



**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 13th January 2023**

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

## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

I hope you are all well and you have had a great week. This week started with us reflecting on Jesus' baptism, we talked about our own baptisms and how this is the start of our mission - the start of our faith journey. It's been lovely to see some of the children's pictures from their own baptisms too.

### Sweep the sheds

During Assembly, I introduced children to one of our new 'world class behaviours' - sweep the sheds. This means that we are all responsible for keeping our school looking clean and tidy. Thank you to the children for working hard this week in making sure litter is put in the bins and the school is tidy. These small actions make a huge difference - always remember 'sweep the sheds'.

### Year 1 and 2

It was lovely to celebrate mass with our Year 1 and 2 classes this week. Father talked to the children about the importance of prayer and asked the children who they could pray for. Their kind and considerate answers were lovely to hear. As always, their behaviour and singing was amazing.

### A few gentle reminders:

- Long hair (below shoulder length) should be tied back for boys and girls.
- Jewellery including digital smart watches, rings, bracelets should not be worn.
- Any bows/headbands in hair should be small and in the school colours of red, white, blue or black.
- Crowns, tiaras, headbands with ears and other headpieces should not be worn.
- Earrings should be stud only. This is for health and safety reasons. Children will be asked to remove them or plasters given to cover if they are not studs - please ensure these are taken out before children come to school to help.
- Make up should not be worn, this includes nail varnish and false nails. I appreciate that nails may be painted on weekends for parties/shows etc, but this should be removed before school.

Thank you for your support with this.  
All other dates for the term ahead are on the following pages.  
Have a lovely weekend. **Mr Lavin, Headteacher**

## Our Values: St Stephen's CARES

### Compassion



### Ambition



### Rejoice



### Excellence



### Service



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Date	Event
18/01/23	Year 1 Assembly (both classes) - 9:05am School Hall
19/01/23	Special School Meal: Burger Bonanza Day (more information to follow)
19/01/23	Year 3 and 5 Mass - 10am in Church
26/01/23	Stargazing Event - email sent out yesterday - poster on next pages
01/02/23	Mrs Finn Class Assembly - 9:05am School Hall
02/02/23	Year 1 and 2 Mass - 10am in Church
06/02/23	Children's Mental Health Week - Theme: Let's Connect
07/02/23	Internet Safety Day Year 2 Retreat
08/02/23	Mrs Ellison Class Assembly - 9:05am School Hall
09/02/23	Year 3,4 and 5 Mass - 10am in Church
10/02/23	Own clothes day: Dress to express £1.00
15/02/23	Nursery Class Assembly - 9:05 School Hall
16/02/23	Special Friends Mass (Reception and Year 6) 10am Church
17/02/23	Annual PTA Break the Rules Day - poster on next page
17/02/23	Half Term begins 3:15pm

# BREAK the RULES DAY

## Rules to be broken include:

1. Wear school uniform
2. Bring a healthy lunch or snack
3. Have neat hair
4. No temporary tattoos
5. No nail varnish
6. No make-up
7. Wear school shoes only
8. Fill your water bottle with water only
9. Teachers! You can join in too! You must wear smart clothes.

Here's how it works:

**WHEN?**  
Friday  
17th  
February

**Parentkind**  
Member Association

It's back!  
Mr Lavin knows how much the children love break the rules day and how much fun they have, so let's break some rules!

50p a rule break  
Maximum 4 rules can be broken  
Bring your 'fines' in an envelope and give it to your class teacher.

Enjoy choosing which rules to break!

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# Stargazing Event



26<sup>th</sup> January 2023



KS2

(Years 3-6)

5:20pm – 6:30pm

EYFS to Year 2

4:00pm –

5:00pm

*Some activities will have a small cost but most are free. All children must be accompanied by an adult. If you have children in separate Key Stages, you can bring them all together.*

*Join us for a range of activities including:*

- *Studying the night sky with a telescope and binoculars*
- *Rocket Races*
- *Stories under the stars*
- *Space Art*
- *Bracelet making*
- *Space themed immersive audio headsets*

*And much more!*

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## Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Nursery	Jake & Harper
RKF	Octavia
RNE	Bobby
YISH	Pati
YILB	Kingsley
Y2LS	Ebony
Y2AL	Emily
Y3DM	Isla
Y3CSLH	Tallulah
Y4DS	Rosie
Y4HB	Phoebe
Y5LW	Rihanna
Y5DW	Nancy
Y6HG	Simona
Y6DF	Roman

## Readers of the Week



Nursery	Nancy
RKF	Valentina
RNE	Olenka
YISH	Leo
YILB	Parker
Y2LS	Grace
Y2AL	Jeremiah
Y3DM	Harrison
Y3CSLH	Riley James
Y4DS	Lleyton
Y4HB	Eva
Y5LW	Louie
Y5DW	Ben
Y6HG	Sum Yin
Y6DF	Louie

## Handwriters of the week



Nursery	William
RKF	Harper
RNE	Myla
YISH	Oscar
YILB	Arabella
Y2LS	Daley
Y2AL	Jacob
Y3DM	Serenity
Y3CSLH	Charlotte
Y4DS	Aoife
Y4HB	Jenson
Y5LW	Isobella
Y5DW	Megan
Y6HG	Riley
Y6DF	Thomas





## Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Noah B
RKF	Jessica
RNE	Deedee
Y1SH	Isla
Y1LB	Bella
Y2LS	Evelyn
Y2AL	Noah
Y3DM	Bobby
Y3CS/LH	Daisy
Y4DS	Chen
Y4HB	Ellinore
Y5LW	Alfie
Y5DW	Freshta
Y6HG	Ruby
Y6DF	Millie

## Sports Superstars

Nursery	Sienna
RKF	Berrie-Mae
RNE	Henry
Y1SH	James
Y1LB	Henry
Y2LS	Millie
Y2AL	Harrison
Y3DM	Daisy
Y3CS/LH	Poppy
Y4DS	Rosie
Y4HB	Bobby
Y5LW	Eddie T
Y5DW	Payton
Y6HG	Eddie
Y6DF	Bonnie

## 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	95.2%
Nursery AM	92.3%
Nursery Full Day	100%
RKF	93.2%
RNE	88.9%
Y1SH	89.3%
Y1LB	100%
Y2LS	99.1%
Y2AL	93.5%
Y3DM	97.2%
Y3CSLH	98.7%
Y4DS	99.6%
Y4HB	95.3%
Y5LW	91.7%
Y5DW	91.7%
Y6HG	95.2%
Y6DF	97.1%



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	29	6th: RKF	5
2nd: NurFD	25	6th: 2AL	5
3rd: 2LS	20	7th: RNE	4
4th: 1SH	16		
5th: NurAM	8		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y4DS	25	5th: Y3LH/cs	8
2nd: Y4HB	20	6th: Y5DW	7
3rd: 5LW	18	6th: Y3DM	7
4th: Y6DF	10		
4th: Y6HG	10		

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## Religious Education

### Come and See - Big Questions

This term, each class will be focusing upon the local church community. Each year group will be focusing upon the following big questions. Please discuss these with your children at home.

**Nursery and Reception-** What and why do people celebrate?

**Year 1-** What makes a person special?

**Year 2-** Why do we need books?

**Year 3-** Is life a journey?

**Year 4-** What makes community?

**Year 5-** Do we all have the same mission in life?

**Year 6-** Are books enriching?

### Year 6 Retreat

This week our Year 6 children had their retreat day with Mrs Farmer. The focus of the day was- what does it mean to be faith filled?

The children reflected upon how their faith impacts the choices they make day to day. They explored different ways of praying and participated in song and meditation.



### Mass Times

Our Parish Priest is Father B. Wilson.

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

### Prayer of the Week

God of light, you sent your Spirit down upon your Son Jesus at his baptism.

Send us your Spirit too, so that we may be filled with the courage to do all that you ask of us.

Amen.

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## Nursery

We have had a fun filled this week. We launched with our new exciting book - Naughty Bus! The children have loved the pictures and the adventures the Naughty Bus gets up to. Nursery received their own Naughty Bus, so watch this space to see what adventures that gets up to.

In maths we have been learning all about the number 1. We have been counting, recognising, drawing and representing everything to do with the number one. We have used the Numberblocks to help us with our learning.

In RE we have had a focus on our school mission statement which is about Love, and treating each other with love and compassion just as Jesus taught us.

Our home corner theme is washing and cleaning this half term. We have been looking at the important of sweeping and mopping in the home - the children loved being able to sweep up and even had a go at mopping!

**Question: Can you pot the number 1 out and about this weekend?**

## Reception

This week in Maths, we have been consolidating our number knowledge to 5. It is fantastic to see how embedded their learning is. The children are subitising up to 5 confidently. We have also been learning about 1 less, the significance of zero and comparing numbers using words such as more and less.

We have started our new text "The Train Ride". The children are enjoying the story and making connections with journeys that they have experienced. Thank you for sending in junk modelling materials. The children are excited about exploring materials and making their own trains. The children's writing skills are developing as they begin to write simple sentences. We are now introducing a number of red words that are tricky. This week we have been looking at the red words the, my, to.

The home corner is now themed around fixing things. We have been talking about different occupations such as plumbers, builders and decorators.

**Question: What did the girl see when she was on the train?**



## Year 1

Happy New Year to you all. We have had a great start to the new term and the children have settled well into their established routines. In English this week we have started a new book called "Unplugged" by Steve Anthony. The children have been writing predictions and learning about the prefix "un" and suffixes "ing" and "ed". We have also been assessing our knowledge of phonic sound learned so far. In Maths we have been developing our place value knowledge of numbers within twenty. We have also been keeping our skills sharp with our fluency practice. In RE we completed our understanding of the nativity by learning about the Epiphany and started our new topic about "Special People". We celebrated Mass yesterday and the children behaved very respectfully. In Art we have been learning about primary and secondary colours. We have looked at the work of Henri Matisse with a view to creating our own paintings. We have been busy preparing our assembly for next week and look forward to seeing you there.

**Question: What are the primary and secondary colours?**

## Year 2

Happy New Year to all members of 2LS, 2AL and their families. The children have settled back well.

This week, in English, we have started the study of a new book called, 'Lizzie and The Birds'. The children have been excited to look at the different birds and have been deciding which ones are their favourite. One or two of them may have even popped into our classroom.

In Maths, we have continued to work on our addition and subtraction skills as well as continuing with our NCETM activities.

In Religion, we have started our next unit which is based around books and scripture. The children have considered different types of books and their importance.

In Geography, we have continued to explore the different continents and seas of our world and will study similarities and differences between them.

Finally, on Thursday we attended our Year 1 and 2 Mass. The children created a prayerful atmosphere and were very respectful.

Question: Which was your favourite bird?

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## Year 3

Welcome back to the first full week of 2023. The children this week have started lots on new units of work across the curriculum.

In English the children are working really hard on their book of 'Tin Forest'. The children have used prepositional language to describe an image from the story as well as editing parts of the story.

In maths the children have been working hard on their multiplication skills when multiplying 2 digit numbers by 1 digit. We have looked at this with exchanging and they have taken to the method really well.

In Science we have begun our new unit of 'Plants'. The children have made plants out of card and labelled all of the parts in their books.

In RE the children have completed the first couple of lessons on the new unit of 'Life is a Journey'. They have thought about 2022 and the impact last year has had on their life.

In Spanish the children have been learning about fruits and how to accurately pronounce the words.

**Question- In Spanish how do you say: orange, pear and cherry?**

## Year 4

Happy New Year from all in Year Four!

Since our return from Christmas break, we have been talking to the children about their opportunity for a new beginning. While discussing their New Year's resolutions, the children shared the high expectations they have for themselves and the positive changes that they hope to make. We can't wait to see the amazing things they achieve in 2023.

So far this term, we have retold the story of the Epiphany, celebrated the life of Pope Benedict XVI, studied the work of local scientist John Dalton and began learning about what a river is. In addition to this, we have begun our new unit of work in English which is based around the book 'The Promise' and continue to practise our multiplication and division skills in Maths.

**Question: What name is given to the end of a river?**

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## Year 5

The first full week of 2023 has brought a new topic in English. We have started to watch and study the film Chak De! India. Everyone is loving the new topic. In it we have discussed our predictions about the film by analysing the front cover; summarised the opening scenes; created different types of sentences based on what we have seen so far; and used show not tell sentences to describe characters.

In maths, we have continued our fractions unit. Our focus has been on the addition of fractions first working with common denominators before moving onto activities with different denominators.

We have started our latest topic in religious education - mission. For this we have explored the origins of the The Richmond Fellowship (a mental health charity) and the missions of local charities and significant national charities.

**Question: Can you create a sentence including a relative clause?**

## Year 6

This week both Year 6 classes have had the opportunity to participate in their RE retreat with Mrs Farmer. Please see the RE information page for more detail regarding this.

In Maths, we have been continuing to work on fractions. This week we have focused on improper and mixed number fractions. The children have been applying their multiplication and division skills to help them convert between the two. We have also learnt strategies for adding mixed number fractions.

In English, we have started reading our new text 'Wonder'. Both classes have been extremely excited to read this- we even had some cheering! We have focused on the main character, Auggie, and considered the pros and cons of him attending school.

We have been reading the remaining chapters of 'Letters from the Lighthouse' in Guided Reading and applying retrieval, inference and sequencing skills taught last term.

**Question: Mrs Farmer asked us to reflect upon being faith filled. What does it mean to be faith filled?**

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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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