EXCELLENCE IS IN EVERYONE

ST STEPHENS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Creativity Trust Aspiration Enjoyment Collaboration Kindness

THIS WEEK AT ST STEPHENS SCHOOL

Reminders

Harlyn Class start their swimming lessons this Monday, 14 September. This will run every Monday for 10 weeks.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 September
Harlyn Class start their 10 week swimming lessons every Monday

22 September
Parents evening – Meet the teacher.
(Further information coming soon to ClassDojo)

24 September
Parents evening – Meet the teacher.
(Further information coming soon to ClassDojo)

1 October
Census Day

5 October
Individual and Sibling School Photos
(Further information coming soon to ClassDojo)

15 October
Harvest Festival at St Stephens Church
(Further information coming soon to ClassDojo)

16 October
Halloween Disco

19 October
Harvest Festival at St Stephens Church
(Further information coming soon to ClassDojo)

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been absolutely lovely to **welcome everyone** back to school after the summer holidays. The children (and adults!) have settled in remarkably well and it has been wonderful to see their happy faces, hear their stories and watch them get back into the routines of school life so quickly.

As I am sure many of you will be aware, there is new government guidance regarding **mobile phones** in school. We have a new policy in place and I would really appreciate your support in making sure that we get this right from the outset. All children's mobile phones brought into school will be collected at the start of the day and stored safely in a locked cabinet. This also applies to smart watches.

We are also asking all adults to model the behaviour we expect from our children. Adults will not use mobile phones in front of children and this includes parents and carers whilst on the school premises. If you are using your phone, you will be asked to put it away. This includes Meta glasses. Our recent safeguarding training was, to put it mildly, very intense! Safeguarding is an area that we take extremely seriously and it is important that we continually reflect, refresh our knowledge and make sure that every member of our team understands their responsibilities.

We have welcomed several **new members of staff** to our school this term, and I am delighted to introduce them to you. Mrs Cusack is now working with our Reception children over the lunchtime period. Our youngest children are now eating in their classroom, using chairs and tables that are appropriately sized for them. We also have Miss Kiely, our new lunchtime assistant working in the main hall. Mr Foster has also joined us in Year 4 as a Teaching Assistant. Mr Foster worked with us last year on a flexible basis so we are delighted to welcome him into his new role.

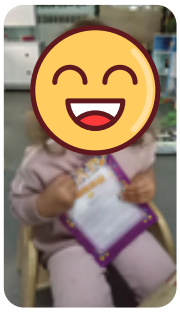
Year 1 and Year 2 children are now be out on the **main playground** at lunchtime alongside the other children. As a community school, we feel there is real value in children of different ages spending time together and so far the feedback has been very positive. The younger children have the opportunity to mix with the wider school community, while there are also quieter spaces available for those children who need somewhere a little calmer. This is currently a trial and we will continue to monitor how it works but so far they are loving it!

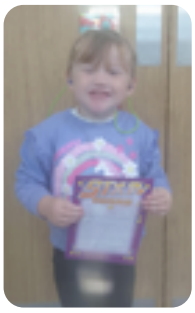
Finally, we are beginning to look at our enrichment programme for the year and it is looking increasingly likely that we will be taking all of our children to the **theatre** once again. If you are thinking about purchasing theatre tickets for your family, please keep this in mind before booking! Miss Hall is currently working on the plans and we will share all the details with you as soon as everything is confirmed.

There is so much to look forward to this year, and I'm really excited about what we can achieve together. Remember, when it's your child's birthday, they can come to school dressed in **Birthday Mufti**. If their birthday falls at the weekend or during a half term, they can celebrate with us by wearing their Birthday Mufti on the Friday before or the Monday after. This is instead of bringing in sweets, giving us all the chance to wish them a very happy birthday and celebrate their special day together!

Mrs Laws

THIS WEEK'S STAR AWARDS GO TO...





Lily T (Nursery) For settling into nursery so we'll and having such a lovely imagination	**Isabelle S (Nursery)** For settling so well into Nursery, being brave and making new friends!	**Caleb G (Polkerris)** For his super number knowledge when counting the stars in his class star jar!
Christopher T (Fistral) For being an excellent role model in class, being respectful of our belongings and fantastic at tidying away.	**Khaine W-S (Carlyon)** For being a positive role model to all children in KS1.	**George G (Pentewan)** For his fantastic creativity and perseverance with his story 'Hooty the Owl'.
Arthur H (Harlyn) For making a fantastic start to Year 3, demonstrating excellent resilience.	**Jasmine A (Portreath)** For being a fantastic role model and consistently demonstrating our school values.	**Charlie S (Treyarnon)** For having a super positive start to the year and for being an exemplory role model.
Ariella J (Coverack) For starting Year 5 ready to learn with a focused attitude and a positive mindset.	**Poppy A-M (Mullion)** For being a determined and confident learner, who has settled in really well.	**Orla B (Sennen)** For her positive attitude to all areas of school life and working well collaboratively.
Henry B (Kennack) For being a positive role model by working cooperatively and asking for support when needed.	Our Star Awards are looking a little different this year! We love celebrating the amazing achievements our children make both in and outside of school, and we have been thrilled to see so many wonderful achievements shared in our weekly Celebration Assemblies. With 31 Star Awards to present each week, assemblies were becoming quite long for the children. Therefore, each class will now present **one Star Award each week** to keep them enjoyable and engaging,	

Laura Hodgson - Chair of Govenors

I joined the governing body at St Stephens in autumn 2021 and am proud to currently serve as Chair of Governors. My professional background is in the defence engineering sector following a 20 year career in the Royal Navy. Beyond my professional life, I enjoy spending time with my husband and teenage twins, both former St Stephens pupils from EYFS to Year 6, and exploring local walks with our dog. I'm Youth Secretary at Saltash Rugby Club and a committed supporter of the club's teams. During the summer months cricket takes centre stage; I play for the Saltash Ladies softball team and umpire matches for several local sides. Being part of the St Stephens community is hugely rewarding and it is a great privilege to work alongside our outstanding governors, Senior Leadership Team and the wider school community to support St Stephens' development and its vision of achieveing the best possible outcomes for every child.

SHOUT OUTS!

A big well done to Daisy, who received her Learn to Ride award from Bikeability; Frankie, who achieved her Level 1 in Aero Gymnastics; Theo, who passed his Grade 1 Piano Exam; and Riley-Anne, who received a badge for Morris dancing! What a talented bunch they are!

[redacted]

LET'S LEARN CORNISH!

' artydh' means artist

ANY OTHER BUSINESS & HOUSEKEEPING:

If your child is **absent from school for any reason**, please call the school **before 9.00am every day of absence**, leaving a message on the absence line (01752 843561)

Cornwall council are issuing Penalty Notices for unauthorised absences (including holidays) during term time. There is an information booklet on our website: Parents/Attendance.