



**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 20th January 2023**

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

**A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...** I hope you are all okay and keeping well. This week we focused on the theme of 'Love' in our Monday Assembly. We talked to the children about how Jesus has sent us on a mission to spread love and kindness throughout the world. We looked at how we can show that we are spreading Jesus' message and how we can see that message in other people too.

**National Education Union (NEU) Industrial Action**

You may have seen in the news that the NEU teaching union has voted in favour of strike action. The dates are as follows: Wednesday 1st February 2023, Tuesday 28th February 2023, Wednesday 15th March 2023 and Thursday 16th March 2023. We have staff in school who are part of the NEU teaching union and so there is a very good chance that our school will be affected.

Teachers who take strike actions do not take this decision lightly; it is their only way of sending a serious message to the government about their discontent. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over pay and conditions and school funding. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to report how it will affect St Stephen's just yet. Once I have more information and clarity on the situation I will liaise with our Chair of Governors and inform you of the plans we may need to take on strike days.

**A few gentle reminders from last week's newsletter:**

- 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.

Have a great weekend. **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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Date	Event
26/01/23	Stargazing Event - 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	Victoria & Leighlah
RKF	Ronnie
RNE	Gabriella-Rose
Y1SH	Sophie
Y1LB	Lexie
Y2LS	Clark
Y2AL	Leila
Y3DM	Mila
Y3CSLH	Layla W
Y4DS	Lleyton
Y4HB	Emelie-Rose
Y5LW	Louie
Y5DW	Alica-mae
Y6HG	Charlie
Y6DF	Racheal

## Readers of the Week



Nursery	Sienna
RKF	Jessica B
RNE	Sayo
Y1SH	Gabbie
Y1LB	Kaiden
Y2LS	Conor
Y2AL	Bella
Y3DM	Lereya
Y3CSLH	Samson
Y4DS	Harrison R
Y4HB	Matilda
Y5LW	Dolton
Y5DW	Leah
Y6HG	Alfie
Y6DF	Lola

## Handwriters of the week



Nursery	Freddie
RKF	Noah
RNE	Jessica E
Y1SH	Sam
Y1LB	Myley-Dean
Y2LS	Eva
Y2AL	Rocco
Y3DM	Tarandeep
Y3CSLH	Saul
Y4DS	Deborah
Y4HB	Gustavo
Y5LW	Blaize
Y5DW	Teddy
Y6HG	Charlotte
Y6DF	Brooke





## Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Evie R
RKF	Keziah
RNE	Ivy
Y1SH	Thomas
Y1LB	Jake
Y2LS	Kacper
Y2AL	Freya
Y3DM	Patrick
Y3CS/LH	Alisha
Y4DS	Lyla
Y4HB	Travis
Y5LW	Daisy
Y5DW	Santanna
Y6HG	Edwin
Y6DF	Heidi

## Sports Superstars

Nursery	Darcie
RKF	Harper
RNE	Maisie
Y1SH	Isla
Y1LB	Felix
Y2LS	Jenson
Y2AL	Adora
Y3DM	Great
Y3CS/LH	Estee
Y4DS	Chen
Y4HB	Phoebe
Y5LW	Jersey
Y5DW	Tyler
Y6HG	Sum Yin
Y6DF	Brooklyn

## 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	95.8%
Nursery AM	81.2%
Nursery Full Day	91.3%
RKF	95.3%
RNE	93.8%
Y1SH	97%
Y1LB	100%
Y2LS	95.7%
Y2AL	98.6%
Y3DM	98.6%
Y3CS/LH	97.3%
Y4DS	96.7%
Y4HB	97%
Y5LW	97.1%
Y5DW	85.8%
Y6HG	98.4%
Y6DF	98.3%



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 **100%** 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	32	6th: 2AL	7
2nd: NurFD	25	7th: RKF	5
3rd: 2LS	20	8th: RNE	4
4th: 1SH	17		
5th: NurAM	8		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y4DS	25	6th: Y3DM	10
2nd: Y4HB	20	7th: Y3LH/cs	8
3rd: 5LW	18	8th: Y5DW	7
4th: Y6HG	12		
5th: Y6DF	11		

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## Religious Education

### St Stephen's Church

Many of our classes are learning about the Church community this term in RE. Here are two fun facts about the history of our parish, St Stephen's!

- The parish of St Stephen's was established in 1935.
- The first Parish Priest was Father Malone and his sister (Miss Nora Malone) was the headteacher of our school!



### Sacramental Programme Notice

Mrs Gibson will be holding a parent meeting on **Monday 13th February** for parents/guardians of children on the Year 3 Sacramental Programme. There will be two meetings, 9am and 4pm. Further details will be emailed in the upcoming weeks.



### Prayer of the Week

Father God,  
Thank you for our church and its people. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our church may grow. Help us to see you in everyone we meet and fill our lives with your praise.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### Mass Times

Our Parish Priest is Father B. Wilson.

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

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## Nursery

We have been very busy bee's tis week in Nursery. We have continued to learn the story of the naughty bus and made a story map this week to help us re-tell the story. Our own class naughty bus has been very busy. Every morning he has been up to something naughty and hides from us. The children have to find him and tidy up after him. He have been making him notes to say - Stop being Naughty. We have also started to make our very own junk modelling Naughty Bus - thank you for all the boxes you have sent in. In maths we have been looking at subitising 2 - and that 2 is one more than 1. We have been using the languages - what do you see and how do you see it. The children are doing amazing with this. Next week we will look at number 2 in more detail.

We started our RE topic of Celebrations. This week we looked at the celebration - Chinese New Year. We learnt all about how it is celebrated and how this year is the year of the Rabbit.

In topic we looked at Sea transport this week. The children were really interested in submarines and how they travel underwater.

**.Question: Is a boat a Land, sea or air mode of transport?**

## Reception

Wow! What a week we have had in Reception! The children have produced some amazing work based on our class text "The Train Ride." The children are becoming very confident with the order of the story. They can retell their favourite parts and even say what happens next. The children worked in their classes to create a story map. In Maths, we have been thinking about the smaller numbers that make up bigger numbers. We have been playing games such as "How many are hiding?" and "How many altogether?" The children's maths progress and knowledge is astounding and we are really enjoying maths with all of the children. As part of this half term's RE unit - celebrations, we have been learning about Chinese New Year. On Thursday we had a Chinese New Year Party where we tried different foods, sang songs and took part in ribbon dancing. We also enjoyed listening to the story about Chinese New Year. We were excited to find out that our animal was either a rooster or a dog.

**Question: Are you the year of the rooster or the dog?**

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## Year 1

Another fantastic week in year 1 has flown by and we have so much to celebrate. The children did us all so proud in our class assembly on Wednesday, showcasing all of their learning about the seasons. They read, sang, and conducted themselves so well. In English lessons, we have been enjoying our story 'unplugged' and writing sentences about the story using suffixes. We have also been focussing on our cursive handwriting and have introduced letters from the 'coat-hanger family' and the 'straight-line family'. In maths, we continue our work on place value within 20, learning and understanding the numbers 17, 18, 19, and 20 and identifying one more and one less than these numbers. We have also been looking at one more and one less in word problems. In R.E. this week, we named the special people in our lives and discussed what makes them special. The children drew some lovely portraits of their special person for our display. In science, we recorded the results of our investigation of how much rain would fall over the week using our rain gauge. In computing, we recapped the tools we use for digital painting and used them to create a picture using pointillism.

**Question: Which letters are in the coat-hanger and straight-line families?**

## Year 2

Year 2 have had a wonderful week of learning! In R.E, we have been learning about the Bible and we wrote our own blurb for it explaining its importance. We also designed our own front cover to illustrate different Bible stories that we know. We have been thinking about our mission statement, "Love one another, as I have loved you" and learning about its origin from scripture. In Maths, we have been continuing our addition and subtraction unit and we have been adding two 2-digit numbers, both crossing and not crossing a boundary. In English, we have been enjoying our book, Lizzie and the Birds. This week, we wrote a description from the perspective of the tornado and we included powerful verbs. We have been looking at using the -ed suffix and applied some of these words when writing an apology letter. In Art, we have designed and planned our own Great Fire of London picture in preparation to paint it.

**Question: Who reads the Bible and why is it important?**

**/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /**



## Year 3

This week in year 3 has been full of learning and fun activities. In English the children have completed non-fiction reports on a specific given animal. They researched facts in learning pairs and then planned their reports. The final products were amazing!

In maths we have focused on division as we come to the end of our current unit. The children have looked at working out remainders through grouping and solving a range of problems. They have worked brilliantly on this with high levels of accuracy.

In RE the children have researched the life of St. Stephen and created mini books on him. We then had discussions about what the actions of his life showed us about his character.

In Science we have analysed what a plant needs to be healthy and to grow. Children have completed a poster page showing these elements.

In Spanish the children have continued to learn about fruits and vegetables and improving our pronunciations.

**Question- what 5 things do plants need to grow?**

## Year 4

Another busy week in Year 4! The children are really enjoying our book 'The Promise.' This week, they put themselves in role as the main characters, writing their thoughts and feelings.

In Maths we have been investigating factors. The children explored numbers which had more factors than others and also Prime numbers which have no factors apart from themselves and 1.

In Geography, the children have learnt about the journey of a river. Using the vocabulary they acquired last week, they have drawn and written about how and rivers begin and end and what other features they possess.

In RE it was exciting to explore something of the history of St Stephen's Church as part of our unit on 'Community.' It was interesting for them to see photographs of years gone by and to see how important the church has been over the years.

**Question: What year was the parish of St Stephen's first established?**

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## Year 5

This week, in Year 5, we have continued our work in English on the Bollywood film Chak De! India. We have analysed the character of Kabir Khan, producing a role on the wall and a detailed character description using evidence from his facial expressions, body language and voice. We also completed a Dictate-A-Sentence activity, which allowed us to practise using relative clauses, modal verbs, parenthesis, punctuating direct speech and applying learned Year 5 spelling patterns.

Following Tuesday's KS2 assembly about Martin Luther King Jr, we completed a reading activity. We learned about his life and achievements and answered questions, including expressing our opinions on the importance of his civil rights work in America.

In RE, we have continued to explore our own and other's mission in life. We researched local and national charities which have meaning for us and produced a persuasive poster to encourage others to support the charity.

Finally, we completed our work on Fractions this week in Maths with work around adding and subtracting fractions from a mixed number with different denominators. Next week, we will be using formal written methods to multiply and divide by a 2 digit number.

**Question: What rules do we have to remember when adding the suffix 'ment'?**

## Year 6

Year 6 have been extremely busy this week as they have completed a practice set of SATs papers. The children have shown great maturity and resilience whilst completing these and we are extremely proud of the progress that the children have made across the Maths and English curriculum.

This week in English, we have been focusing upon our reading skills. We have shared and discussed our first impressions of characters from Wonder. The children had to find quotes from the text to back up their first impression and thoughts.

In Maths, we have been focusing upon multiplying and dividing fractions. It is vital that the children keep practising multiplying, dividing, adding and subtracting fractions as the methods or each operation vary. At home, the children can access their freckle account for additional revision.

In RE we have learnt about St Stephen, the patron saint of our school. Through reading Acts of the Apostles, we learnt about St Stephen's life and his mission. We thought about how St Stephen inspires us and linked this to our values: St Stephen's CARES. The children wrote reflections upon this which are to be displayed outside Mr Lavin's office.

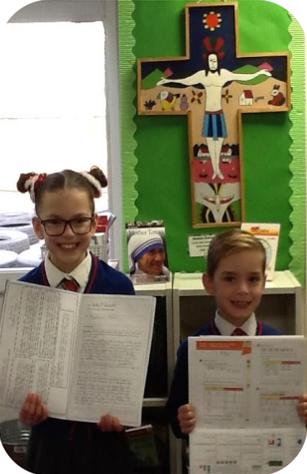
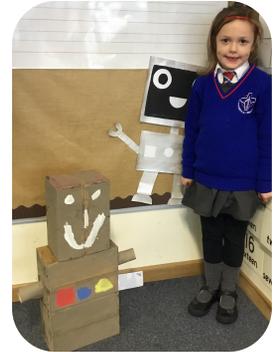
**Question: How does St Stephen inspire you?**

**/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /**



## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES

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



**/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /**