

St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

secretary@ssscp.org.uk

28th September 2018



As it is **Healthy Schools Week** next week, we are hoping this beautiful weather continues. Please remember to send in wellies as the annual welly walk really is now a feature we all enjoy. We might have a few distractions to manage as the canopy over the MUGA is starting construction on Monday. The cement lorries caused great interest on Thursday as they poured the foundation holes so the supports going up will be interesting. I am quite nervous as it is so hard to visualise what it will look like.

Mrs Crowley and I have been finalising the paperwork to ensure the nursery is set up correctly. We have managed to understand the complex systems and legal requirements and Mrs Thompson, our business manager, is now quite an expert on nursery funding. We contacted all parents we are aware of who wish for nursery places for their three and four year olds from January 2019 and we are looking forward to welcoming these children and their parents in January. If there is anyone who wants a place but hasn't contacted us please do so soon. Where you have children who are three in September or after they would be eligible for the 2018 Autumn intake. If you wish to reserve a place please get names onto the waiting list as soon as possible. We are limiting places as we are determined to provide a really high quality pre school which ensures children are school ready.

I hope you have seen the media coverage of the Headteacher action to raise the issue of school funding. There was a delegation of Headteachers from the local authorities which have the worst funding who went to Downing Street and met the new education minister today. The Headteachers, who represented Cornwall, carry my full support. Cornwall is so poorly funded and our school suffers doubly as we are a large school in a County of so many small schools. This means funds are spread very thinly. Our school has only been kept afloat because of additional funds provided from the government due to pupil numbers expansion. We are no longer eligible for this fund as the expansion is over so I am very anxious how next year will look. I cannot understand a system where schools in different areas of the same country receive less per pupil. It seems illogical that Cornish children deserve less than children in Plymouth or elsewhere. I hope the government and our MPs listen to the clear evidence of the real terms fall in funding schools are facing.

Next week we have Census Day. Please can we encourage as many children as possible to take a meal on that day as it benefits the school. The better the uptake, the better our funding for meals. Can I also again ask any parent who might even think they might remotely be able to claim Free School Meals to contact us so we can check. In our drive to save funds we are going to try to reduce the amount we spend on printing and paper so we are trialing email only communications. We aim to be electronic by January. Please make sure we have notification of changes to emails and that we know if you cannot access this way.

The school photos went very smoothly this year. Mrs Goodman had it organised very well and we wait to see if the photos come out as well as hoped.

Club collection arrangements were a bit of a learning curve last week. I think we had underestimated the number of children taking up clubs and so had large numbers to be collected. Please note the changes we are trying on the back of the newsletter.

Dates for your diary

1st October-5th October

Healthy Schools Week

4th October

Baking competition
Bring your sugar free cake or biscuits to school for judging by the school council

Census Day - special menu

11th October

Harvest Festival
9.30am - 10.30am

15th October

EYFS Open Morning to support home learning
9.15am - 10.15am

18th October

Halloween Disco Infants
5.30pm - 6.30pm

Halloween Disco Juniors

7.00pm - 8.00pm

19th October

INSET Day

No school for pupils

22nd - 26th October

Half Term

30th October

EYFS Open Afternoon to support home learning
3.15pm - 3.45pm

7th November

Nasal Flu Vaccination
Year Foundation to Year 5

10th December

KS1 Show Dress Rehearsal

11th December

KS1 Show

1.30pm - 2.30pm

12th December

KS1 Show

10.00am - 11.00am

13th December

KS1 Show

6.00pm - 7.00pm

14th December

EYFS Trip to Theatre Royal

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

21st December

Christmas Holidays

Thursday 4th October American Theme Day

American Hot Dog
with Onions and Tomato Ketchup

Veggie Hot Dog
with Onions and Tomato Ketchup

Chips

Baked Beans and Peas



Sweet Waffle with Chocolate Sauce
and Ice Cream



There are 50
states in America.
The Capital is
Washington DC.

School Council - The children delivered some superb presentations when applying for a coveted position on the school council. In particular, Jessica M's presentation was well put together and the content showed both her commitment to school and a little insight into what she enjoys doing at home with her family. Well done Jessica.

The votes have been counted and the school council children are: Jamey E, William D, Katie S, Destiny C, Ethan C, Andrew W, Jessica M, Daniel M, Evie F, Chloe P, Isaac J, Ethan W, Lilly-May P, Amelia B, Ben S and Max M. We are in the process of ordering their special sweatshirts so they can be easily recognised around the school which we hope will encourage our children to put forward points of view and ideas for improving our facilities and resources.

Last year, our school council decided on where funds were spent as raised by the PTFA.

A big well done to all children who gave a presentation to join the school council.

'Excellence is in Everyone'



- Milly L.** of F AM for using her knowledge of sound to write new words.
Stanley H. of F AM for his independent investigation into doubling!
Riley P. of F CW for excellent participation in the active retell of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.
Jessica L. of F CW for excellent phoneme recognition during her assessment.
Lexie G. of 1/2 AP for her superb effort in her writing whilst working independently.
Ryan H. of 1/2 AP for his impressive start at St Stephens.
Jack S. of 1/2 NB for excellent home reading and gaining confidence blending challenging words.
Harry D. of 1/2 NB for excellent spellings and focusing on his learning.
Tom S. of 1/2 CB for his wonderful facts about explorers in theme learning.
Barney P. of 1/2 CB for retelling part of his own story in English.
Poppy J. of 1/2 SK for writing a super version of the 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.
Louie T. of 1/2 SK for listening very carefully and making an excellent contribution in our theme lessons.
Leon M. of 3/4 SH for excellent perseverance with using a range of vocabulary in English.
Ella D. of 3/4 SH for an amazing attitude to learning and always trying her best.
Merryn H. of 3/4 PH for taking pride in her learning and for being an outstanding role-model.
Logan C. of 3/4 PH for his superb absorption in Maths and for his excellent reasoning.
Elysia W. of 3/4 TB for adopting a sensible and mature approach to school life.
Cody S. of 3/4 TB for becoming more focused and absorbed in his learning.
Eden S-V. of 3/4 TB for always persevering even when things get tough.
Holly N. of 5/6 LM for being a fantastic scientist and asking lots of scientific questions.
Tudor V. of 5/6 LM for using amazing vocabulary to write descriptive sentences.
Jessica M. of 5/6 GP for an outstanding school council election presentation.
Aisha M. of 5/6 GP for fantastic descriptive writing in English.
Kieran W. of 5/6 VJ for being resilient with home learning in Maths.
Emma L. of 5/6 VJ for exceptional attitude to all her learning.

Healthy Schools Next Week

Further to our recent letter, don't forget next week we will be focusing on becoming a Sugar Smart school and looking after our teeth. The children will have lots of opportunities to take part in fun activities to help educate them about the problems of eating too much sugar and how to take care of their teeth really well. All children will receive a free toothbrush and will brush their teeth with their class.

The whole school will be taking part in a 15 minute 'Welly Walk' around the school grounds so please ensure your child has a waterproof coat and a change of footwear in school on Monday. Wellies or sturdy boots are ideal.



Year 5/6 Open Evenings

Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th October
6.30pm

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After School Clubs collection - We are very lucky to be able to offer the children so many Clubs but a downside of this is that we have lots of children leaving the school premises around 4.00pm to waiting parents/carers. In an attempt to make this less chaotic for all concerned, please note the new collection locations:

Yoga - Infant gate by Mrs Belli's classroom
 Dance, Forces Club and Netball - the Junior gate will be opened
 Choir and Martial Arts - main school reception

Things we need for school projects:

EYFS would like any small/medium cardboard boxes and egg boxes etc. for craft/junk modelling.
 The whole school are embarking on a project for Remembrance Day and require clear, round plastic bottles.
 Thank you

Dance Club - We have had a brilliant response to this new Club. Only a few spaces left so if your child is interested in attending, please email Gemma Nicholson via email: g.l.nicholson@hotmail.co.uk or call Gemma on 07906 990015.

Don't forget our **Healthy Tuck shop!** Mrs Connors is still making a healthy tuck option every morning. The take up is low so I thought it was worth mentioning as a reminder. For £1 a week children can collect a snack provided by Mrs Connors every day at break time. She provides a range of things including fruit crackers - fruit flapjacks. I love the oat cookies made with no sugar! If you want to use the service, please pay on ParentPay by 8.00am on a Monday. Children in Foundation, Year 1 and 2 are all provided with free milk and fruit.

Year 2019 Foundation tours - We have dates advertised on our school website to welcome parents/carers to visit our school with a view to their child starting with us in September 2019. Please let your friends/family know to book a tour date with us if they wish to look around.



Look at Biscuit and Crunch our school guinea pigs! Here they are having a tomato snack after school when the Foundation children have gone home. Our children love looking after the guinea pigs and we are really lucky to have furry friends in school for the children to enjoy.

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