

St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

secretary@ssscp.org.uk
15th March 2019



Parent consultations appeared to be very successful this year and were well attended. If you didn't make it to speak to the teacher, they will be contacting you to make an alternative time as it is so important that we are all working together and informed about the children's progress and next steps. Having the consultation at this time of year allows for time for real change to happen before children have to deal with transition to a new academic year.

Parent surveys were very positive and we are working our way through the comments. It was lovely to see so many positives but also to have suggestions to help us in our drive to always be improving. Several parents raised that they want more reports, I just want to remind everyone that there will be the annual end of year summative report for Years 1-5 in July so you can check there has been no slippage. The Year 6 and EYFS statutory reports will also be sent in July along with the results of the statutory assessments they have in May.

I am very sad today to inform you that Mrs Watt, our SENDCo, is unfortunately leaving us. Her personal circumstances have changed and she is leaving us at Easter. We have appointed a new SENDCo, Mrs Rachel Cheney, who starts after Easter. Mrs Cheney is presently SENDCo at Hyde Park Junior School in Plymouth and is really looking forward to joining us. Mrs Cheney will be in school over the next few weeks working with Mrs Watt as a transition so she can get to know our school and the children. When she begins after Easter she will be working Monday, Wednesday and Friday as we felt this will be better as it means we don't have to squeeze everything into the end of the week but can spread meetings and events out more. She will have some 'meet the parents' sessions as soon as she starts and we are really delighted to have secured her as our replacement for Mrs Watt. We all wish Mrs Watt good luck in her next steps.

Year 1/2 SK parents have been informed that Mrs Kriskovic is increasing her hours so that Friday teaching time is covered. It is never ideal to change at this time of year but we feel we really have found the best solution.

Next week we are interviewing for the additional teacher we need for Year 3/4 and we have a very strong field of applications. I'm looking forward to making an early appointment so the new teacher can get to know us before September.

Please note that there will be a KS1 Mother's Day assembly on the last Friday of this term. The Key Stage 1 children will sing a song and give some messages. Please don't worry if you can't attend as Miss Thompson is busy recording the children's mothers day messages already.

The Year 3/4 children are now very focused on rehearsal for their fast approaching performance. The singing sounds fantastic already! Tickets will be allocated next week. We are also planning to end the term with the annual Easter bonnet competition. Mrs Hoskin is kindly organising prizes so get creative! I'm very glad that I won't have to be the judge.

A great end to the cross country season was the annual Landrake "fun" run! The weather changed dramatically as the start of the race loomed bringing heavy rain and wind stirring up the already muddy course! Despite the conditions including shoes lost in the swamp, team SS showed great resilience and all runners completed the race dragging parents across the finish line! Well done everybody!



On Monday, some of our children from Year 5 and 6 took part in a **swimming gala**. I am delighted to announce that we came third in both the boys and girls races. The event consisted of swimming 25 metres doing front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke and a freestyle relay at the end. Special mention to Freddy T and Kieran W for their amazing efforts in the relay. We are so proud of you all.

Red Nose Day - A brilliant and energetic start to the day and how lovely to see the children had made so much effort in wearing something red and we even had a few painted noses too! The Move 'n' Groove dance session got us all warmed up for a busy day of learning. BBC Radio Cornwall gave us a 'shout out' when we were performing which is fantastic. Well done everybody! We will put the link on our FaceBook page. We may also be on BBC One Spotlight tonight too.

A few of our children from Foundation went to Asheborough House Care Home to visit the residents where they all interacted doing a bubble painting activity. They all had lots of fun!



Dates for your diary

22 March

Quiz Night

Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start

Bring your own glass!

25 March

Year 3/4 Show

Dress Rehearsal

1.30pm-2.30pm

27 March

Year 3/4 Show

2.00pm-3.00pm

28 March

Year 3/4 Show

6.00pm-7.00pm

29 March

Mother's Day Assembly

for Years 1 and 2

9.15am

2 April

Open Art Afternoon

1.30pm-2.30pm

5 April

Last Day of Term

before Easter holidays

23 April (Tuesday)

First day back for all

26 April

Nursery and Foundation

trip to the Aquarium

1 May

New intake September

2019 parent information

session

5.30pm-6.30pm

6 May

Bank Holiday

8 May

New intake September

2019 - child session

12.00pm-12.30pm

13 May

Year 6 SATs Week

15 May

New intake September

2019 - child session

12.00pm-12.30pm

22 May

Sports Day

New intake September

2019 - child session

12.00pm-12.30pm

27 May

Half term

3 June

Back to school for all

5 June

New intake September

2019 - child session

12.00pm-12.30pm

5-7 June

Year 6 residential trip to Porthpean

'Excellence is in Everyone'



Phoebe H. of Nursery for excellent recognition of names during our morning song.
Greta M. of F AM for writing a fabulous version of 'Dear Zoo'.
Lucas P. of F AM for his beautiful letter formation.
Isaac K. of F CW for excellent morning writing and always finishing first.
Natasha J. of F CW for progress with her writing and confidence sounding out.
Jayden C. of 1/2 AP for his improved level of concentration towards his learning.
Ava C. of 1/2 AP for her impressive quality of writing increasing her stamina.
Eva T. of 1/2 NB for using conjunctions in her writing and developing her punctuation.
Aidan G. of 1/2 NB for focusing on his letter formation and challenging himself to improve.
Emily M. of 1/2 CB for showing great perseverance when solving problems in Maths.
Mia P-S. of 1/2 CB for persevering when learning to punctuate speech.
Aiva B. of 1/2 CB for writing 'super' sentences about the dinosaur periods using: and, but, because.
George C. of 1/2 SK for understanding his learning targets and doing his best to achieve them.
Ellie M. of 1/2 SK for trying her best in Maths at all times and pushing herself to complete challenges.
Kaya E. of 3/4 SH for amazing attitudes to learning at home and at school.
Alfie R. of 3/4 SH for excellent perseverance with his vocabulary choices in English.
Harry G. of 3/4 PH for his creative ideas in English and for managing his distractions.
Pippa T. of 3/4 PH for having a love of learning and creating her own cam toy at home.
Faye N. of 3/4 PH for being an absorbed learner and taking pride in her presentation.
Matthew H. of 3/4 TB for rekindling his thirst for reading. Keep it up.
Amelie H. of 3/4 TB for making a conscious effort to improve her handwriting and get it back to her previous standard.
Dario D. of 5/6 LM for a fantastic piece of writing, using the past tense consistently.
Oliver R. of 5/6 LM for an outstanding improvement with his handwriting.
Poppy W. of 5/6 GP for working very hard and making great progress with her spellings.
Freddy T. of 5/6 GP for having a mature attitude and managing his distractions.
Peta B. of 5/6 VJ for super 'chocolate tree' story writing.
Ethan C. of 5/6 VJ for mastering his punctuation marks.



We've just renewed the school's subscription to **Mathletics**, at a much reduced price compared to the price parents would have to pay individually at £59 each! The children love using the interactive online software, and we've seen great improvements in our maths results since we starting using it. In fact, **The University of Oxford** recently carried out a nationwide study to assess the impact of Mathletics on Key Stage 2 SATs results and the results concluded that schools who made regular use of Mathletics (as little as 20 mins/week) **did significantly better on a range of measures**, compared to schools that did not use Mathletics. Fantastic!

Here are Jessica and Emily with full battery boxes ready to bring to school for placing in the battery recycling box. Well done girls!

Saltmill Park are organising some excellent sporting events during the Easter holidays for children aged 8-13. If you are interested, please email stuart.dudley@groundwork.org.uk

We have a number of empty dumpy bags if anyone is interested in having them. Please ask at the office.

Forest Tots

At
St Stephens CP School

Mondays 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm
(Starting Monday, 18th March)

For Parent/Carers and their children aged 2 – 4 years



Come and explore in our woodland area. Learn, discover and play outdoors, while building confidence and having an adventure.

We have excellent facilities and a brand new Teacher Led Nursery. A perfect time to visit and have a look around!

Phone 01752 843561 to book a place.

Childcare
Choices



Cornwall Family Information Service Advert. Do you enjoy being with children, helping them grow and develop? Do you need a career which could fit round your family? We are looking for more Ofsted registered childminders in this area. You would be self-employed and free to set your own working hours. Have a look at the Cornwall Family Information Service site. <https://www.supportincornwall.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/directory/advice.page?id=7AnU-cx6UfQ> to find out what is involved. You would need to complete training in knowledge of the EYFS, safeguarding, paediatric first aid and food hygiene. There is a childminder drop in at the Saltash family hub every Thursday morning, I am sure the childminders there would be happy to talk to you about the pros and cons or you can email me mary-ann.trethewey@cornwall.gov.uk for more information or to ask questions about your particular situation.

Tax Free Childcare - Did you know....?
 Parents can save up to **£2,000 per child per year** using Tax-Free Childcare, which can be used towards everything from fees for childminders and nurseries to breakfast, after school and holiday club charges.
 Parents of nursery children who are using the 30 hour free childcare entitlement can also use Tax-Free Childcare to save money on additional childcare costs above their 30 hour entitlement.
 You can find more information at childcarechoices.gov.uk

If you require this information in a different language or format, please contact the school office.