

St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

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Welcome back to the start of the Summer term. This is always a busy and event packed term and I am sure this year will be no different. The Easter holiday was a real treat with beautiful weather and much as I enjoyed the time off, I was traumatised as one of the guinea pigs who I was caring for died on Easter Monday! Poor Biscuit hasn't made it back to school and the guinea pig monitors were very sad but now are insisting I replace him. If anyone has a guinea pig to rehome do let us know as apparently they do not do well on their own so I do need to find a new friend for Crunchie. You will have noticed that we have been focusing on the grounds. We have had the area at the edge of the field re seeded so it will hopefully take and green up quickly. We have also opened up an area of trees down near the Willow maze and will start using this as a play area as well as forest school type activities at lunchtimes. We are hugely grateful to Mr Foran and Mr Crawford for organising the navy recruits to come into school for a day. They did achieve a lot of grounds maintenance in a day. I would like to welcome Mrs Cheney, our new SENDCo, who joined us this week. She has spent her time in the classrooms getting to know the school and the children. I know she has also arranged a coffee morning so she can meet parents and she will start the APDR meetings for SEN children in the next few weeks. Mrs Cheney works on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday so if you wish to make an appointment if you have something to discuss please ring the office to make an appointment.

We were very pleased to receive our confirmed place allocation for our September intake and we really look forward to welcoming these children. The learning together sessions start very soon so we will get to know them well over the next few months.

The 'wear something blue' day raising money for JDRF was very successful and Milo's mum did run the Paris Marathon. She did really well and we are proud that we supported her in this very worthwhile effort. As a school, we raised £301, and a total of over £1,000 was raised by Milo's mum.

SATs for our Year 6 children are rapidly approaching and the Department for Education have released a guide for parents. Please be reassured that we will do our best to ensure children are not stressed by this process. They are very well prepared and we are confident they will take it all in their stride. They have the free SATs breakfast to focus on so hopefully that will distract them. The link is found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-and-2-national-curriculum-tests-information-for-parents>

The Key Stage 1 children will do their tests over the next few weeks in a way that is very low key. They will be in groups and it will be treated as the usual tests we do termly so children should not feel any pressure.

Here are some of our wonderful children from 1/2 CB dressing up in role play for their new theme. We are sure you will agree that they look fantastic!



Dates for your diary

2 May
SEND Coffee Morning at 9am
6 May
Bank Holiday
13 May
Year 6 SATs Week
16 May
School Census Day
Special Menu
22 May
Sports Day
27 May
Half term
3 June
Back to school for all
5-7 June
Year 6 residential trip to Porthpean
3 July
Bag2school collection

The RNLi visited our school today to give a beach safety talk to the KS2 children. It was great to see the children engaging with the lifeguards and listening to the important information that saves lives. The children are bringing home an information leaflet today. Thank you

I am very sad to have to inform parents that Mrs Silva, who runs our before and after school care, has been devastated to learn she has been diagnosed with breast cancer and is going to have to undergo treatment. Whilst this is happening she cannot be in school as any infection would be dangerous for her. We are all very sad that Mrs Silva has had this news and she is obviously coming to terms with the implications, as are we and her family.

As a school, we know that Mrs Silva is an incredibly energetic and enthusiastic person who does an amazing job and loves the children she cares for. I know she will now put her energy into ensuring that she returns to us as soon as she can. We anticipate that she will be off work for at least a term and probably longer.

I am writing now so that you can discuss this with your children over the weekend and can reassure them that she is going to get better and that we can help her by offering everyone's love and support. Mrs Silva will be in school on Monday as usual which will give the children a chance to speak to her and she is anticipating their questions. We really want for all our school community to be aware of her circumstances and above all that the children can be informed in a sensitive way so they are impacted as little as possible.

We have put into place alternative staffing for the clubs and Miss Raw and Miss Rapier will be joining Miss Austin and Mrs Squance in running breakfast and after school club from next week. They can then get to know the children whilst Mrs Silva is here. Miss Raw and Miss Rapier are our new LSAs who joined the school this term. One works in the 3/4 team and the other in the 5/6 team.

Please feel free to come into school to discuss anything with us if you are at all concerned. Mrs Bev Jones, our PSA, will be available all week to support children or parents with any questions and in supporting children if they are worried or unsure.

'Excellence is in Everyone'



Honor K. of Nursery for settling in so well and excellent writing.
Alfie B. of F AM for his super knowledge of number bonds to 10.
Libby W. of F AM for her independent attitude when writing.
Alex P. of F CW for enthusiasm for learning in his phonics.
Scarlett A. of F CW for participation in Maths discussions.
Harry P. of 1/2 NB for focusing on his presentation and improving his letter formation all the time.
Erin H. of 1/2 NB for focusing in all areas of learning and reading out loud with a group.
Rowan D. of 1/2 CB for making links in his learning when comparing mass in Maths.
Aiva B. of 1/2 CB for creating some wonderful descriptive sentences about lighthouses in English.
Ava C. of 1/2 AP for her superb mature attitude towards her time work in Maths.
Madison F. of 1/2 AP for standing out with her risk taking in her learning!
Lacey S. of 1/2 SK for writing a super rhyming poem all about lighthouses.
Ben S. of 1/2 SK for fantastic ideas in our discussion about our new theme!
Jacob M. of 3/4 SH for an excellent model of Stonehenge for his home learning.
Joshua P. of 3/4 SH for fantastic attitudes to all of his learning this week.
Ruby W. of 3/4 PH for her fantastic absorption and managing her distractions.
Maisie N. of 3/4 PH for her unwavering focus during lessons this week.
Jago W. of 3/4 TB for showing resilience by learning to manage his distractions in a mature way.
Elysia W. of 3/4 TB for taking pride in her learning and showing a very positive attitude.
Kai H. of 5/6 LM for always having role model behaviour in class.
Lucy H. of 5/6 LM for super focus and perseverance in Maths.
Liam A. of 5/6 GP for showing a mature attitude and being a great role model.
Javi F. of 5/6 GP for settling into your new class/school really well.
Molly J. of 5/6 VJ for a positive attitude and increased motivation for learning.
Kieran W. of 5/6 VJ for a positive attitude and great contributions in discussion.

Please note that there has been an error on ParentPay, allowing meals to be chosen. This is incorrect so the menu has been removed and will be re-keyed shortly. Once completed, please rebook for your child/children to have a school meal. They will be able to choose their meal at the kitchen counter.

Coffee Morning
for our SEND families
Thursday, 2nd May at 9am
Meet our new SENDCo, Mrs Cheney
We look forward to seeing you!



The children of St Stephens have not stopped on their journey to become as eco-friendly as possible in order to save our planet. Our latest projects include our battery recycling and Eco-brick campaign. The school have collected over 2,450 batteries since becoming a collection point in February! We have many more brought to school each and every day. Over 60 Eco-bricks have been created and are now ready to be reused. This term, the Eco-warriors will be looking at new ways in which we can use some of these in our school helping us to achieve our Silver Eco-School Award. Miss Platts and the Eco-Warriors would like to say a BIG thank you for all of the support which the children, parents and the community have given us on our eco-friendly journey. This is not the end, St Stephens will continue to be a battery collection and Eco-brick drop off point for the community helping to reduce waste in our local area.
Look out for more updates on new ways to stay green.

We desperately need boys pants for our EVFS children. If you have any, please drop them into the school office. Thank you



Here are some of our brilliant children from Year 3/4 showing their theme learning.



An update from Natalie Thomas regarding her half marathon efforts. She has set up a Just Giving Page (<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/natalie-thomas-muga>) which has raised £220 so far! Natalie has also done a cake sale at Derriford Hospital and is running a raffle. Altogether, Natalie has raised a fantastic £330. Parents can catch Natalie on the school run if they want to buy a raffle ticket - £1 a strip. As a school, we can't thank her enough for her super fundraising helping us to work on completing our MUGA.

After school clubs - We have an excellent and diverse range of after school clubs for this coming term thanks to our brilliant teaching staff. These after school clubs encourage confidence, friendships and allow the children to experience an activity that they may not get chance to elsewhere. If your child is interested in joining a club, please ask at the office.

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