain has changed since 1948**, and as part of this they are dancing their way through the decades in Music and P.E. Each lesson will look at the music and dance trends of that era. So far they have learned to: Twist in the 50s; Shimmy in the sixties; YMCA and Flashdance of the seventies; Hammer-dance and Agadoo of the eighties to mention just a few.



## STEM Returners programme with Babcock in Plymouth

Have you taken a career break from an engineering or a technical sector and wish to return? Are you working below your experience in a different sector? Do you have an engineering or technical degree that you aren't using? Do you just wish to transfer sectors but don't have any experience? If so this could be the opportunity for you! We are currently sourcing candidates for the Babcock 'STEM Returners' programme, a 13 week, fully paid and supported return to work programme starting in April 2019 in Plymouth. All candidates will also have the opportunity to obtain a permanent role at the end of the programme. No career break is too long, register to return to STEM today! For more information please visit [www.stemreturners.com](http://www.stemreturners.com) or email [hello@stemreturners.com](mailto:hello@stemreturners.com).

More information on the programme is also available here: <https://www.stemreturners.com/2018/12/20/babcock-seeks-stem-returners-join-career-programme-devonport/>

### Letter from the House of Commons!

We were absolutely delighted to receive this letter from the House of Commons this week. It is wonderful for our hard working and dedicated team to be recognised in this way. Onwards and upwards Team St Stephens!



### Songfest Needs You



Our Choir have made a great start on learning the new set of songs for Song Fest, which this year are tunes from stage and screen. The performance will be in March in the Town Hall—tickets are on sale already. Last year the performance was a fantastic experience for the children, and included backing from a live band, workshops with singing professionals, and a free t-shirt! However this year, we desperately need more children in the choir, before St Stephens is able to take part. If you are interested, please contact the office, or Mrs Gilbert on a Tuesday after school. Many thanks—we look forward to seeing you! The choir is run after school on a Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm.

### Pre School

The children have been working hard on self-portraits over the last week, making some beautiful creations!

Next week the children are participating in an exciting story-telling week. As part of this we will be visiting Class F to share a story and children from Class 2 will be joining us in the afternoons to read stories together.





## What's on at Launceston/St Stephens Children's Centres (now the Launceston/St Stephens Family Hubs)

LAUNCESTON FAMILY HUB	LAUNCESTON FAMILY HUB	LAUNCESTON FAMILY HUB	ST. STEPHENS LAUNCESTON
<p><b>Monday</b> <b>Twins/Multiple Birth Play Session</b> A free, friendly weekly drop-in group offering a chance to get together with other multiple birth families (siblings welcome) <b>Term time only</b> <b>10.30am – 12.00pm</b></p> <p><b>WILD</b> A group for young mums under 23 and their children. For further information contact WILD on 01209 210077 <b>2.00pm – 4.00pm</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday</b> <b>Childminding Network</b> These sessions on the 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> <b>Tuesday's</b> of the month offer a great opportunity to meet other childminders in your local area and provide peer support and practical help. <b>9.30am – 11.30am</b></p> <p><b>Ready Steady Eat</b> Introduction to solid foods Bookable session offering guidance and advice. Please call: 01209 615600 <b>8th January, 12th March</b> <b>9.30am – 11.30am</b></p> <p><b>Breastfeeding Group</b> Pregnant or breastfeeding (exclusively or combined, directly or expressing) Friendly, non-judgemental drop in group, siblings welcome. <b>1.00pm – 2.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday cont'd</b> <b>Healthy Weight Weekly Weigh-In</b> Come along to our friendly weekly adult weigh-in for a bit of extra support and motivation with a chance to find out about any new healthy weight programmes running in the area. No need to book....just pop in! For more information please call Emma Leach on 07483409513 <b>3.00pm – 4.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Chi Kernow Midwives Ante-Natal Sessions</b> Ante-Natal sessions with guest speakers Please call the Family Hub for more information <b>19th February—the time around labour</b> <b>5.30pm – 7.00pm</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday</b> <b>Health Visitor Clinic</b> Drop In clinic for babies and toddlers for weighing and advice. <b>9.30am – 11.20am</b></p> <p><b>Stop Smoking Clinic</b> For bookings please contact Julia Bright on 07795 061205.</p> <p><b>Thursday</b> <b>Citizens Advice Cornwall (CAC)</b> One to one appointments for advice are held fortnightly at the Launceston Centre. If you would like an appointment please ring Launceston Family Hub on 01566 770823</p>	<p><b>Thursday cont'd</b> <b>Family Worker Support and Guidance</b> Fortnightly one to one appointments with a Family Worker offering support and guidance to families. If you would like an appointment please ring Launceston Family Hub on 01566 770823</p> <p><b>Portage Group</b> A free, informal drop-in session for children from birth to three with complex additional needs, and their families. We aim to provide an opportunity for families to meet in a relaxed environment, and children to have an opportunity to play in a small, safe group setting. Run by members of the Portage Team. For further information, please ring Kim Russell on 07483 167329 <b>17th January, 21st February, 21st March, 18th April</b> <b>10.00am – 11.30am</b></p> <p><b>Baby Massage</b> Learn to massage your baby. <b>Chargeable course</b> To book please call Sarah Cole on 07787 520113 <b>1.00pm – 3.00pm</b></p> <p><b>Friday</b> <b>Health Visitor Clinic</b> Drop In clinic for babies and toddlers for weighing and advice. <b>9.30am – 11.20am</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday</b> <b>Incredible Years 3-6yrs</b> A 12 week (excluding half-term) bookable group to help support parents and carers of children aged 3-6 years to understand their child's development and behaviour. To register an interest in attending please contact The Early Help Hub on 01872 322277 or contact Launceston Family Hub on 01566 770823 <b>10.00am-12.00pm</b> Commencing 8th January 2019</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b> <b>Childminding Network</b> These sessions on the 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> <b>Wednesday's</b> of the month offer a great opportunity to meet other childminders in your local area and provide peer support and practical help. <b>9.30am – 12noon</b></p> <p><b>Bump to Baby</b> A bookable 3 week antenatal programme. For further information or to book a place please contact Launceston Family Hub on 01566 770823 <b>8th May</b> <b>2.00pm – 4.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Thursday</b> <b>Chi Kernow Midwives Ante-Natal Sessions</b> Ante-Natal sessions with guest speakers. Please call the Family Hub for more information <b>24th January—ante-natal topics</b> <b>21st March—post-natal topics</b> <b>10.00am – 11.30am</b></p>

# National Storytelling Week

*Next week is National Storytelling Week. We would like to invite you to come into school and share a story with your child at 2:45 on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January.*



### End of Day Collection

Please could we remind you to wait for the teacher to release your child from class directly to you. It is a key priority to keep your children safe and the end of the day can be busy. Please bear with us—thanks for your consideration.

### Wild Tribe

This week children from the ARB unit have been enjoying time in the school grounds with Mrs Gilbert participating in Wild Tribe activities. They were thrilled to paint with natural materials and even got to play music on junk band instruments!

