



'Inspiring excellence-achieving together'

St. Stephen's Infant School

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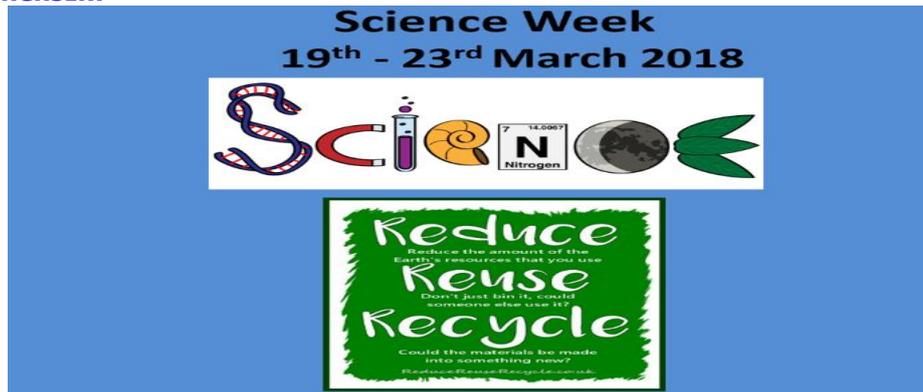
Email: enquiries@ststephensinf.org.uk

Website: www.ststephensinf.org.uk

Twitter: @StStephensInf

Headteacher: Mr T Ruck

Deputy Headteacher: Mr J Doyle



Letter 2 Term 4 2018 - 14/3/18

Dear Parents/Carers,

Mrs Cornelius (Science Subject Leader) and the rest of the staff are organising 'Science Week' for 19th- 23rd March (next week!)

The children will take part in a range of Science-themed learning opportunities with a focus on **'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'**.

Mrs Cornelius has invited Peter from the 'Young People's Trust for the Environment' to visit the school on Monday 19th March. Peter will be discussing the importance of caring for the environment with the children. Please look out for photos etc on Class Pages of the school website and our Facebook page.



Book Swap

As part of **Science Week** we invite you to recycle some of the books your children no longer read. Please send the books into school on **Monday 19th and/or Tuesday 20th March**. If your child donates a book they will be able to visit the hall on **Wednesday 21st March** to swap it for a 'new' book.

If you have more than one book you would like to recycle please send them into school with your child. We will make sure they go to a good home!

Please make sure books are in good condition and suitable for children aged 4-9 years old.





New System for Term 4 Parents' Evenings

Monday 19th March 2018 – 4.30-7pm & Thursday 22nd March 2018 - 3.30-6pm

I hope you have made an appointment to see your child's classteacher.

Please note that all classteachers will be carrying out the parents' evening meetings in the hall – not in the classrooms. Please make sure you are in the hall for your appointment at the correct time. We have allocated 10 minutes/appointment and classteachers will time each slot to ensure appointments do not overrun.

Please visit your child's class to look through some of their learning before your appointment in the hall.

Out of School Club will be based in the Y1 block so Y1 children's learning will be in one of the Y2 classes:

Zog children's learning will be in Pegasus Class

Elmer children's learning will be in Leo Class

Gruffalo children's learning will be in Draco Class.

You are welcome to take your child's learning into the hall when you meet the classteacher.

We have recently updated our Marking policy and you can read it by visiting the 'Policies' page of our website:

<http://www.ststephensinf.org.uk/our-school-1/policies>

A copy of the coding we use to mark children's learning is set out towards the end of this newsletter.

We have made a decision to stop writing lengthy comments in children's books as research has shown they have little impact on children's progress. We prefer to maximise 'face to face' feedback opportunities and give the children time to respond ASAP. Please read the policy for more info.

Please look out for some of our governors who will be at Parents' Evenings to meet and greet you! Our governors wear fluorescent orange lanyards/badges so they are easy to spot! Please take the time to talk with them and complete the **Parent View** questionnaire.

Y1 and Y2 Midyear Reports

A copy of your child's midyear report will be sent home this Friday 16th March. You will be able to discuss the report during your Parent Evening appointment.

Friends Events during Term 4:

Bedtime Story session – Thursday 15th March 6-7pm

Easter Colouring Competition – please send your child's entry, along with the 50p, into school by Wednesday 21st March. We will announce the boy and girl winner from each class during assembly on Friday 23rd March 2018.





Class Assemblies

Class Assembly is an opportunity for the children to share some of their learning with you.

Class Assembly is on a **Friday from 9.15-9.45am in the hall.**

It is also a chance for you to see who has been nominated as Star Learners and Lunchtime Stars for that week. Please come along to your child's Class Assembly:

Term 4 – Y2	Class
9 March 2018	Leo
16 March 2018	Pegasus
23 March 2018	Draco
Term 5 – Y1	Class
20 April 2018	Gruffalo
27 April 2018	Elmer
4 May 2018	Zog
Term 6 -Reception	Class
15 June 2018	Yellow
22 June 2018	Red
29 June 2018	Blue



Reading At Home Challenge!

'Research shows that involvement in your child's reading and learning is more important than anything else in helping them to fulfil their potential.'

[Family Reading Campaign]

We hope you enjoyed the Reading at Home Challenge.

The children who read at least 8 times over the 14 days have not only improved their reading but have also received a magic bookmark!

Keep it up!



Let's get Sparty for Sport Relief!

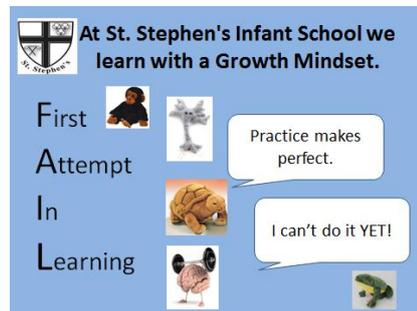
Sports Relief is on Friday 23rd March 2018 we will be having a **non-uniform day** to raise money for the charity. Children can come dressed as their favourite sports star or wear their sporty clothing. Please ensure your child is wearing suitable warm clothing as they will be going out to play. We would like to ask for a £1 donation (or any other amount) to be handed to the class teacher on the day of the event. Many thanks for your support!

Mrs Otter (Charity/Community Cohesion Leader)





Your chance to find out more about Growth Mindset @ SSIS



Please book a place at the Friends' **Bedtime Story session on Thursday 15th March 6-7pm**. While your child(ren) are listening to bedtime stories read by our staff you can enjoy some refreshments in the hall.

I will be using this time to share how we have been supporting your child to learn in a Growth Mindset way. Please come along!!!!

School Closure

If the school needs to close due to snow etc we will contact you by text as soon as the decision is made. This is usually by 7.30am. Please also check the South Gloucestershire website www.southglos.gov.uk/, Radio Bristol and/or Heart Radio and local TV news for details.

Social Media policy

Please read through the attached excerpt from our Social Media policy. It clearly states that if any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in St Stephen's Infant or Junior School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site. If you become aware that a parent/carer is misusing Social Media in this way please let me know. Thank you.

The full policy can be found on the 'Policies' page of our website.

<http://www.ststephensinf.org.uk/our-school-1/policies>

'Safer Strangers and Safer Buildings Code'.

In assembly on Monday March 12th Mr Ruck introduced the children to the 'Safer Strangers and Safer Buildings Code'. The phrase 'Stranger Danger' can make children fearful of all strangers. This means that if they get lost or feel unsafe or are approached by a stranger, they would not know who they could turn to for help. The phrase 'Safer Strangers, Safer Buildings' is a positive alternative, giving children an immediate strategy to use, as part of their growing understanding of stranger awareness. A safer stranger is a person who is working at their job which helps people. Safer strangers will usually be wearing a uniform. Safer strangers could be police officers, police community support officers, traffic wardens, shopkeepers, check-out assistants, paramedics and others. Safer buildings could be banks, post offices, libraries, medical centres, shops, supermarkets, leisure centres and others. You can read the code and view the assembly PowerPoint by visiting the Safeguarding page of our website:

<http://ststephensinf.schooljotter2.com/our-sch.../safeguarding>





Running For Alex.

I will be running the London Marathon on April 22nd 2018 in memory of
Alexandra (Alex) Louise Couston.

Alex was partner to Conrad Hutton and was mum to their three amazing daughters - Scarlett,
Mabel and Iris. [Pictured above]

Conrad was Deputy Headteacher at St Stephen's Infant School from September 2007 to July 2013
and is now Headteacher at Trinity CE Primary School in Acton Turville.

Alex sadly passed away on 12th July 2017 after a long and brave battle with Leukaemia.

I will be running to raise money for Ward 703 of the Bristol Haematology and Oncology Centre
(BHOC) where Alex was cared for. The money raised will help purchase much needed equipment
to benefit patients, staff and relatives at BHOC.

Any donation made in Alex's memory will be ring-fenced for the chosen ward and cause, in line
with the family's wishes.

If you would like to make a donation please click on this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/Tim-Ruck>

Alternatively, you can send a donation into the office.

All donations much appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,
Tim Ruck
Headteacher





St Stephen's Infant School Marking Methods and Symbols

All marking and comments need to be written clearly and neatly in black or blue ink.

Work needs to be dated – this can be on stickers, sheets, handwritten etc

 A wiggly line is used to show that a child needs to think about this aspect of their work.

Correct work is ticked. ✓

Smiley face symbols, stars, stickers etc are used to indicate praise. 
Elli character stickers are used to acknowledge the specific Elli learning skills displayed by the child. E.g. Making links in their learning -> Spider

Use a sad face symbol  to show when work is unacceptable in terms of presentation and/or effort.

 Triangle symbol at the end of the work indicates Target/Development point for the child.

Letter shorthand to support marking process:

I = Independent work – child has completed this learning independently.

D= Work discussed in the presence of the child. [Verbal feedback]

S= Support given to child during the work. (May refer to a small section of the work indicate with brackets if this is the case.)

G= Guided session. Learning completed as part of a group guided by a classteacher or teaching assistant.

PS= Peer support – children have supported each other with this learning

O = Child marked their own work or 'peer' marking

FAIL → First Attempt In Learning

SAIL → Second Attempt In Learning

NY – Not (achieved) yet.....

When stickers showing the learning intention/focus are used the teacher and/or child may tick boxes next to relevant success criteria when achieved.





Parents/Carers @ St. Stephen's Infant & Junior Schools Inappropriate use of Social Network Sites

Social media websites are being used increasingly to fuel campaigns and complaints against schools, Headteachers, school staff, and in some cases other parents/pupils.

The Governors of St Stephen's Infant and Junior Schools consider the use of social media websites being used in this way as unacceptable and not in the best interests of the children or the whole school community.

Any concerns you may have must be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the class teacher, the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.

In the event that any pupil or parent/carer of a child/ren being educated in St Stephen's Infant or Junior School is found to be posting libellous or defamatory comments on Facebook or other social network sites, they will be reported to the appropriate 'report abuse' section of the network site.

All social network sites have clear rules about the content which can be posted on the site and they provide robust mechanisms to report contact or activity which breaches this. The school will also expect that any parent/carer or pupil removes such comments immediately.

In serious cases the school will also consider its legal options to deal with any such misuse of social networking and other sites. Additionally, and perhaps more importantly is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by one child or a parent to publicly humiliate another by inappropriate social network entry. We will take and deal with this as a serious incident of school bullying.

Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.

We would expect that parents/carers would:

- make all persons responsible for collecting children aware of this policy
- report to the school any 'unacceptable' use of social media websites related to St. Stephen's Infant or Junior Schools

Thank you for your cooperation.

Governors of St. Stephen's Infant and Junior Schools.





Parent/Carer Dates- Term 4, 2017-2018

Please check the school website 'News' tab to view Newsletters, Calendar and Recent Events.

<http://www.ststephensinf.org.uk/news>

Week 1:	
Thursday 22 February	- 1.20pm School Council – last meeting for Terms 1, 2, 3 Reps on the bus.
Thursday 22 February	- Scholastic Bookfair – 3.10-3.45pm in the hall.
Friday 23 February	- Scholastic Bookfair – 3.10-3.45pm in the hall.
Week 2: School Visits	
Monday 26 February	- Reading at Home Challenge starts.
Monday 26 February	- Parents' Evening lists go up this morning before school – all classes
Monday 26 February	- Scholastic Bookfair – 3.10-3.45pm in the hall.
Monday 26 February	- Year 1 trip to Zoo
Tuesday 27 February	- Scholastic Bookfair – 3.10-3.45pm in the hall.
Wednesday 28 February	- Scholastic Bookfair – 3.10-3.45pm in the hall.
Thursday 1 March	- World Book Day. Children/staff can dress up as a book character.
Thursday 1 March	- Hindu New Year – Holi & St David's Day
Friday 2 March	- Hindu New Year - Holi
Friday 2 March	- Draco Class Assembly – 9.15am Draco Parents/Carers welcome.
Week 3: School Visits	
Monday 5 March	- Gym Competition – Majestics
Tuesday 6 March	- 1.50pm School Council – first meeting for Terms 4, 5, 6 Reps on the bus.
Tuesday 6 March	- Zumba Club 3.15 – 4.15pm 1/5 – hall needed
Tuesday 6 March	- Infant Agility – Pegasus and Draco – hall needed
Wednesday 7 March	- Infant Agility – Leo and Elmer – hall needed
Friday 9 March	- Leo Class Assembly 9.15am Leo Parents/Carers welcome.
Friday 9 March	- Mother's Day Wrap in Old Staffroom from 9am
Sunday 11 March	- Mother's Day
Sunday 11 March	- Reading at Home Challenge ends
Week 4:	
Tuesday 13 March	- Y2 trip to Kingswood Heritage Museum
Tuesday 13 March	- Zumba Club 3.15 – 4.15pm 2/5 – hall needed
Tuesday 13 March	- Infant Agility – Zog and Gruffalo – hall needed
Thursday 15 March	- Bedtime Stories (Friends) 6-7pm
Friday 16 March	- Pegasus Class Assembly 9.15am – Pegasus Parents/Carers welcome.
Friday 16 March	- KS1 Midyear Reports sent home
Saturday 17 March	- St Patrick's Day
Week 5: SCIENCE WEEK	
Monday 19 March	- Please send in Book Swap books.
Monday 19 March	- Whole school Parents' Evening 4.30pm – 7pm
Monday 19 March	- Peter from 'Young People's Trust for the Environment' – assembly and year group talks
Tuesday 20 March	- Please send in Book Swap books.
Tuesday 20 March	- Zumba Club 3.15 – 4.15pm 3/5 – hall needed
Wednesday 21 March	- Book Swap
Thursday 22 March	- 1.50pm School Council – Terms 4, 5, 6 Reps on the bus.
Thursday 22 March	- Whole school Parents' Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
Friday 23 March	- Sports Relief – children/staff can wear sporty clothes to school.
Friday 23 March	- Winners of Friends' Easter Colouring Competition announced in Celebration Assembly.
Friday 23 March	- Last day of Term 4
Term 5 starts on Monday 9th April 2018 and ends on Friday 25th May 2018.	
Remaining INSET day: The Infant School's 5th and final INSET day of this academic year will be on Monday 4th June 2018.	

