



ST. STEPHEN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

*We Model What We Value*

School News

May 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been the busiest, shortest term that we can remember! We have crammed 6 weeks into 4 weeks and 3 days, which has meant it has been a whirlwind! We have had SATs tests in Year 6, CAT tests in Year 5, as well as a fantastic Maths meeting where Miss Russell and Mrs Lim modelled White Rose Maths to a group of about 100 adults and children in the hall. It was fabulous to see so many parents and children engaging and working together in something we are passionate about- MATHS! Children have been very positive about the changes to the menu, with the Salad bar being a huge success along with the noodles and burgers! Next term we have the Year 6 production to look forward to, along with Sports day and some class assemblies. It's going to be a busy term. Wishing you a lovely half term holiday.

**Laura Cutts and Sarah Heaney Co Headteachers**



A huge well done to our Year 6 children who completed all their SATS exams last week. It is a stressful week for children and adults and they all did brilliantly. The rest of the school were extremely supportive sharing their classrooms and being very flexible in their day! Thank you to all the staff who supported and a very large shout out to Miss Williams who has planned this meticulously. Only one more term before we say goodbye to our Year 6's and welcome our new Year 3's.



We would like to thank our parent readers who are coming into school regularly. We have 8 parent readers, and between them they are managing to see nearly 100 children each week. The difference they have made to the children's reading has been very noticeable. We really appreciate them giving up their time.

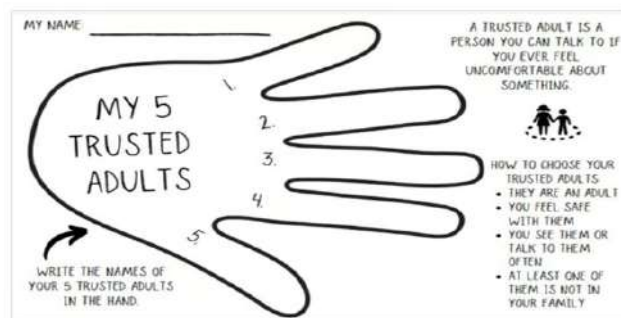
## SAFEGUARDING



Mrs Heaney planned a pupil voice session across the whole school to find out how children feel about safety in the school, their voices and views. This is really useful in ensuring that we can address any areas of development and find out what concerns and worries the children. Overwhelmingly a large proportion of children reported that they felt safe in school, whilst giving us ideas to improve! A really important aspect of this was talking to the children about having trusted adults at home and at school. We were delighted that so many of the children felt that they could identify these in school:

Year 3 : 97%  
Year 4: 91%  
Year 5: 93%

Talking about trusted adults outside of school is really important too. You might like to use the activity below to find out who



If you ever need to speak to a DSL about a safeguarding worry you have for your child, please let us know. Someone will always be here to listen.



# National Nurturing School Award 2025

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the National Nurturing School Award! This is a very prestigious award that is the culmination of three years of work within the school. It recognises the support we have across the whole school in terms of pupil's social, emotional and mental health and how this is part of our school culture. The application process is rigorous and evidence based, the assessor spoke to pupils, staff, parents and trustees, as well as reviewing a significant body of work.

The principles and ethos of Nurture is something that we will continue to grow throughout the next few years. We want to ensure that Nurture is woven throughout our curriculum and the children's daily lives. Our next steps are to include more parent outreach opportunities as well as introducing more specific nurture focus groups within the school. Special thank you to Mrs Sazant who worked so hard to make this project happen.

Some of our favourite quotes from the report –

*St Stephen's is a joyful and loving school*

*Everyone nurtures at St Stephen's and is nurtured!*

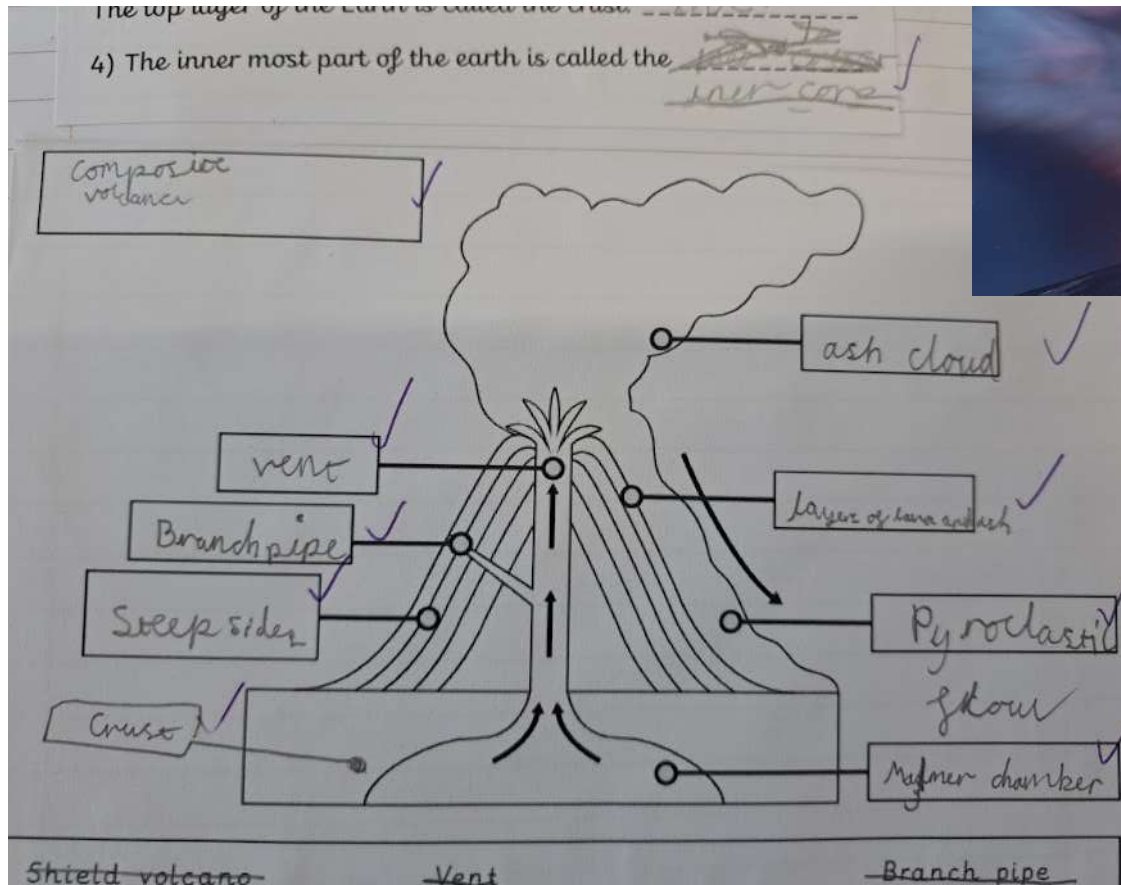
*One of the members of staff summed up the sense of family, belonging and love – "We're the St Stephens family and you are part of it forever!"*

*"We are a community, no child is left behind" (A child)*

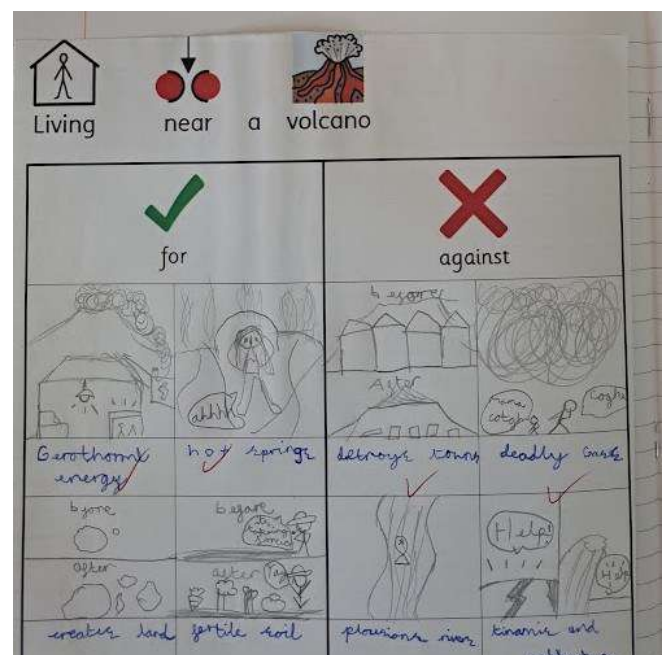


We were very lucky to have GB Gymnast Sam Mostowfi visit the school and run workshops and circuit training, as well as delivering an assembly. We have also managed to raise a significant amount of money to buy some new equipment for school. The children really enjoyed themselves whilst being inspired by Sam's Motto "There's no such thing as failure - only trying, learning, and growing." Thank you to our sports crew for helping throughout the day .





In Geography we've been learning about the layers of the earth, mountains and volcanoes.



## ANTARCTICA

## Introduction

Antarctica is a large continent in the southern hemisphere and part of the polar regions. It's covered with thick ice and covers the 10% of the Earth's land surface. Read more to find out more about AMAZING ANTARCTICA

## Coldness in Antarctica

There are only 2 seasons in Antarctica summer and winter. In summer there is 24 hours of light and in winter there is 24 hours of darkness.

## Life in Antarctica

Antarctica is home to plants such as:

- Antarctic hair grass
- Pearlwort.

Animals in Antarctica has been adapted to their environment. Antarctica is home to animals such as:

- Penguins
- Seals
- Whales

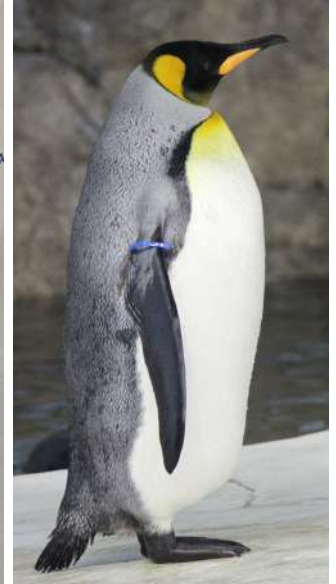
## What happens next?

Climate change continues to affect our planet and has result in melting ice glaciers and loss of biodiversity. As well as, humans are polluting the environment by littering and over-washing. Luckily we have the Antarctic Treaty to help Antarctica.

Polar bears doesn't live in Antarctica

DID YOU KNOW

You can get sun burned in Antarctica



## ANTARCTICA

## Introduction To Antarctica

Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, driest place on earth, and it is in the Southern Hemisphere. Read on to find out more about the cold continent.

## Cold Climate

Antarctica's temperature can go down to  $-120^{\circ}\text{C}$ ! Antarctica is actually a desert, because it has very little rain and how it is so icy, because all the ice from the year builds up on the old ice. It has 2 seasons, summer and winter:

- In summer, it is warm and they have 24 hours of light.
- In winter, it is very cold and they have 24 hours of darkness.

## Lovely Life

Sheets of ice cover the ground and the sea flows happily while mountains, icebergs and volcanoes tower above. Lots of animals live there even though people don't, such as majestic emperor penguins, lovely leopard seals and fish swimming in the sea.

## Future

Climate change causes rising sea levels and shipping pollution. Also, humans are burning fossil fuels so the ice is melting, melting, extinction and ecosystems. Fortunately, organisations are helping by saving energy, recycling, and reusing and cutting emissions.

## Did You Know?

- Polar Bears live in the Arctic not the Antarctic.
- During the summer, the sun never really sets.
- During the winter, the sun never really rises.

## Fun Facts

- Some icebergs are as small as cars.
- Some volcanoes are underwater.
- 2% of Antarctica is not covered in ice.

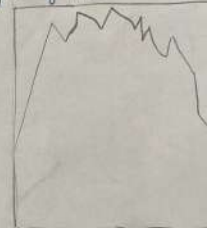
Antarctica



Penguins skating to each other on the ice.



Orca swimming in the depths of Antarctica's Ocean.

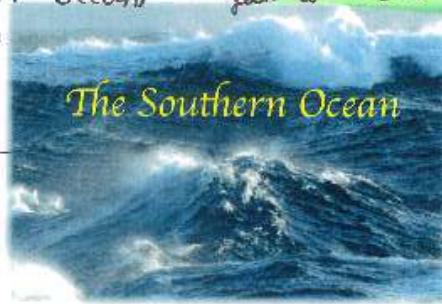


Iceberg towering over Antarctica.

The students made their own non-chronological reports about Antarctica.

The ocean at the bottom of the world formed 'only' 30 million years ago ( $\frac{1}{8}$  of the Pacific's age), the Southern Ocean lies around Antarctica. It covers 22,000,000 km<sup>2</sup>, which translates to  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the water in all the Earth's oceans. The fourth biggest ocean or the second smallest ocean, has an average depth of around 3270 metres.

### The Southern Ocean



Ocean of storms. The Southern Ocean contains a vast majority of icebergs which make Southern Ocean the most coldest and roughest ocean in the world with frequent storm and waves that reaches up to 23 metres high. During winter, the water temperature falls to -20°C while air temperature falls to a panicking -20°C (The Southern Ocean is also permanently stormy).

### Tolerant extremophiles

The Southern Ocean has a narrow range of wildlife compared to the rest of the world. Extremophiles (Animals that can cope with death of many intrepid explorers. Merely 23% extreme conditions) that lives in the southern of the Southern Ocean has been explored. hemisphere (Antarctica) includes giant squids, killer whales, emperor penguins, etc. Some people might think there are plants in the Southern Ocean, but however there are none except for types of algae (sea weeds).

### Across the uncharted

One of the most unexplored oceans, nearly impossible to go there, the Southern Ocean is the

Anthony de la Roché, was the first person to discover the Southern Ocean in 1675. Then came James Weddell, who sailed further south into the Southern Ocean. Finally, Roald Amundsen who travels by sea and land, reaches the South Pole.



Charlotte Bailey won the public vote for St. Stephen's for the National Year 5 art competition for Artbytes.

Monday 12th May

Friday 2nd May 2025

LO: to write a diary entry

Δευτέρα 29th Ιανουάριος 335

As I, Aristotle, set out to sea, my heart raced for this was my first voyage. My name must be known through all of Greece, but no they should not get ahead of one's self. My ship set out a week ago with the demi-god Jason (son of Zeus), Tactonous (son of Athena) and Thani (daughter of Ares). Painfully, I have horrible sea sickness and a cramped cabin. I can not wait until I can step on land, yet I estimate it will take another four days to reach.

Πέμπτη 2nd Φεβρουάριος 335

After four days of waiting, we dropped anchor and stepped off the boat. The first thing I noticed was the mind-blowing smell of fresh ground from a small, peaceful village. Second was the uneasy sense of a nearby danger. The village was vibrant and lively, it had a strange greeting: G archbae. Yet I had to continue my search. As I ~~trudged~~ <sup>trudged</sup> through rocks, I uncovered a cave with a ominous feel. Though this felt like something for another day.

Κυριακή 15th Μάρτιος 335

My hand shakes as I pen this entry. Today's the day I explored the cave... As I trekked upon rocks I suddenly felt a shift the change in ground I no longer trekked rocks, now I walked on human bones. As I stumbled onward, I noticed a crack in the stone floor. I squeezed through into a huge crystal-lit cave, at the end of it were a throne of bones with an emerald statue of Hades holding a juniper, clove, or, as I took it the cave started to collapse. I rushed out to safety and escaped before the cave collapsed fully. I was shaking, scared and frightened. I found my momentous discovery!

Sebby D'Elia has written a diary entry in English as Aristotle making a discovery on a voyage to Greece.