

# St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

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Last Friday was the PTFA quiz night and it was a huge success. There was a fantastic turnout and we all enjoyed a challenging quiz and a fun night. Thank you to the PTFA for organising. Then this week's big event has been the Year 3/4 Rainforest show. It was incredible. The children really sang beautifully and performed like real stars. This show has such a powerful message and the children have not only enjoyed the experience but have shown real understanding of the message of protecting endangered spaces and rainforests. I was so sorry that the dreadful traffic situation meant some parents completely missed the show and I know some parents filmed it so we will at least be able to share the recording once we gain permission from the Year 3/4 parents. The children and staff really did work hard and learnt such a lot from taking part in this performance. It is our Open Art Afternoon next week so we hope to welcome parents into school from 2pm onwards. The children will be busy completing various projects and you are welcome to join them. I spent Wednesday morning with Mr Hobbs at a briefing detailing the changed requirements for PE in schools. It was interesting but will present us with significant challenges. I really cannot see how we can fit an additional 30 minutes of activity for every child into every day and the increase suggested to 60 minutes is just impossible. I then feel very conflicted because the evidence for the impact of exercise on children's long term health is very compelling and can't be argued with. Yet, I still can't see how a school day can be expected to deliver 60 minutes of rigorous activity every day as this is an additional expectation to the two hours of PE in a week!! As usual there are no additional funds. In fact, I was incensed to discover that the additional government grant in the form of the sugar tax, which is given to schools is in fact not coming to our school. Apparently, Cornwall have decided to direct all the additional fund they are given, to the three areas of Cornwall they see as most deprived rather than giving every school a share. As the fund is intended for all children, I cannot see how this is fair and yet again Saltash loses out! We will look at what we can do and one of the things I would like is to introduce more adventurous play for lunchtimes. We already have sports coaching but this doesn't suit all children. We are blessed with amazing grounds and on Monday as I was asking a child to get down from a tree, I realised we actually are restricting children from activities they would enjoy. They love tree climbing and making muddy nests. So we are going to develop a corner of the field into an outdoor play space and give children freedom to do forest school type activities independently at lunchtime. Not the fire though! We will use outdoor construction equipment to support real outdoor play. I am also very glad we completed the MUGA as at least we now have a space to use whatever the weather to keep children active. I was really touched this week as Mrs Thomas is going to run a marathon and give us the funds she raises towards trying to finish the fencing around the MUGA. When she creates her Just Giving page we will share it so you can support her. Thank you Mrs Thomas! We are holding a 'wear something blue day' on Friday next week. This is to raise money for Mrs Zilli Mcleod who is running to raise funds for Diabetes in children. A really worthwhile cause which affects our school directly, so please give generously with at least a pound so the children can wear anything blue. This is also Easter Bonnet day so it promises to be very colourful!



The Red and Yellow team in Foundation went out into the new garden today to plant some wildflowers along the hedges. The children really enjoyed turning over the soil and scattering the seeds. We found lots of worms and bugs amongst the soil! Next week it will be the Green and Blue teams turn.

Photos of our Year 3/4 Show



One of our Year 1 children, Milo, was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes last year. Milos' mum is running a marathon in Paris for JDRF Type 1 Diabetes Charity and we would really like to show our support by helping her fundraise. As a school, we have decided that on Friday, 5th April the children (and staff) can wear something blue. The children can dress in either all blue or just wear something blue with their normal school uniform. We kindly ask for a minimum donation of £1. We really want to support Milo and his mum so hope you all get behind this fantastic Charity.

I had a lovely email from Sho Frank who is part of Saltash Environmental Action (SEA) about the Community litter pick last Sunday. Elodie O and Lowenna W took part and helped pick up 22 bags of litter and some junk too. Well done girls for helping to keep Saltash Town clean.

## Dates for your diary

- 29 March**  
Mother's Day Celebration for Foundation  
2.00pm
- 2 April**  
Open Art Afternoon  
1.30pm-2.30pm
- 4 April**  
Uniform Shop Sale  
4.00pm-5.45pm  
Easter Magic Show  
Nursery, EYFS and KS1  
3.15pm-4.15pm  
KS2  
4.30pm-5.30pm
- 5 April**  
Wear something blue for JDRF Diabetes Charity  
Easter Bonnet Day  
Last Day of Term before Easter holidays  
**23 April (Tuesday)**  
First day back for all
- 26 April**  
Nursery and Foundation trip to the Aquarium
- 30 April**  
Special Menu
- 1 May**  
New intake September 2019 parent information session  
5.30pm-6.30pm
- 6 May**  
Bank Holiday
- 8 May**  
New intake September 2019 - child session  
12.00pm-12.30pm
- 13 May**  
Year 6 SATs Week
- 15 May**  
New intake September 2019 - child session  
12.00pm-12.30pm
- 22 May**  
Sports Day
- New intake September 2019 - child session**  
12.00pm-12.30pm
- 27 May**  
Half term
- 3 June**  
Back to school for all
- 5 June**  
New intake September 2019 - child session  
12.00pm-12.30pm
- 5-7 June**  
Year 6 residential trip to Porthpean

# 'Excellence is in Everyone'



**Erin D.** of Nursery for always being polite and friendly at Nursery.

**Lucas F.** of F AM for settling in well to our school.

**Max B.** of F AM for his super sentence writing about Easter.

**Reuben R.** of F CW for perseverance when writing!

**Lily M.** of F CW for settling in well to our school.

**Charlie B.** of 1/2 AP for his amazing dinosaur fact file created independently on the chromebooks.

**Ava G.** of 1/2 AP for her perseverance towards her printing in Art.

**Toby M.** of 1/2 NB for focusing during learning time and persevering with his learning even when it is challenging.

**Aidan G.** of 1/2 NB for focusing and persevering with his Maths learning.

**Arwen T.** of 1/2 CB for her perseverance when creating her dinosaur footprint design 'block'.

**Elodie O.** of 1/2 CB for creating her wonderful dinosaur footprints in Art this week.

**Riley I.** of 1/2 SK for writing a super information text all about dinosaurs.

**Jasmine G.** of 1/2 SK for trying very hard on her spellings and making good progress.

**Emma N.** of 1/2 SK for fantastic reading with growing expression.

**Isaac J.** of 3/4 SH for a fantastic attitude to all of his learning this week.

**Isabel S.** of 3/4 SH for superb effort in all of her learning including the school play.

**Merryn H.** of 3/4 PH for representing the school at county level in cross country and doing us all proud!

**Ethan W.** of 3/4 PH for his imaginative use of language in his 'Great Kapok Tree' story.

**Marcie K.** of 3/4 PH for her well thought-out writing in English this week.

**Bluebell D.** of 3/4 TB for super confidence on stage in the show.

**Hattie W.** of 3/4 TB for super confidence on stage in the show.

**Tilly W.** of 3/4 TB for fantastic enthusiasm for singing in the show.

**Elysia W.** of 3/4 TB for being helpful to her peers.

**Sonny T.** of 5/6 LM for superb perseverance in Maths.

**Jessica P.** of 5/6 LM for fantastic effort and focus in Science.

**Seb H.** of 5/6 GP for great focused Maths learning all week.

**Dylan C.** of 5/6 GP for persevering with his English 'Mayan' folk story this week.

**Renayah M-N.** of 5/6 VJ for excellent focus and listening skills both in English and Maths.

**Destiny C.** of 5/6 VJ for writing an exceptional Mayan Myth with direct speech.

We are starting two new Eco Friendly Gardening Clubs. Foundation, Year 1 and 2 will be on a Monday and Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be on a Tuesday. There are limited spaces so if your child is keen to attend, please pick up a letter from the office when we return after the Easter Holiday. The current Eco-Club members will still remain and will join the Eco-friendly gardening club most weeks.

There is a new **Tennis Club** starting on a Tuesday (first session 23rd April) and will run for five weeks. Tennis coach, Tom Wyman and Mr Hobbs are hoping to see lots of Year 3-6 children signing up for this brilliant new Club. There is a charge being £4.00 per session. Letters are available from the school office if your child is interested in attending. If you wish your child to go but the cost is a barrier, please come and discuss with Mrs Landers.

## After School Clubs - finishing information:

The following Clubs have now finished and will start again after the Easter Holiday:

Activity Club, Mindful Colouring Club, Netball Club, Coding Club, Basketball Club, Eco Club (will become Gardening Club), Drama Club (this Club will not run after Easter as the student teachers have finished), KS1 Homework Club, KS2 Homework Club, Pokemon Club, Chromebook Club (last session today), French Club (last session today) and Hockey (last session today).

The only Clubs running next week are: **Yoga Club, Forces Club, Choir Club, Boys Football Club and Girls Football Club.**

**Plymouth Argyle run their own Clubs timetable so please rely on the application form you completed when enrolling.**

**Children will automatically re-enrol for Clubs in the Summer Term. Please advise if your child no longer wishes to attend a Club so we can update the registers.**

The Foundation trip to the Aquarium on 26th April is showing on ParentPay.

Please ensure full payment is received prior to the trip.

Thank you



A few of our Foundation children visited Asheborough House again this week where they made musical instruments with residents and then performed a song. It is so lovely and interesting to see our children and the residents interacting together.

We need your help...are there any local businesses that would be willing to sponsor our Reception children having a Toothbrush Club? With a sponsor the Brighter Smiles team can provide toothbrushes, toothpaste and storage 'buses' for all children from September. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs Crowley via the school office.



Next week is Autism Awareness week and as a school we will be marking it with a special assembly and various activities. We hope you agree, that this special week is the perfect opportunity to promote awareness and understanding for this often misunderstood condition.

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