



Newsletter 2

15th September 2017

St Stephen's CEVA Primary School

Happy Friday!

It has been lovely to welcome our new Reception children to school this week, seeing new friendships being made, and seeing their growing confidence as they get to know their adults and surroundings. It will be a real privilege to share their primary school journey with them from this point onwards and we are all looking forward to watching them grow, learn and make happy memories.

2016-17 End of Year Headlines... As you will probably be aware, although we frequently assess children in all year groups, there are key assessment points at which this data is collected nationally. This will be published in more detail on our website, but for now here are the headlines for July 2017. For each figure I have indicated whether this is a decrease (-), an increase (+) or is in line with (=) 2016 data.

Key Stage 1 (Year 2)			Key Stage 2 (Year 6)		
Children meeting "expected standard"			Children meeting "expected standard"		
	St Stephen's	National		St Stephen's	National
Reading	82% +	76%	Reading	93% +	71%
Writing	70% +	68%	Writing	88% +	76%
Maths	77% +	75%	SPAG*	86% =	77%
Reception:			Maths	82% +	75%
Children achieving "Good Level of Development"			R, W, M combined	79% +	61%
	St Stephen's	National			
	92% +	71%	(*SPAG = Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)		

While I am delighted with these figures, we are always striving to improve and are looking closely at the rates of progress our children make. This is where we will continue to focus our school development work this year and I will share the new School Development Plan with you shortly.

Picking up from clubs... Please can I remind you that if you are picking your child up from our After School Care Club, you should use the hall door just inside the gate towards the Rectory and for enrichment clubs (eg sports) please use the side gate next to the Reception classrooms. Thank you.

Send A Cow... Please do take a minute to read Reverend Philip's beautiful piece overleaf. It really will ease you into the weekend with a smile on your face. More news about Send A Cow coming soon...!

That's it from me, have a great weekend. Andy Bowman

Reception 2018 Open Days....

The time has come round again when we start thinking about next year's Reception intake. As applications are now open on the B&NES website, we have arranged the following Open Days for prospective parents over the coming months:-

- Monday 18th September
- Tuesday 31st October
- Friday 10th November
- Thursday 23rd November
- Tuesday 9th January

All visits are from 9.15 to 10.15 am.

If you or any of your friends or family has a child due to start in Reception next year, please feel free to pass on this information and if anyone would like to attend one of the open days, please let us know and we will book you in.

Clubs.....

If your child is unable to attend an after school club for any reason, please fill in a pink slip (these can be found on the carousel in reception) or you can e-mail me directly at:

asc.@st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk

This way we know your child is safe and accounted for.

With thanks
Liz Flood

Love

Courage

Creativity

Joy



MESSAGE FROM REVDS PHILIP & DEBBIE.....

Happy New (Academic) Year! Hope your summer was full of good things. This Sunday is **SCRUFFY CHURCH, 4pm in the Centre**. A great chance to enjoy songs, stories and being together.

We had a great Collective Worship this week in which we showed pictures of **Sebahive**. You remember that she is the cow that we raised money for to name and send to Rwanda with Send A Cow. Sebahive (See-ba for short, See-ba-HEE-vay for long) is now with a family, the mother of which is called Stephanie, which was one of our possible names! We've had a letter from Send A Cow which describes Stephanie's delight that the name is one that means so much to her. Here are some extracts from Stephanie:

"Before [Sebahive] life was not that easy. Sometimes we spent the day without a meal and getting other basic needs was very difficult. Finding money for other things the family needed was difficult. We grew vegetables, beans, sorghum and savory banana. The yield was poor and from our land of 50m by 100m we would get a sack or less. We didn't grow enough to sell and our meals were not constant – sometimes we managed two meals in a day, and some days we couldn't find anything to eat."

"We were given training in fodder management, shed construction and later livestock management. When I heard we would get a cow I was very happy to have a cow. I was very happy in my heart. It was a dancing day – it was joyful and we danced a lot because of the cow. I have manure and I will use it on the next harvest and when I do I know it will increase my yields. When the cow becomes pregnant and gives birth I will pass on and I will use money from milk and future offspring to improve my house."

"I have already seen a big change because of Send a Cow. I used to cook cassava with beans and had no money for vegetables. If I wanted cabbage I had to go to market and buy it, but since I had no money I could not buy it anyway. Now I am able to grow them and they are fresh. Eating vegetables has made me feel better and healthier. I eat twice a day every day – in dry season / during long droughts it might affect what I can eat [she is waiting for rains to have more vegetables] but at least I get two meals a day now."

"I have also helped make kitchen gardens for two other people and given them amaranthus seedlings. I felt happy to be able to extend the benefits to other people, even if they don't have a cow they can benefit from other things."

"Please thank the person who donated this cow to me – thank them for the good thing they have done."

Coming up in September

20th – PTA Wine & Cheese Evening 7pm

25th - EYFS stay to lunch

25th – PERFORM Drama Phase 1

26th - Foundation Stage Reading Evening 6pm-7pm

29th - Harvest Festival in Church 9.45am

***Items in bold are new to the list**

Mathletics Homework Information: Years 2-6.....

Some people have been wondering how the Mathletics Certificates work. I hope this information answers any questions.

To receive a bronze certificate you need to achieve 1000 points. The homework your teacher sets will not be enough to get a bronze. Your child will have to practise other activities and play more maths games to build their points.

Mathletics points are reset back to zero on Sundays at 8pm. Therefore your child will need to complete their homework before this time if they are working towards a certificate. There is also a timer on the website that shows you when the points will be reset. Who will get their names in next week's newsletter...?

WINE & CHEESE EVENING PTA meeting!.....

Wednesday 20th September 7pm at St Stephen's School, room tbc

ALL WELCOME!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sarah Brooks (India and Toby's Mum)

PTA Chair

Somer Valley Walking Festival....15th, 16th & 17th September. All walks are free including a family friendly treasure hunt which will lead you to Midsomer Norton Train Station where The Somerset & Dorset Railway Heritage Trust will be hosting one of their many open days. So join us for some free, fun activities and even a little ride on a steam train.