



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter
'A world class school for children that want to make the world a better place as God intended.'

Friday 15th December 2022

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

It's a bit cold isn't it!! I hope you've had a great week. It's been another busy, but great week in school. This will be the final newsletter of the term. I would like to thank you for your continued support so far this year.

School Choir

Our amazing school choir travelled to Manchester to perform a number of Christmas songs for the workers at Piccadilly Place. Children were commended for their excellent singing and behaviour. Thank you to Mrs Gibson for providing this opportunity to the children.

Key Stage 2 Advent Service

Key Stage 2 held their annual Advent Service in Church on Tuesday afternoon. They took us through the Christmas Story beautifully through song and readings. Thank you children.



A reminder that School closes for the Christmas break on **Tuesday 20th December at 1:30pm. School reopens for the new term on Wednesday 4th January 2023.**

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas holiday when it arrives and all the very best for the new year ahead.

Take care,
Mr Lavin, Headteacher

Our Values:
St Stephen's
CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



| Be Ready | Be Respectful | Be Safe |

#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

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Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
20/12/22	Whole School Christmas Mass at 10AM
20/12/22	Finish for Christmas at 1:30PM
04/01/23	School Reopens

Dates for YOUR calendar

Please note that all Class Assemblies will take place in the school hall at 9:05am. Please note masses take place in Church at 10am and parents/carers/families are most welcome to join us.

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Hot Chocolate
Friday Winners

Nursery	Darcie & Harriet
RKF	Elijah
RNE	Poppy-Kay
Y1SH	Sam
Y1LB	Felix
Y2LS	Thomas
Y2AL	Rocco
Y3DM	George
Y3CSLH	Lola
Y4DS	Ted
Y4HB	Lacey
Y5LW	John-Paul
Y5DW	Amelia
Y6HG	Daisy
Y6DF	Bonnie

Readers
of the Week

Nursery	James
RKF	Ronnie
RNE	Evie-Rose
Y1SH	Grace
Y1LB	Jake
Y2LS	Clark
Y2AL	Leila
Y3DM	Noah V
Y3CSLH	Charlie M
Y4DS	Sam J
Y4HB	Lily Grace
Y5LW	Toby D
Y5DW	Desta
Y6HG	Kate
Y6DF	Harley

Handwriters
of the week

Nursery	Chester
RKF	Felicity
RNE	Mary
Y1SH	Hudson
Y1LB	Kingsley
Y2LS	Boma
Y2AL	Jeremiah
Y3DM	Elijah
Y3CSLH	Laicee
Y4DS	Jaime-Leigh
Y4HB	Phoebe
Y5LW	Oscar
Y5DW	Carter
Y6HG	Fletcher
Y6DF	Layla





Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Noah B
RKF	Harper
RNE	Nathaniel
YISH	Esme
YILB	Myley-Dean
Y2LS	Elvis
Y2AL	Ethan
Y3DM	Lotsie-Lou
Y3CS/LH	Isaac
Y4DS	Harrison H
Y4HB	Matilda
Y5LW	Alfie
Y5DW	Reggie
Y6HG	Noah
Y6DF	Noah

Sports Superstars

Nursery	Noah B
RKF	Cornelia
RNE	Bobby
YISH	Patrycja
YILB	Jake G
Y2LS	Boma
Y2AL	Ethan
Y3DM	Daisy
Y3CS/LH	Mia Bella
Y4DS	James
Y4HB	Bobby
Y5LW	Alfie
Y5DW	Hanna
Y6HG	Ivan
Y6DF	Jude

House Points

Blue

16, 726



Red

12, 648



Yellow

17, 151



Green

13, 759



Totals So Far!

Blue 108, 462

Green 104, 685

Red 93, 680

Yellow 118, 814



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Attendance

Whole School	87.7%
Nursery AM	69.4%
Nursery Full Day	67.4%
RKF	87%
RNE	77.9%
Y1SH	85.7%
Y1LB	90.3%
Y2LS	93.5%
Y2AL	83.3%
Y3DM	88.9%
Y3CS/LH	96%
Y4DS	90%
Y4HB	95.7%
Y5LW	92.9%
Y5DW	85.3%
Y6HG	89.5%
Y6DF	87.9%



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance Challenge!

If you are in school everyday this Half term then your name will be entered into a draw for a very special prize!

100%

Good Luck!



St Stephen's Attendance League

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1			
Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 1LB	26	6th: RKF	5
2nd: NurFD	22	6th: RNE	4
3rd: 2LS	18	7th: 2AL	3
4th: 1SH	16		
5th: NurAM	8		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2			
Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y4DS	22	5th: Y5DW	7
2nd: Y4HB	20	6th: Y3DM	6
3rd: 5LW	18	6th: Y3LH/CS	6
4th: Y6DF	10		
4th: Y6HG	10		

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Religious Education

Advent Week Three- Joy

This week in school, we have lit the third Advent candle which represents joy. This is the pink candle on the Advent Wreath.

There are a lot of things which can make us happy, but joy is something which lasts a lot longer. How does listening to God and helping others find hope and peace make us feel joyful?

Many classes in school have explored the Annunciation as part of their RE work. They have thought about the joyful message that Mary was given by the Angel Gabriel.

God gave us the gift of Jesus at Christmas- a joyful celebration for all.



Mass Times

Our Parish Priest is Father B. Wilson.

Mass Times:
Saturday Vigil : 5.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am

Christmas Eve: 5.30pm
Christmas Day: 10.30am

Prayer of the Week

God our Father,
We thank you for the joy
of this third week of Advent.
Open our hearts to praise
you now with all the angels and saints,
as we prepare to celebrate
the birth of Jesus, your Son.
We make this prayer to you in his name.
Amen



Our Travelling Nativity

Our youngest children have enjoyed taking home the travelling nativity and sharing prayers and scripture at home.

Thank you to all families who participated in this and sent photos.



Gentle Jesus born Christmas Day,
In a manger filled with hay.

We your children be-
Help us now your love to see.

Gentle Jesus, come today
Be our shepherd, Lord we pray.
Gentle Jesus, come this hour,
Fill us with your love and power.
You fell asleep in Mary's arm,
God kept you safe from all alarm.
Gentle Jesus, come today,
Be our Shepherd now we pray.





Nursery

What a lovely week we had had in Nursery this week. It has been a very special week as we have been looking at Advent and how you prepare and get ready for Jesus birth - the real story of Christmas. We have been retelling the story of the Nativity and make lots of pictures.

We have been busy making calendars, Christmas cards and Christmas decorations in our Christmas Workshop. We are sure our families will love them. It has been very cold so we have been keeping warm by eating toast and drinking hot chocolate.

We had a fabulous time at our Christmas party - we danced and played games with DJ Mr Grantham. We loved our Christmas Dinner!!

Question: Who are the special characters in the Nativity Story?

Reception

We have had such a fun week in school this week! In maths we have been learning about squares and rectangles. We have been making Christmas shape pictures using these shapes. In Literacy we have read a story called "Jesus' Christmas Party" by Nicholas Allan which has linked to our RE. We used the story to help us create some very special surprises for home!

We also had so much fun at our Christmas party - thank you to Mr Grantham for being the best DJ ever! We enjoyed our yummy Christmas dinner too.

Question: What is a special rectangle and what makes it special?



Year 1

The children in Year 1 have been working very hard throughout this week. In maths, we have been looking at 2D shapes and how they are different from 3D shapes. We have been sorting shapes in different ways and continuing repeating patterns. In English, we wrote letters to The Grinch to convince him to celebrate Christmas. In R.E, we retold the story of the birth of Jesus and sorted religious symbols based on whether they belonged to Advent, Baptism, or both. We have also introduced a new story 'A Very Noisy Christmas'. Children participated in some drama and role play to engage with the story. On Thursday, we had a lovely Mass with Year Two. A big well done to all the children for being respectful. We also had a fantastic party day where the children had a Christmas disco and played lots of party games.

Question: What is the difference between a rectangle and a square?

Year 2

The children have been working extremely hard this week. In R.E, we have been completing our Advent unit and we have been looking at the significance of the Advent Wreath. We have learnt about the Annunciation of Mary and her visit to Elizabeth. We have been reading, 'The Animals' Christmas' by Elena Pasquali and thinking about the birth of Jesus from the perspective of different animals.

In English, we imagined that we were Father Christmas and wrote a letter to Little Robin thanking him for his kindness and generosity.

In Maths, we have been subtracting from a multiple of 10 and subtracting one digit numbers from two digit numbers crossing a boundary. We enjoyed our well-earned party day on Thursday and we had lots of fun at the disco!

Question: What do each of the candles symbolise on the Advent Wreath?



Year 3

This week in year 3 has been a very busy last full week of the term.

All of the children had a great time at the Carol Service on Tuesday in church. The children then enjoyed a lovely Christmas party day on Thursday where they took part in games, disco music and festive fun.

In terms of the learning this week, we have finished our unit of the 'Truth Pixie' in our English lessons and focused this week on a short fiction book called 'Sproutzilla Vs Christmas'. The children found the book really funny and interesting.

In RE, we have spend a lot of this week reflecting and preparing for the arrival of Jesus. We have read the book 'The King and Shepherd Boy' and the children then wrote a re-telling of this story from the perspective of the Shepherd boy. The children have also read and watched the visit of Gabriel to Mary. They then wrote diary entries as Mary focused on this event.

Question- What gift would have taken Jesus at his birth and why?

Year 4

This has been such an exciting week in Year 4! On Tuesday, Mrs Bilic's class performed their music assembly for parents and for the rest of KS2. It was great to see all their practice and hard work culminate in a fantastic performance.

On Tuesday afternoon, our KS2 Advent Carol Service took place in church. Our Year 4 children read and sang beautifully. At party day on Thursday, the children enjoyed a disco, party food and fun activities in class.

We have come to the end of our unit on A Christmas Carol, writing a letter of apology as Scrooge to another character from the book. The children did well to use the vocabulary they have learnt to write thoughtful letters.

In Maths we have been continuing to work hard on our multiplication and division knowledge, practising inversion and our knowledge of factors and multiples.

Our RE has centred around the Christmas story from Mary's viewpoint as she accepts the role given by God and prepares to give birth to Jesus.

Question: Who was John the Baptist?

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Year 5

The last full week of the year has been a busy one. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Advent service on Tuesday. We truly appreciate your support and we hope you really enjoyed our singing.

Yesterday, we came together to enjoy our Christmas celebrations through food, games and dancing at our disco.

Advent and the importance of waiting in hope was our focus in RE this week. We discussed how waiting in hope can be beneficial in all aspects of our lives, not least during Advent, as we hope to welcome Christ this Christmas.

In English, we finished our Room 13 unit by writing our own chapter 13 and creating our own book. We continued our fractions unit in maths, specifically, comparing and ordering a range of fractions.

Question: What does the lighting of the Advent wreath candles represent?

Year 6

Our last full week of 2022 has been a busy one in Year 6! Yesterday we enjoyed our party days and showing off our moves at the disco!

In Maths, we've continued our learning upon fractions and have continued to order, compare and add/ subtract fractions with different denominators. We will be continuing our work on fractions when we return to school in January.

We have completed our text 'Letters from the Lighthouse' this week by planning and writing our persuasive letters. The children have had to write formally and use their knowledge of the text to support their arguments.

We have enjoyed exploring expectations in RE this week. We read about Isaiah's expectations of the Messiah and linked these to events that happened in Jesus' life. We also discussed what expectations were placed upon Mary and why God chose Mary to be the mother of His Son. Finally, we analysed hymns and linked these to the expectations of Joseph. The children enjoyed having mature discussions regarding expectations placed upon Mary and Joseph.

Question: What did Isaiah say about the coming of the Messiah?

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Pupil Voice- KS2 Choir Trip

The trip was very good! My favourite part was the hot chocolate and people coming to hear us sing.
Flynn



It was nice to see the amount of people that gathered round when we were singing.
Amelia



Choir in Manchester!

On Wednesday, our fantastic KS2 choir performed Christmas carols at Piccadilly Place in Manchester. The children sang beautifully and spread Christmas cheer to all who worked at the office and passed by. We are so proud of the effort the children put into their fantastic singing! Well done!

I loved getting the tram with my friends!
Joe

I enjoyed singing and it was fun!
Jessica

I enjoyed the cookies and the hot chocolate!
Elijah

I enjoyed the experience of getting the tram and being able to have hot chocolate with my friends
Madison

I enjoyed singing difference carols and experinging caroling.
Eve