



**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 9th December 2022

**BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |**

## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

I hope you and your family are well. Wow! What an amazing week we've had this week at school. It has been jam packed from start to finish.

**Performances** - We have seen incredible performances this week from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. We have such talented children here at school. It really got us in the festive spirit and celebrated the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you for supporting the children in learning their lines, providing costumes and being there to cheer children on. I would like to thank our hard working, dedicated staff who have worked tirelessly to put the performances together. Thank you all.

**Open Evening** - On Monday evening, 4 till 5:30pm, we are holding an open evening for our Early Years (Nursery and Reception). If you are considering applying for a Nursery or Reception place for September 23/24 please do come along - spread the world! Entrance via the school office.

**Christmas Parties and Dinner** - We have had to move Christmas Dinner and Parties day from Wednesday to Thursday next week. Meals for Wednesday and Thursday will need to be re-ordered on SchoolGrid as these have been wiped. On Thursday children we have their parties in school too - we will be providing children with some nice treats too! All children are welcome to come into school with their own clothes on.

**Christmas Raffle** - We will be holding our annual Christmas Raffle to win some Christmas teddies again this year. Our Pupil Leadership Team will be coming around the classes from Monday to sell tickets. £2.00 for a strip of tickets. Donations will be made to CARITAS to help feed the homeless with the money raised. Winners will be revealed on the last day of term.

**Scarlet Fever** - I sent out an email this week detailing some guidance on Scarlet Fever. Please do take the time to read the information.

**Enjoy your weekend, Mr Lavin, Headteacher**

**Our Values:**  
**St Stephen's**  
**CARES**

**Compassion**



**Ambition**



**Rejoice**



**Excellence**



**Service**



**#TEAMSTSTEPHENS**

WEBSITE: [www.stsrcp.school](http://www.stsrcp.school)  
TWITTER: @stsrcp  
TEL: 0161 370 2071

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## **\*\*Reception Places 2023/24\*\***

Come and join #teamststephens in September 2023. Applications for Reception places can be made through the Local Authority via:  
[https://admission.tameside.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://admission.tameside.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

**You have until 15th January 2023 to apply!** Don't miss out on joining our fantastic school!

If you'd like to find out more about our school, please contact the school office to book in a tour with one of our Senior Leadership Team.

**We will be holding an open evening on Monday 12th December 4pm till 5:30pm.**

**If you would like to attend, please enter the school via the school office and you will be directed to the EYFS Unit. Come and meet the staff and have a look at the amazing things on offer here at St Stephen's.**



**We also have places in our current Reception and Year 1 classes!**

Share far and wide - St Stephen's is the place to be!

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### Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
12/12/22	EYFS Open Evening 4-5:30pm

### Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
13/12/22	KS2 Carol Service at 2PM in Church - parents invited.
14/12/22	KS2 Choir in Manchester
15/12/22	Year 1/2 Mass Party Day & Christmas Dinner
20/12/22	Whole School Christmas Mass at 10AM
20/12/22	Finish for Christmas at 1:30PM
04/01/23	School Reopens

**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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## Attendance

Whole School	94.3%
Nursery AM	97.2%
Nursery Full Day	98.6%
RKF	90%
RNE	89.9%
Y5H	97.6%
Y1LB	97.9%
Y2LS	94.8%
Y2AL	95.8%
Y3DM	90.2%
Y3CSLH	92.9%
Y4DS	95.3%
Y4HB	93.1%
Y5LW	92.9%
Y5DW	97.6%
Y6HG	95%
Y6DF	94.2%

## 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	24	6th: RKF	4
2nd: NurFD	22	6th: RNE	4
3rd: 1SH	16	7th: 2AL	3
4th: 2LS	15		
5th: NurAM	8		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y4DS	22	5th: Y5DW	7
2nd: Y4HB	18	6th: Y3DM	6
3rd: 5LW	15	7th: Y3LH/cs	3
4th: Y6DF	10		
4th: Y6HG	10		



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

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#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

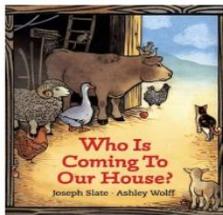
WEBSITE: [www.stsrcp.school](http://www.stsrcp.school)  
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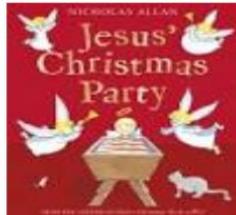
## Religious Education

### Christmas Picture Books

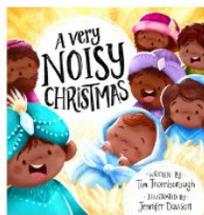
Next week in class, each year group will be looking at a different Christmas picture book. They will then use this book, alongside scripture, to retell the story of the First Christmas.



Nursery



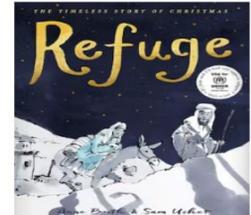
Reception



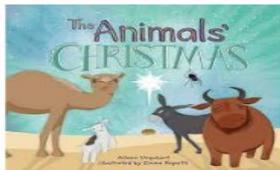
Year 1



Year 5



Year 6



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4

### Peace

This week, as we reflect upon the second candle of the Advent wreath, we have thought about peace. Jesus came to the world to be the Prince of Peace.

### Prayer of the Week

God of mercy,  
Help us listen to your voice,  
A voice that speaks of peace to all people.  
Let the sound resonate within us,  
Until a whisper becomes a shout which cannot  
be ignored.  
Move us with your love,  
So that our actions echo your peace,  
And we may bring comfort to those touched  
by conflict.  
Fill us with your hope, O Lord, and quiet the  
fear and hatred which divides us, as we seek  
to build a future together,  
Of true and lasting peace.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Prince of  
Peace,  
Amen

### Mass Times

Our Parish Priest is Father B. Wilson.

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

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## Nursery

Nursery have had a week of excitement, nerves and pride. It really took a lot for the children to stand on stage and perform in front of so many people. It is not easy to remember the words to all of those songs, remember when to speak and where to stand. We are incredible proud of all of them.

In class, we have been reading and sequencing the Christmas story, thinking and talking about how Mary and Joseph would have felt. The frost this week has been lovely to explore. We noticed track marks outside, and went to find frosty leaves in the forest, talking about why the frost disappeared by the time we got the leaves back to our classroom. The crunch of the grass under our feet brought lots of excitement too.

## Reception

WOW! What a week. We cannot put into words how proud we are of the Reception children! They all performed so well in their Christmas play...their singing, dancing and acting was amazing in all 3 performances and the whole team are so so proud! You very much deserved the popcorn and movie afternoon!

In maths we have been completing Christmas based activities, ordering different sized baubles and finding answers to Christmas puzzles. In Literacy we have started our work on The Gingerbread man.

*Question: What rhyme is repeated in The Gingerbread man story?*



## Year 1

We have had a lovely week preparing for our Christmas Carol performance and on Thursday the children were a credit to you and our school. They shared the true meaning of Christmas through word and song.

In RE we have been focussing on our theme of Advent and thinking about what it is like to wait for something special to happen. We also spent time looking at the Advent wreath and how that can help us prepare for Jesus' birth.

In English we have started our new book "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" and after hearing most of the story the children were asked to write questions for the Grinch. The children use different question starters like who, what, when and why.

In maths we have been learning to recognise and name 3d shapes and we sorted them by criteria such as flat faces, curved faces, stackable and not stackable. We will continue to develop our understanding through our continuous provision next week. We were pleased to see good scores in this week's mental arithmetic tests and would continue to encourage you to use Hit the button and Numbots to keep skills sharp.

In science we have been learning about the season of Winter. We have been finding out about how animals prepare for the season.

**Can you find some 3d shapes at home or in the environment?**

## Year 2

The superstars of Year 2 have ended the week by performing their Nativity, 'Lights, Camel, Action'! We are so proud of the hard work that has gone into the practises for our performance and every single child was fantastic! A big well done Year 2.

Alongside practising for our Nativity, the children have started their new book in English, 'Little Robin Red Vest'. We have talked about how Little Robin was full of the Christmas spirit and we talked about the important meaning behind this story. As well as this, we have been writing in the past tense and using regular and irregular past tense verbs.

In Maths, we have been adding to the next multiple of ten and subtracting across a ten.

We have been talking about Advent and how we can prepare for Christmas. Every day, we have been watching a video from the Jesse Tree and discussing its importance during Advent.

Question: How was Little Robin full of the Christmas spirit?



## Year 3

This week in year 3 we have continued our learning on the 'Truth Pixie'. The children have planned and written newspaper reports about the disappearance of the Truth Pixie. They have also worked on expanded noun phrases using parts of the story to help.

In maths, the children have been working on multiplying and dividing by 3 and 4. We have done this in different ways including interactive activities on the interactive board.

In RE we have begun our advent unit on 'Visitors'. The children have researched the meaning and the origins of the Jesse Tree.

In Art, the children have completed their unit on the 'Great Wave'. At the start of the week, the children had to sketch their own version of the image. In the next lesson, the children had to outline a bigger version of this artwork before painting. The children had to colour mix using blue, black and white to create different tones of blue to paint the waves.

**Question-** What is Jess Tree and how is it used around Christmas time?

## Year 4

This week, we well and truly got into the Christmas spirit! We were treated to nativity performances from Nursery, Reception and Year Two. Everyone really enjoyed themselves and we would like say a big well done to all the children involved. Their dancing and singing was great!

In English, we have been continuing our work on 'A Christmas Carol'. We have been learning the difference between simple past and present perfect tense and how to use this in our writing. The children have been getting into character and reflecting on all of the mistakes Scrooge made in his past.

On Monday, we took part in a virtual assembly delivered by STEM. We discussed sustainability for the future and what steps we can take to help look after our planet.

**Question:** Can you explain the difference between simple past tense and present perfect tense?



## Year 5

On Monday, we took part in an interactive science workshop. We were tasked with helping to develop a carbon zero factory. The children worked collaboratively in groups to develop a factory in the most eco friendly way possible. The children were also fascinated about the role of an engineer and some have even been inspired to become engineers themselves.

In RE this week, we concluded our unit on 'Life Choices' by writing a Marriage booklet, detailing hymns, prayers and vows. We have also continued to enjoy the stories of the Jesse tree from Creation to Christmas as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. Next week, we will focus on Advent, recounting the Nativity and using our creative and drama skills to empathise with those who witnessed Jesus' birth.

In Guided Reading, we analysed the lyrics to songs - identifying themes, looking for hidden meaning and making comparisons between the beginning and end of the song.

As part of our unit on fractions, we have learned how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa. We have used images to support our learning, progressing to using the formulae of multiplication and division.

**Question - Who were Abraham and Sarah and why are they important?**

## Year 6

We began the week with an interactive science workshop where we assisted on developing a carbon zero factory. The children were engaged and carefully considered the most eco friendly way of developing a factory. We loved learning about the job of an engineer- a few children have been inspired!

We have absolutely loved the Christmas performances from the children lower down in the school. They really got us into the Christmas spirit whilst reminding us that the true meaning of Christmas is Jesus. Thank you Nursery, Reception and Year 2!

In Maths, we have continued our work on fractions. We have looked at equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and comparing fractions. The children have been showing great resilience in class when solving problems with fractions.

In Letters from the Lighthouse, we learnt about plans to destroy the town lighthouse. We have considered the pros and cons of the lighthouse and have begun to plan and write a persuasive letter to either support the destruction or oppose it.

In our Science lesson, we have researched the different classes of vertebrates and discussed the similarities and differences between the classes.

**Question: If the numerator of a fraction is 1, what is the name of the fraction?**

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## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES

It's been another remarkable week!  
Here are some photographs to show some wonderful learning experiences...



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