

St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

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16th November 2018



The Remembrance Service last Friday was very moving and the children from our service families who spoke did so well. I am very grateful to Mr Foran who made the display and supported Miss McKenna in organising the event. I can't wait to see the bank in Spring when the poppy seeds we scattered begin to grow. Those service families who attended were very complimentary and it was lovely to see so many in their uniforms. The children were very proud. Those who walked in the parade in Saltash also made the school, and their parents, feel very proud. I have been so amazed to see how many Karate reading cards I have changed in the last week. It is so wonderful to see how the children are reading regularly in school and at home in order to fill the cards so quickly. It is so nice for me to see them and congratulate them for developing this key aspect of learning. If they can read confidently, the rest of the curriculum becomes accessible. Accelerated reader also seems to be going down very well with the children and I have another millionaire reader to award a badge in assembly - incredible to have read a million words before we even complete one term! Where we are identifying that children are needing support to ensure they are performing at age expectations in reading, we are using an intervention called ECAR (Every Child a Reader). Mrs Paterson has now composed a letter to send to parents to explain this and invite parents into school to see this incredible intervention in progress.

We have had several parents contacting us to ask about how to access the online programs we use which we set as home learning. It can be difficult to use these on different tablets and computers as the networks are secure. In order to try to answer all the questions and address the problems some parents are experiencing accessing Purple Mash, Mathematics, Bug Club, Spellodrome or Google classroom we have decided to try to have an event where you can come into school to ask your questions and bring devices you use at home to see if we can support you in using them. Therefore, the teachers will all be in classrooms on Wednesday, 28th November from 3.15pm onwards, to support you. If you wish to bring a device that is fine and we will try our best to solve logging in issues. It seems that lots of children are trying to log into the wrong St Stephens school which is causing great problems when the children try to access programmes. This week I visited two schools in Falmouth with some other Saltash Heads. It is fascinating that schools with the same curriculum and similar outcomes can be so different. It is so useful as a Head to see how other schools operate and I never come back without having learnt something. Schools are so unique and so dependant on their local context. I suppose that the lessons are that if something is working keep doing it but never stop reviewing and checking. I can't wait to publish our results as lots is working well here. I do have to remind myself of this when we have weeks where nothing goes as expected. Being a Headteacher is an odd job so it really helps to know others face the same battles, worries and challenges as we do.

Dates for your diary

- 21st November**
SENDCo & PSA
Coffee Morning
9.00am - 10.00am
- 26th November**
EYFS Wedding at St
Stephens Church at 9.30am
- 26th - 28th November**
Book Fair
- 27th November**
Christmas Art Open
Afternoon (2pm-3pm)
- 28th November**
IT chromebook information
session for parents/carers
3.15pm - 4.15pm
- 29th November**
Foundation and Year 6
National Child Measurement
Programme
Christmas Craft Sale
at 2.45pm
- 1st December**
Christmas Lights Parade
Fore Street, Saltash
- 10th December**
KS1 Show Dress Rehearsal
- 11th December**
KS1 Show
1.30pm - 2.30pm
- 12th December**
KS1 Show
10.00am - 11.00am
Christmas Dinner
- 13th December**
KS1 Show
6.00pm - 7.00pm
- 14th December**
Christmas Jumper Day
£1.00 donation for Save the
Children
- EYFS Trip to Theatre Royal
- Year 5/6 Christmas Party
- 17th December**
EYFS Nativity Dress
Rehearsal (am)
- EYFS Christmas Party (pm)
- 18th December**
EYFS Nativity
1.30pm - 2.30pm
Year 1/2 Christmas Party
Year 3/4 Christmas Party
- 19th December**
EYFS Nativity
9.30am - 10.30am
Christmas Carol Service
1.30pm - 2.30pm



Eco Update! Introducing our new St Stephens school travel bear - Coco! Our Eco-Warriors wish to encourage as many children as possible to start walking to school on a daily basis. Next week, during Road Safety Week, the children will be investigating the distance which they travel to and from school and the class who walks to school the most will receive our new travel bear and an extra prize. Our Eco-Warriors will be in charge of recording this each day which will become a monthly class competition.

Also starting next week, our 'Switch Off Fortnight' will begin where we are asking our children to be extra vigilant, checking that their teachers are turning off their boards and lights. Our poster competition winners, Katie S, Emilia N and Connor W, have begun to put them up around the school. Children who are proactive and switch off will be rewarded. I am on the lookout for my fab Eco helpers!



'Excellence is in Everyone'



We need pine cones and jam jars for a school project - please pass any to the school office - thank you very much

Max M. of F AM for his super effort in phonics.
Greta M. of F AM for her amazing retelling of the Gingerbread Man.
Finley C. of F CW for excellent Gingerbread Man writing.
Oscar G. of F CW for enthusiasm for learning!
Madison F. of 1/2 AP for superb effort and concentration on her English and Maths learning.
Emma S. of 1/2 AP for her excellent focus on developing the quality of her writing.
Max G. of 1/2 NB for persevering with his Maths learning and developing with confidence.
Holly B. of 1/2 NB for being a fantastic role model and gaining confidence in her learning on a daily basis.
Charlie M. of 1/2 CB for showing great perseverance when writing his instructions in English.
Aiva B. of 1/2 CB for creating a beautiful starry night sky using oil pastels.
Victoria Z. of 1/2 CB for persevering in Maths when solving addition problems.
Ryan B. of 1/2 SK for making an outstanding effort to improve his handwriting.
Scarlett W. of 1/2 SK for having a go at more challenges in Maths and English - keep it up!
Jasmine G. of 1/2 SK for being a fantastic role model and always focusing on her learning.
Isabel S. of 3/4 SH for superb vocabulary choices when describing a setting.
Tallulah-Rose S-D. of 3/4 SH for exceptional perseverance with regrouping in Mathematics.
Ethan B. of 3/4 PH for awesome effort at reading this week.
Lowenna W. of 3/4 PH for her insightful contributions to our P4C discussion this week.
Phoebe A. of 3/4 PH for being a confident mathematician all week.
Jago W. of 3/4 TB for persevering when exploring similes in his writing.
Mia P-S. of 3/4 TB for an improved attitude towards all of her learning.
Lily G. of 3/4 TB for persevering when using written methods for subtraction.
Dylan W. of 5/6 LM for managing his distractions and focusing to achieve a fantastic piece of writing.
Dominic F. of 5/6 LM for fantastic persuasive writing and all round focus in all learning.
Daniel M. of 5/6 GP for an improved attitude towards reading.
Maddie J. of 5/6 GP for being engaged with her learning and asking challenging questions.
Ethan C. of 5/6 VJ for managing his distractions and completing his leaflet.
Jamey E. of 5/6 VJ for a really positive attitude with reading, writing and Maths.

COFFEE MORNING
Wednesday, 21st
November
9.00am - 10.00am

There will be a coffee morning for all parents/carers who wish to meet with our new SENDCo and Parent Support Adviser. This is for parents/carers who wish for advice or who have any concerns. We look forward to seeing you there.
Mia Watt/Bev Jones

Yoga and Steel Drums are cancelled on 19th and 26th November.
 Apologies for any inconvenience.
 Thank you

The PTFA will be running a Christmas Craft Sale on Thursday, 29th November from 2.45pm in the hall where you can purchase your children's creations. There will be cakes, cookies, teas and coffees on sale together with raffle tickets for our Christmas raffle. The draw will be held on Friday, 14th December.



Phoebe's mum in 3/4 PH very kindly gave us two guinea pigs. Harvey M and Ruby F will be their primary carers. The children were asked to come up with names for the guinea pigs and it was decided they would be called Chocolate and Harry. The guinea pigs are settling in well.

A thoughtful parent has asked if any parents would be interested in coming to make beautiful Christmas wreaths one evening in school. The event would involve decorating a metal wreath ring with fabric and other bits whilst enjoying good company and a glass of wine. Before we order the rings we wondered if there would be any interest. Please can you email the office if you think you and some friends would like to come so we can arrange a date for sometime in December. Thank you

The school photos were sent out this week and we hope that you are very pleased with them. If you do have any feedback (good or otherwise), please kindly email secretary@ssscp.org.uk with your comments. Thank you



Due to the KS1 play preparation, the last Activity Club will be Tuesday, 20th November until next term. Thank you

Christmas Jumper Day - Friday, 14 December -
£1.00 donation for **Save the Children**



Recently, the children who attend Forces Club have been busy adding messages and designs to wooden crosses for Remembrance Day. Most of the crosses have been sent to Royal Wootton Bassett where local children will place them at the war memorial there. We kept three back which members of our club placed at the Saltash war memorial. The children have also decorated pebbles with poppies and a suitable message which they also placed at the Saltash war memorial - one pebble for each local man who gave his life in the war.

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