

St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

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7th December 2018



It seems that this week the children have been extremely busy with their final copies of their English learning and putting the finishing touches to their art and theme learning. I'm always glad when we reach this stage in a term as it means the new displays are about to start appearing. The school always looks great in that we showcase the children's outcomes well with some fantastic displays. It is so important that the children have an audience and purpose so the termly changing of displays is so worthwhile. The quality of the art work this term is exceptional. I have found it really challenging to decide which team can do the entrance display. The Year 1/2 space art based on Van Gogh is amazing so they are constructing the entrance display this term. When you are in school next, do spend some time looking at the quality of the learning on display. The children can be proud of what they can achieve.

I was so delighted and relieved that the groundworkers did finally return. It has been such a battle to get them to fulfill the contract. Let's hope that they finish soon. Then just a two day laying of the surface and the MUGA will at least look as it should. It has been really humbling over the last few weeks to have so many individuals call into the school to make donations and we did reach our target for the Crowdfunder. It really makes a difference to know there is support for the school from the community. We now can complete the first fencing section so the MUGA will be able to be used quite soon. Huge thanks for every donation made. We have started an appeal for the planning and are meeting with some Cornwall councillors on Friday who want to help so fingers crossed.

The new adventure play will be installed starting next week. Please take extra care when using the side entrance by the Excel 1 building as that is where the new play area will be. This adventure trail was designed by our Year 6 children and should be completed and ready to use by the start of the following week. Please do not allow children to cross the fence line and approach the equipment during the construction phase as it will not be safe. I will ensure the children all get to experience it as soon as it is safe to do so.

Rehearsals for Nativity plays are well underway and the costumes seem to be very impressive this year. I know it is a lot of effort to sort a costume so thank you to parents for doing this and we really are looking forward to welcoming you to whichever performance you are attending. Please be aware that some of the performances will be very well attended and so space will be very short. We do try very hard to allow parents to attend their preferred show so the evening show is especially busy.

For the carol service, we are anticipating that it is going to be very busy. We are taking the whole school and we will ensure we leave as much room as possible but again please be aware it will be a very well attended event which will be crowded. Once the service ends we will allow parents to take children if they wish.

Some of our Year 4 children achieved their Bikeability Level 1 and we are hoping to run a similar programme next year. Well done to these children for achieving their safe to cycle certificates.

Dates for your diary

10th December

KS1 Show Dress Rehearsal

11th December

KS1 Show

1.30pm - 2.30pm

12th December

KS1 Show

10.00am - 11.00am

13th December

Christmas Dinner

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

1.00pm - 3.00pm

17th December

EYFS Nativity Dress Rehearsal (am)

EYFS Christmas Party

1.30pm - 2.30pm

18th December

EYFS Nativity

1.30pm - 2.30pm

Year 1/2 Christmas Party

1.30pm - 2.30pm

Year 3/4 Christmas Party

1.30pm - 2.30pm

19th December

EYFS Nativity

9.30am - 10.30am

Christmas Carol Service

at St Stephens Church

1.30pm - 2.30pm

20th December

Last day of term

7th January

First day back for all



Meet Monty, our beautiful school puppy! We can't wait for him to join us in the new year.



The lantern parade on Saturday was very well attended. The children really had constructed very beautiful lanterns and the weather ensured that the parade was a huge success. Thank you to the parents and children who took part.



Here are the attendance figures for November. The whole school average for November was 96.9% which is very good. You will see some classes where attendance was slightly lower than the expected 96.5%.

The class attendance figures for November were:

5/6 VJ - 96.5%	1/2 CB - 98.0%
5/6 GP - 94.8%	1/2 NB - 96.1%
5/6 LM - 98.3%	1/2 SK - 97.3%
3/4 SH - 97.9%	1/2 AP - 96.1%
3/4 TB - 96.3%	FAM - 96.5%
3/4 PH - 98.3%	FCW - 96.6%

November winners: 1st 3/4 PH, 2nd 5/6 LM, 3rd 1/2 CB.

As a reminder, please ensure that if your child is absent from school due to illness, please let us know as soon as possible on each day of the absence by calling the school and leaving a message on the absence line.

Thank you to Ellie and Adam M's dad who kindly donated 10 frames to the school. You might think these are simply ice cube trays but to us they are a vital method of introducing number.

Ethan B is our first pupil to reach his Gold Housepoint card. Brilliant Ethan!

'Excellence is in Everyone'



Robun C. of F AM for his amazing learning of his lines for our Nativity.

Deakon T. of F AM for his super knowledge of shape.

Marlena G. of F CW for an excellent question during the Postman visit.

Oliver M. of F CW for excellent shape knowledge!

Reuben K. of 1/2 AP for increasing confidence and participation in discussions.

Ava G. of 1/2 AP for super presentation and spelling throughout all of her writing.

Spencer M. of 1/2 AP for an amazing attitude towards school and always being excited to learn!

Alfie P. of 1/2 NB for focusing on his learning and persevering with his sentence structure.

Teddie L. of 1/2 NB for gaining confidence in his Maths learning.

Jess W. of 1/2 NB for having fantastic ideas and persevering with her writing.

Isabelle P. of 1/2 CB for her amazing number facts when solving 'balance' number sentences in Maths.

Joseph C. of 1/2 CB for writing super sentences with capital letters and full stops.

Finn C. of 1/2 CB for his exciting sentences when writing his astronaut diary in English.

George C. of 1/2 SK for excellent reasoning skills on his 'warm' Maths test.

Erica G. of 1/2 SK for 'talking her Maths' with confidence and enthusiasm!

Faith E. of 1/2 SK for amazing perseverance with her handwriting.

Aimee O. of 3/4 SH for empathising with her peers and being supportive towards others.

Lily C. of 3/4 SH for fantastic resilience in all of her learning.

Callum C. of 3/4 PH for being an absorbed and enthusiastic learner in all subjects.

Ethan W. of 3/4 PH for making creative choices as a writer in English this week.

Eli B. of 3/4 TB for using super descriptive language in his Viking myth.

Finley M-B. of 3/4 TB for making super progress in following class rules.

Hattie W. of 3/4 TB for great improvement with her handwriting.

Kai H. of 5/6 LM for a huge improvement of his presentation of his learning.

Freddie A. of 5/6 LM for being absorbed in his English learning to improve his understanding of clauses.

Leila T. of 5/6 GP for good independent learning when sewing her D.T puppet.

Connor J. of 5/6 GP for a much improved presentation in his Maths book.

Katie S. of 5/6 VJ for persevering with beautiful stitches when puppet making.

Charlie T. of 5/6 VJ for a maturing attitude and taking more responsibility for his learning.

There are some lovely suggestions for Christmas activities on the attached link which you may wish to view.
<https://www.supportincornwall.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/directory/advices.page?id=DXWcvQv36bA>

Poppy Appeal
 A brilliant £327.15 was raised for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Well done everybody and thank you to Mr Burrows and the Year 6 children for coordinating the sale of Poppy Appeal stationery during break times.

Singing CDs

You can still place your order on ParentPay for a Singing CD - they are £5.00 each. Mr Hambly and Mrs Burt are working hard to finalise the CD and they will be ready to hand out next week.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - END DATES & START DATES

The following Clubs have finished for the Autumn Term: Forces, Yoga, Netball, Coding, KS1 Homework, KS2 Homework, Forest School, Pokemon, Mindful Colouring, Chrome Book, French and Activity Club.

The following Clubs will finish next week (week commencing 10th December 2018): Choir, Steel Drums, Basketball, X Country, Boys Football and Hockey.

All Clubs will resume week commencing 14th January 2019 with the exception of X Country who will start back on 8th January 2019.

Children will automatically re-enrol for all Clubs unless parents/carers inform us otherwise with the exception of Yoga as this Club is so popular. Please pick up a letter from the office during week commencing 10th December if you wish your child to attend as places are limited to 20.

Plymouth Argyle Football Clubs will end on either Friday, 14th December or Wednesday, 19th December depending on which Club your child attends. New letters for next term will be available shortly.

On Wednesday, 12th December there will be no roast dinner as this will be served the following day (13th). Instead, the children will have a choice from Spaghetti Bolognese or vegetarian sausages and mashed potato.



Christmas Jumper Day
 Friday, 14 December -
 £1.00 donation for



With our new Nursery opening soon, anyone applying for either 15 or 30 hours funding can find useful information by visiting the following website:
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Year 3 swimming continues on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. Please remember to send your child to school with their swimming kit. Thank you

Foundation are creating an 'Anything Cornish' display and would greatly appreciate any true Cornish donations. Also our new Nursery would be grateful for any cushions for the book snug, dressing up costumes and a wooden train set. Thank you

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