



St. Stephen's School  
and Children's Centre  
*Learning for life*

## Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 3

6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term, I hope that you have had a peaceful and restful break.

**THE STAFF OF ST STEPHEN'S JOIN ME IN WISHING ALL OUR FAMILIES A  
HAPPY, SAFE, VERY PEACEFUL AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!**

I am extremely proud that the school has remained in the Top 10 State Primary Schools in the Country as published in the Sunday Times in November at No 4. Things like this just don't happen. They are a result of exceptional effort and the St Stephen's community working at the peak of their abilities. Clearly though, at the heart is the school that continues to help your children become confident learners who achieve, and exceed their potential in their time at St Stephen's. It's a very proud moment for the dedicated and talented team.

For your children to be successful we need to work together as a team, we expect that all children will attend school regularly, will read at home every day, as well as completing all Home learning activities! For your part, you will expect me to do my very best to ensure that your child has a first rate educational experience. If you wish to speak to me about any issues that concern you, you will find me on the school gate most days at the start and end of the school day. Further to this, contact me at the email at the end of this newsletter.

Finally, I feel so overwhelmed, humbled and proud to be in the Queen's New Year's honours list for services to education. A big thank you to my incredibly hard working staff team across the federation who always want the best and rise to the challenge! I have superb deputies an outstanding school business manager and dedicated governors.

A special thank you has to be to my mum who continues to be true inspiration.

I feel truly blessed

With much respect

*Ms. Neena Lall OBE*  
Headteacher



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS- Mr Shashankar Jana

At first, I wish all a very happy new year.

It is with immense pride and happiness; I would like to announce that our beloved headteacher has been awarded an OBE for her services to education in 2019 honour list. I would like to extend our hearty wishes and congratulations on behalf of the school governors and parents. Ms. Neena Lall's Leadership, dedication, hard work and determination to make a difference in every child's life has been recognised with the greatest honour. Once again a sincere congratulations to her from all of us.

On the academic front, our children followed their role model head teacher and worked hard to achieve another year of excellent results. For the third year, our school is at the top of the school league tables. We are happy to see the great inspiration and motivation given by all the teachers and staff that makes it possible. Our children have displayed their talents and continue to utilise the many wonderful opportunities here at St. Stephen's. As Governors, we meet the amazing parents, enthusiastic pupils and the whole school community embracing every opportunity.

As Governors, we pledge to do our best to support the school in this New Year. We wish all our students, parents and staff members a successful year to come.

Happy New Year 2020!!!

## PROJECT BOOKS

Over the half term holiday the children in Year 1 to Year 6 were set the task of making a Project Book, for a country they studied during One World Week. We were highly impressed with the quality of work in the Project books and choosing one winner from each class was very difficult. The winning books we chose all had a wide range of recording eg, drawing, painting, collage, writing and computing. The books were displayed in the school entrance and we hope you enjoyed looking at the excellent work. The winners from each class are below:

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
1LP - Samah Ali 1TB- Ismaeel Islam 1EW- Idrees Sarwar	2SH- Shaheem Salavudeen 2MJ- Jesse holmes 2RF- Simona Malaskeviciute	3CP- Usman Feroz 3DT- Muhammed Abdullah Yusuf 3RM- Ibrahim Qureshi	4ZK- Alisha Ali 4AQ- Iqra Anwar 4LT- Aisha Amdavadi	5JW- Maja Cwalinska 5EH- Hafsa Abdul Quddus 5HA- Zainab Hussein	6EW- Tahira Rahman 6TN- Rayan Pracchya

## JOY CUP

'THE JOY CUP' is awarded to a member of each class each term.

The joy cup is awarded to those children who have a joy for coming to school and embrace all that St Stephen's has to offer.

I would like to congratulate the joy cup winners for the Autumn Term 2019.

Autumn 2019	RED-Sadia Rawza RIN-Zayan Vohra RMW-Harsh na Choudhari	1TB-Manahil Afzal 1EW-Diya Patel 1LP-Maryam Patel	2SH- Aashir Nazir 2RF- Amelia Rahman 2MW- Adiyam Talukder	3DT-Abuha Abhbaker 3CP- Umar yunus 3RM- Nihad Munshil Sayed	4LT-Sabit A Sahab 4AQ-Qasim Abbas 4ZK-Amani Mohammed	5EH-Yusuf Ghauri 5HA-Sepo Ngenda 5JW-Kazi Kabir	6NG-Rayan Pracchya 6EW-Suhana Ali
----------------	---	--	--	--	---	--	--

## Article 12 Group Pupil Survey

### Pupil Survey

The Article 12 Group surveyed every pupil in the school to find out their views, what they enjoy at St. Stephens and about how their experiences at St Stephens could be made even better. This process helps the school to fulfil Article 12 of the Convention of the Rights of the Child: every child has the right to give their opinion, and for adults to take it seriously.

The Article 12 group asked the children about a range of topics, such as their favourite subjects, whether they share their ideas in class, whether they watch the news and if they think it is important that children have play and relaxation time.

Excitingly, the Article 12 group also had the opportunity to feedback their findings to the Leadership team, and discuss ideas for how they can use the children's views.

### What did they find out?

The survey revealed some interesting facts about the children.

Out of the 547 pupils surveyed:

-351 children said that they watched the news and 196 children said that they didn't watch the news.

We think that it is really important that children watch the news to understand what is happening around the world. This will help them to understand Global issues so that they can increase their general knowledge and be able to offer their opinions and thoughts about what is in the news.

Here are some links for news reports for children:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/news/watch\\_newsround](https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/news/watch_newsround)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c40rjmqdlljt/children>

-The show showed that the most popular subjects in school are PE, Computing and Maths.

When they asked the children if they shared their ideas in class 266 children said everyday and 249 children said sometimes. We would like all the children to feel confident enough to be able to share their ideas at both school and home. Lastly, when we asked the children do you think it is important that children have a right to play and rest? (Article 31) 100% of the children said 'Yes'.

### Actions

As a result of the survey, the Article 12 members have been working hard to generate ideas for how we can improve the school. To ensure children share their ideas and that no one feels lonely in the playground. In addition, the teachers will plan for the children to watch the daily news in school and set homework that ensures all children watch the news at home.

## Importance of water

Water is extremely important for children as it effects mental and physical development at this crucial stage in life. Insufficient water and dehydration makes it difficult for children to concentrate at school.

There is some evidence that children who drink extra water perform better in attention and memory tests.

### How much water should children drink?

- 1-8 years old: 4 cups of water/day
- 9-13 years old: 8 cups of water/day

### Tips to encourage proper hydration

- As St Stephen's is aware of the impact of single use plastic we encourage children from Nursery to Year 6 to use a reusable water bottle to encourage drinking water
- Mark lines on your child's water bottle to show how much they should drink by a certain time
- Avoid soft drinks and limit access to juices
- Be a good example and drink water throughout the day

## FUNDRAISERS

- Harvest Donations of food were gratefully received by Community Links and the Salvation Army
- We raised funds for the Poppy Appeal- we are still awaiting final confirmation of the amount raised
- Macmillan Coffee Morning : £839
- Save the Children- Christmas Jumper Day-£840
- Hamper and Raffle for United World Schools : £2007
- Christmas Disco : £2546
- The staff raised £802 for the Magpie project

Thank you for all your donations to these worthwhile causes.

## SCHOOL FUND ACCOUNT:

- United World Schools donations : £3000.00
- New school playground Gymnasium : £5960.00
- Current Balance£ 2064.66

## CURRICULUM

We continue to develop a broad and balanced curriculum. We work hard to revise and recap the learning at all times to ensure that the children remember the learning, ensuring that they develop their long term memory. We have specialist teachers for music, PE, computing and Spanish, plus some year groups have a specialist art teacher. Alongside this, we continue a program of themed weeks and events that go beyond the national curriculum which are dotted at different points of the year. We have already held a successful One World Theme Week with the introduction of project books to showcase research skills and presentation. As always, we continue to practise your children's basic skills: number bonds, times-tables, drawing, colouring, cutting, spellings etc.

Subject	Coordinator	Headline
Computing	Rebekah/ Shabana	To embed embed online safety across the curriculum across the curriculum.
RE	Isabelle	To enrich the R.E. curriculum through high level educational visits.
Art & Design	Donna	To support and encourage children so that they are able to articulate clearly, discuss and critique their artwork.
Engineering	Halama	To enrich the curriculum with the RRSA Global Goals and Sustainability.
History	Amina	To have an understanding of primary and secondary sources.
Geography	Amina	To have geographical knowledge for map skills.
PE	Ray	To ensure that fitness is explicitly incorporated into the curriculum.
Music	Esther	All ch'n to be able to sing confidently in a range of genres.
PHSE	Ruth	To ensure Pupil Voice is integrated into both PSHE and RRSA through pupil led student council and the RRSA steering group.
Spanish	Jo/ Rupert	To introduce the Spanish language curriculum in KS2.
Science	Halama	To develop pre and post assessment for learning strategy for the science units.
Spoken Language	Eva	To embed, monitor and evaluate Show and Teach across KS1 and KS2.

## SAFEGUARDING

**Road Safety:** The roads outside our school are particularly busy at the start and end of the school day. Please ensure your children are kept safe during these times.

- When crossing the road, it is important that both you and your children look to see whether there are vehicles approaching before stepping into the road.
- If you are dropping your child off, please do not park outside the school gates and ensure your car has fully stopped before your child opens the car door. We are seeing children leaving slow moving vehicles and this is obviously very dangerous.
- May I also remind you of the importance of seat belts. All children must wear a seat belt when travelling in a car.

## RSE Update

We are continuing to work closely with the Borough regarding our approach to the RSHE framework for implementation in September 2020. The Leadership team are working hard to ensure that our curriculum fits the needs and developmental stages of our pupils while appreciating our standing within the local community. As the year progresses, you will be kept fully updated of any consultation and information sessions that we will be offering.

## POLITE REMINDER

It is important for all members of the public and our staff to be treated with courtesy and respect. We recently have received a number of complaints around the following.

Please ensure that at the beginning and end of the day:

- avoid chatting in groups on the road
- leaning against front walls of surrounding houses
- talking loudly on mobile phones
- littering

We feel sure that you will understand that proper behaviour is absolutely necessary for our school community .

## CONTACT US

St Stephen's Schools and Children's Centre, Whitfield Road, London E6 1AS

Head Teacher: Ms Neena Lall

[neena.lall@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk](mailto:neena.lall@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk)

### Primary School

Tel: 020 8472 7575

Email: [info@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-stephens-primary.org.uk](http://www.st-stephens-primary.org.uk)

### Nursery School

Tel 020 8586 0147

Email: [childrenscentre@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk](mailto:childrenscentre@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-stephens-nurserychildrenscentre.org.uk](http://www.st-stephens-nurserychildrenscentre.org.uk)

Federated Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Fozia Ramzan <a href="mailto:fozia.ramzan@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk">fozia.ramzan@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk</a>	Nursery Deputy Head Teacher Ms Janet Patterson <a href="mailto:janet.patterson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk">janet.patterson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk</a>	Primary Deputy Head Teacher Mrs Jenna Chapman <a href="mailto:jenna.chapman@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk">jenna.chapman@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk</a>	Primary Deputy Head Teacher Ms Georgia Dawson <a href="mailto:georgia.dawson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk">georgia.dawson@st-stephens.newham.sch.uk</a>
--	--	---	---

This newsletter is also available on the school website.



**SPRING TERM DATES 2020****JANUARY 2020**

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Primary pupils return
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January-16 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 4 swimming for 2 weeks
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3-Parent Consultation/HT Q & A3.30pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Arvon Writing Residential for Year 6-1 week
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2-Parent Consultation/HT Q & A3.30pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Daycare Parent Meeting @5pm
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Primary Parents evening 2pm-7.30pm Nursery and Reception Classes Consultation Day 9am-7.30pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 1 Forest Visits
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 1-Parent Consultation/HT Q & A3.30pm
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 4 visit to Tate Britain
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Children's Centre Health Event
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 SATs Meeting at 3.30pm

**FEBRUARY 2020**

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Class Forest Visits
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	BSiL Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 4 and 4 Bikeability
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	SAFER INTERNET DAY
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2 Science Museum Visit
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Year R-Parent Consultation/HT Q & A3.30pm

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February-Half Term holiday - School closes at 12.45 pm  
Children's Centre and Day care will remain open.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February -School restarts at 8:45 am

I will inform you of any additional dates and events that may be set during the term.

