

St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

secretary@ssscp.org.uk
14th December 2018



Well Christmas has really begun as we have now completed the Key Stage 1 nativity performances. It was a delightful show full of songs, humour and children who were so obviously loving the opportunity to perform. They really did do so well and it was a pleasure to watch.

Thank you parents for the costumes and staff for working so hard to ensure the show happens but mostly well done children. You were all amazing.

The adventure playground is now nearly complete. The children are so eager to know when they will be allowed to play on it. Hopefully, next week we can give them all a session to try it out. I do apologise for the lorry which arrived to deliver concrete on Thursday morning. Deliveries are supposed to happen outside school hours but the lorry was late. Unfortunately, the contractor decided to allow him to continue his delivery. This was a poor decision and I am sorry that this happened as it shouldn't. I have written to the contractor and they are leaving the site on Saturday so will not be back.

Mrs Connors and her team produced a delicious Christmas dinner on Thursday. It was so lovely to see the children eating so well! They really enjoyed eating in their classrooms with their teachers and the food really was lovely. Well done for serving 300 lunches in under an hour - I think I might ask Mrs Connors to come and cook Christmas lunch in my house!

The singing CD, which was organised by Mrs Burt, has been distributed to parents who requested a copy. If you were expecting a copy and it hasn't arrived, please contact the office. The Christmas raffle is being drawn by the PTFA today. A very big thank you to them for organising the hamper and selling tickets.

The rehearsal for the carol concert was actually lovely. It was full of things we need to sort, as a rehearsal should be, but the children sang so well and with such enthusiasm that I think next week will be an event to really enjoy. Please be aware how busy it will be. We will leave as much room as possible for parents. I will allow children to be collected from the church but parents must be patient as it will be very busy and teachers will not allow children to leave unless they are matched up with an adult they know and they are marked off in the register. We will walk everyone else back to school for usual collection. The service takes at least an hour and we cannot take lunchboxes and rucksacks with us so either send them to school with just coats or be prepared to leave it until Thursday.

Thursday in school will be a finishing off day. The children (and staff) are exhausted as this eight week term really has been a long one. We are all looking forward to a restful break starting on Friday.

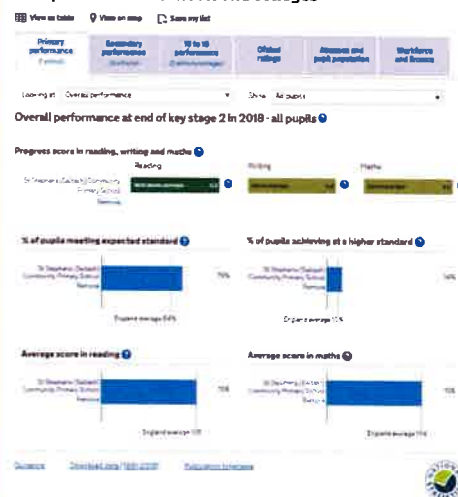
Dates for your diary

- 17th December**
EYFS Nativity Dress Rehearsal (am)
EYFS Christmas Party 1.30pm - 2.30pm
Year 3/4 Christmas Party (Change of date from 18th December to 17th December) 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- 18th December**
EYFS Nativity 1.30pm - 2.30pm
Year 1/2 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
- 8th January**
X Country Club starts
- 14th January**
After School Clubs start this week



Good News - On Thursday the DfE published the school performance data. This allows parents and schools to check and compare themselves against a range of measures. St Stephens data is excellent. This is a result of the hard work and dedication of children, staff, governors and parents. Children in our school make above average progress and reach above average attainment. You can check and compare schools using the link below or simply type compare schools into Google.
<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk>

Compare selected schools and colleges



Christmas is coming fast and there is lots of fun to be had. Lots of pressies to wrap and rip open on the special day. Our Eco-warriors would like you to spare a thought for the paper and plastic which you are using and possibly wasting, not knowing that some of these cannot be recycled. But, how do you check? Try to scrunch up the paper into a ball. If it scrunches, and stays crunched, it can probably be recycled. If the paper is covered in a plastic film then unfortunately this cannot be recycled, but can be reused. In the UK, we send five million tonnes of paper to landfill every year. On average, it takes six mature trees to make a tonne of paper. This means approximately 50,000 trees are used to make the 8,250 tonnes consumed at Christmas. It is important that we take a stand, especially at Christmas time. The Eco-warriors would like to thank all of you for your participation in the Switch Off Fortnight. We would like to remind you to continue your great work by being extra vigilant with switching off. We have lots of new ideas to improve the Eco-friendliness of our school in 2019 which we are excited to tell you all about in the new year! **Have a Merry Christmas and an Eco-friendly new year!**



**REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE**

'Excellence is in Everyone'



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/>

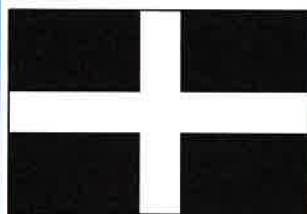
AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS START DATES

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 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.

Lucy C. of Friendship Time for skipping 147 times! Wow! What an amazing achievement.
Lucas B. of F AM for his super effort and concentration during our rehearsals.
Jacob S. of F AM for his amazing singing effort in the Nativity.
James R. of F CW for greater independence with writing.
Noah S-V. of F CW for excellent Nativity singing.
Tayah-Pip M-B. of 1/2 AP for super clearly presented learning.
Henry C. of 1/2 AP for super effort in the Nativity play.
Kate W. of 1/2 NB for taking care with her presentation in her learning.
Lucas R. of 1/2 NB for gaining confidence in class and persevering with all areas of learning.
Kai M. of 1/2 NB for exceptional behaviour during the school play and focusing on his handwriting.
Belle S-D. of 1/2 CB for showing great perseverance when writing her letters.
Molly-Mae P. of 1/2 CB for sharing her mathematical thinking when discussing different 2D shapes.
Ben S. of 1/2 SK for being a fabulous role model and having pride in all his learning.
Riley I. of 1/2 SK for making fabulous progress with his reading and phonics.
Madison P. of 1/2 SK for making excellent progress with her writing and sentence structure.
Millie H. of 3/4 SH for excellent resilience with addition and subtraction problems.
Maisie B. of 3/4 SH for fantastic perseverance with her presentation in all of her learning.
Kaya E. of 3/4 SH for a positive attitude to learning and taking on any challenge given to him.
Ruby W. of 3/4 PH for her focussed writing and making excellent progress in her reading.
Riley A. of 3/4 PH for being an absorbed writer when drafting his Beowulf story.
Justin P. of 3/4 TB for persevering when solving problems in Maths.
Clark C. of 3/4 TB for being absorbed in his learning when writing his Viking myth.
Katelynn K. of 5/6 LM for excellent focus and perseverance in Maths.
Emily B. of 5/6 LM for working independently to create a beautiful hand puppet.
Brogan D. of 5/6 GP for always quietly 'getting on' with her learning.
Paige L. of 5/6 GP for good dedication to reading in the mornings.
Thomas E-W. of 5/6 VJ for helping Mrs Jones with the display.
Eric W. of 5/6 VJ for 100% on his calculation assessment.



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

If your child has a confirmed place at our new Nursery opening in January, we would like to invite you to an open morning. This will be held on Tuesday, 18th December from 9.30am-10.30am where you can meet the staff and explore the setting. We look forward to seeing you.



Here are the children being served their delicious Christmas dinner yesterday, being helped by the wonderful Mrs Hoskin who does so much for our school as a governor and volunteer.

Lost property - please remember to name any items your child wears or brings to school. We have lots of unnamed items in lost property if you wish to come and take a look to see if any belong to you. Also, we have named clothing that is going missing so please check uniform items to see if you have any that don't belong to you and, if so, please kindly return to the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Message from School Crossing Patrol:

"Sorry I have not been there for you with the school crossing but I am now recovering well. I will see you all on 7th January. I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2019 - Glennie"

Ethan B is the first pupil to finish his gold house point card - brilliant Ethan, well done!

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


Mrs Heather Lenders
Headteacher