

# St Stephens (Saltash) C P School

secretary@ssscp.org.uk

7th June 2019



It was so lovely to welcome the children back on Monday. They were all very happy and it is so nice that they were excited to return. Hopefully the weather will allow us to continue to enjoy the field and outdoor learning environment throughout their last half term. Please can you send the children with coats as this week there have been so many without coats who had to stay in when there were brief showers.

I was very disappointed to be shown the conversation on a local Facebook site which is really critical of our school. I do hate that there is no recognition that there are always two sides to every event and action. Individuals can say whatever they wish whether it is correct or not. I was heartened that there were parents speaking up for us and thank them. To those parents expressing their dissatisfaction, I again say, please don't post such damaging comments. Talk to us and where we cannot agree at least respect that we are doing the best in difficult circumstances. This school is, of course, about results as we are primarily a school tasked with educating children. This is what we should focus on, but we do also extend our role into so much more. We have always felt we are helping families and children in any way we can trying to overcome any barriers that prevent children from succeeding. It is so demoralising for staff who try so hard to meet every child's needs to read such unpleasant comments. Respect really helps. I was working this week with a child who is struggling with 'friends' on social media saying unpleasant things. It really is such a difficult issue which increasingly impacts on the wellbeing of children and adults and our staff. It is funny how the balance never goes in favour of the positives being posted.

On a much more positive note, we were so impressed this week with the opportunity to experience learning with the ambulance service. Mr Salisbury, a grandparent at our school, luckily for us, works for the NHS and offered to help support us in educating children in First Aid and the job of the Ambulance Service. The children were enthralled and gained so much knowledge. I am confident they would all be able to make an emergency call and the older children really made a great start with being able to deliver basic life saving. Mr Salisbury really was a hit and allowed our children to get inside a brand new ambulance. Hopefully something they will never have to do for real.

We also welcomed the RNLI to school to give a safety briefing to the KS1 children. A really important message as we will all be using our beautiful beaches as the summer progresses. The RNLI do a great job and again they do this safety talk for schools free of charge. Thank you RNLI.

It was so great to see how happy and excited our Year 6 children were that their residential week has finally arrived. The staff report that they are having the best trip ever so far! I am sure you will welcome them back very tired this afternoon but that they will have a set of memories that are precious.

Please note that we have added dates to the calendar and that we anticipate providing holiday cover for three days in July - 24th, 25th and 26th. This will be charged at £15 a day and will be a mix of play, craft and cooking activities with school staff and sports activities with coaches. If you wish your child to attend, can you let us know ASAP as I will not confirm with staff until we have enough attending children to cover costs. A half day will be £10.

## Dates for your diary

- 13 June**
- Year 1 and 2 trip to Looe
- 19 June**
- Class photos
- 21 June**
- Year 6 activity day at Duchy College
- 24 June**
- EYFS Fluoride application
- 2 July**
- Year 6 Taster Day at saltash.net
- 3 July**
- Bag2school collection
- 5 July**
- Summer Fair
- 12 July**
- School Reports issued
- Summer/Leavers Discos
- 16 July**
- Year 5/6 Show (Timings TBC)
- 22 July**
- Achievement Assemblies**
- EYFS and KS1
- 9.00am-10.15am
- Years 3 and 4
- 11.00am-12.00pm
- Years 5 and 6
- 1.00pm-2.00pm
- 23 July**
- Last day of term
- 4 September**
- First day back for all



Liam W came to see me this week with one of the biggest smiles I have ever seen. He had written to Prince Harry telling him about his boxing and he received a reply from the Palace! Well done Liam - keep writing.

St Stephens has achieved the **Gold Learner Participation Award!** This is such a huge achievement and we are so proud! The school council and Mrs T Jones have done an amazing job of making sure the council really is a part of decision making in our school and that they represent the children so well. There will be a celebration awards ceremony in the Council Chamber at New County Hall in Truro on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019, and some of the children will be asked to attend. Further details will be sent as soon as possible about this exciting event.

Here are the attendance figures for May. The whole school average for May was 96.3%. The expected percentage for attendance is 96.5%.

The class attendance figures for May were:

5/6 VJ - 96.4%	1/2 CB - 98.8%
5/6 6P - 97.3%	1/2 NB - 97.3%
5/6 LM - 93.3%	1/2 SK - 96.4%
3/4 SH - 97.6%	1/2 AP - 98.4%
3/4 TB - 95.9%	FAM - 93.2%
3/4 PH - 96.6%	FCW - 93.9%

May winners:

1st 1/2 CB, 2nd 1/2 AP, 3rd 3/4 SH

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.

## ICE LOLLY FRIDAY!



Every Friday throughout the last term, the PTFA will be selling ice lollies in the playground at pick-up!



# 'Excellence is in Everyone'



**Lexie P.** of Nursery for excellent manners during Nursery sessions.  
**Jasper W.** of FAM for his brilliant descriptions of shape using their properties.  
**Logan G.** of FAM for his super sentence reading in Phonics!  
**Elsie W.** of FCW for excellent shape knowledge during Maths.  
**Ted H.** of FCW for his kindness towards a child that had hurt themselves.  
**Harry D.** of 1/2 NB for focusing on his learning and concentrating on his handwriting.  
**Eva T.** of 1/2 NB for using conjunctions 'and', 'but', 'because' in her writing. For using other punctuation (!) to show suspense.  
**Sam W.** of 1/2 CB for talking his sentences in English before writing.  
**Arthur H.** of 1/2 CB for his positive and enthusiastic attitude in Phonics.  
**Callum W.** of 1/2 AP for an improved ability to complete his learning independently.  
**Olivia W.** of 1/2 AP for becoming a confident learner excelling in her reading and writing.  
**Lilly C.** of 1/2 SK for excellent general knowledge about the world around us!  
**Alison C.** of 1/2 SK for being a very kind member of our class and super role model.  
**Isaac J.** of 3/4 SH for a wonderfully positive attitude towards his peers and learning.  
**Kyle M.** of 3/4 SH for superb resilience and perseverance in all of his learning!  
**Tallulah S-D.** of 3/4 SH for growing in confidence in all areas of school life.  
**Logan E.** of 3/4 PH for his fantastic attitude towards learning in all lessons this week.  
**Phoebe A.** of 3/4 PH for being a determined and absorbed learner this week.  
**Cody S.** of 3/4 TB for becoming a more resilient learner.  
**Eden S-V.** of 3/4 TB for being more absorbed in her learning.  
**Chloe P.** of 3/4 TB for great focus and application with her learning.  
**Dylan W.** of 5/6 LM for being a fantastic role model to others and an amazing help in class.  
**Holly N.** of 5/6 LM for consistent dedication and focus in all of her learning.  
**Leila T.** of 5/6 GP for perseverance in Maths and consistently challenging herself in English.  
**Gracie M-H.** of 5/6 GP for a positive attitude towards Maths work throughout the week.

**Saltash Town Council are holding the Mayor Choosing Ceremony at the Guildhall on Thursday, 13th June starting at 7.00pm. Part of this ancient ceremony is the new Mayor throwing pennies and fruit from the Guildhall window to local children below which should happen at approximately 7.15pm. All welcome.**

**Forces families get together** - At the end of last term, parents who currently serve or have served in the Forces were invited into school and together with their children had a get together over tea, coffee and cake. It was an enjoyable event, so thank you to all who attended. We will be contacting you with a date of our next meeting for this half term shortly.

**There will be no Story Club on Monday, 10th June Thank you**



How timely that this beautiful poppy was found growing in the bank. This has germinated from the seeds we planted in the remembrance event in November and as this week is the 75 years since D-Day anniversary its appearance is very special.

EYFS and Nursery children would like any old CDs, small clean plastic bottles, paper plates and any decorative materials (sequins, buttons, ribbons etc.) that you are able to donate for their 'Under the Sea' theme day on Tuesday, 11th June. Thank you in advance.



St Stephens has teamed up with Terracycle and Walkers Crisps and become a collection point for crisp packets. For every shipment of recycled crisp packets the school will receive some money which will be donated to our chosen charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind. We really hope that you will support us with this worthy cause. You will find our collection box in the school office.

A big thank you is needed for all of your support over the past term creating Eco-bricks from plastic which cannot be recycled. We have been overwhelmed by the amount of Eco-bricks which we have received so far. Each Eco-brick will shortly be used to create a new surprise item for our outdoor area! Reminder - our Eco-bricks must be created against the correct criteria as we would like to build some long lasting items within school using these. Bottles of different shapes and sizes will make this difficult for us build with. We therefore only ask for two litre bottles which are the same shape as the brand Pepsi.



On 19th May, there was a community litter pick event at Saltmill park where Henry W, Lowenna W, Ella D and Louie D all took part. Well done children and thank you for helping to clean up our environment.



Finn C in 1/2 CB has been doing some amazing work cleaning up areas in Saltash and beaches around Cornwall where he has picked up and safely disposed of fishing nets, wires and plastic rubbish. Finn has bought a picking stick with his pocket money. He has created an Instagram page called 'Our Ocean Buddies' where you can see videos of Finn helping clean up beaches. Well done Finn, you are a fantastic Eco-Warrior!



If anyone is interested in having a stall at this year's **Summer Fair** on Friday, 5th July, please contact [friendsadmin1@ssscp.org.uk](mailto:friendsadmin1@ssscp.org.uk). The cost of a stall is £15.00.

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

*Heather Lenders*  
 Mrs Heather Lenders  
 Headteacher