



**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 21st April 2023**

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

## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

I hope you are all well and have had a great Easter holiday with your families. We have gotten off to a great start to the term with lots of wonderful learning across the school. The sun has been a blessing too!

We started off the week in Assembly talking about the Easter Story and the weekend's Gospel of Doubting Thomas. We then talked to the children about 'asking twice'. We shared ways we can really check that our friends are okay, thinking about the questions we can ask, and who we can go to for help if we are upset or worried about anything. Children were reminded that in their classrooms they have a 'Five Fingered Friend' poster, letting them know who they can talk to.

**Year 5** - On Tuesday, Year 5 went on a trip to Bramall Hall in Stockport to learn all about Tudor life. Children came back to school full of new knowledge - they even learned a Tudor dance, which I am desperate to see!

**Nursery Outdoor Area** - We are starting quite a big project over the next few days/weeks to improve the outdoor area for our youngest children - you may have noticed the willow dome and tunnel already! I cannot wait to see the plans come together and give our children the much needed improvements to their outdoor area. If you use the entrance at Nursery to drop off/pick up, please do take extra care.

Similarly, we are continuing to develop our main playground with the additional picnic tables in place now - more to come. Children are already enjoying spending some time sitting on them and talking with their friends. Over the Summer we will have new playground markings being painted to provide even more opportunities during free time. Alongside the school budget, this all could not happen without the PTA and you supporting their events. Thank you!

### A few gentle reminders:

- Doors open at 8:40am - children should not be left unaccompanied on the playground before the classroom doors open - this is for health and safety reasons.
- 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.

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE...**

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

**Compassion**



**Ambition**



**Rejoice**



**Excellence**



**Service**



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## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

### A few gentle reminders continued:

- 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.

### NEU Industrial Action

You may be aware that further industrial action from members of the National Education Union (NEU) will take place on:

- **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

I am now in a position to share the school's plans for these days. Please do take note carefully of the classes closed as this may differ from the last strike day. I must stress to you this is not action against the school but is about concerns over teachers' pay and working conditions and the funding levels for schools.

The only basis for closing a school or a class is if they cannot be safely operated. Not all teachers are members of the NEU, they may be members of another union so some classes may be able to remain open. There will be variance in arrangements from school to school because of this.

I must make it clear however, that these plans may change nearer the time, or even on the day of the strike. Saying that, I do not anticipate any changes to the following:

- Year 6 – Both classes will remain open
- Year 5 – Both classes will be **closed**
- Year 4 – Both classes will be open
- Year 3 – Both classes will be open
- Year 2 – Both classes will be open
- Year 1 – both classes will be **closed**
- Reception – Both classes will be open
- Nursery will remain open

All children who normally receive a **benefits-related Free School Meal** who are not able to be in school should email [admin@stsrcp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stsrcp.co.uk) requesting a packed lunch (Ham, Tuna or Cheese sandwich) that can be collected from school at 12pm on these strike days. Orders must be placed via email by Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 12pm so we can ensure the food is ordered. I remind you; this decision has not been taken lightly and any frustration should not be directed at my staff individually. I understand that this will cause you some inconvenience and I apologise for that.

I will inform you if any of the above changes,  
Have a great weekend with your families.

Take care, **Mr Lavin, Headteacher**

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**Summer One Dates - MORE DATES MAY BE ADDED SO KEEP CHECKING**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>26/04/23</b>	Year4HB Class Assembly - 9:05 am in the School Hall
<b>27/04/23</b>	Year 2 and Year 5 Class Mass - 10:00 am in Church
<b>01/05/23</b>	School closed BANK HOLIDAY
<b>03/05/23</b>	Year 3DM Class Assembly - 9:05 am in the School Hall
<b>04/05/23</b>	Year 1 and Year 3 Class Mass - 10:00 am in Church
<b>04/05/23</b>	Nursery CLOSED due to Polling Day
<b>05/05/23</b>	Whole School Celebration for King's Coronation
<b>08/05/23</b>	School closed BANK HOLIDAY
<b>09/05/23</b>	Year 6 SAT - Grammar, Punctuation Spelling
<b>10/05/23</b>	Year 6 SAT - Reading
<b>11/05/23</b>	Year 6 SAT - Maths 1 and 2
<b>12/05/23</b>	Year 6 SAT - Maths 3
<b>17/05/23</b>	Year 6 Robinwood Residential
<b>17/05/23</b>	Y3LH/CS Class Assembly 9:05 am in the School Hall
<b>18/05/23</b>	Year 3 and Year 5 Class Mass - 10:00 am in Church
<b>19/05/23</b>	Year 6 Return from Robinwood
<b>19/05/23</b>	Half term begins at 3:15 pm

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## Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Nursery	William & Chester
RKF	Sienna
RNE	Kendrick
YISH	Thomas
YILB	Gavriel
Y2LS	Oscar
Y2AL	Elliott
Y3DM	Jacob
Y3CSLH	Luca
Y4GB	Harrison H
Y4HB	Alexis
Y5LW	Whole Class
Y5DW	Benjamin
Y6HG	Jayden M
Y6DF	Layla

## Readers of the Week



Nursery	Victoria
RKF	Jessica B
RNE	Poppy-Kay
YISH	Elijah
YILB	Myley-Dean
Y2LS	Daley
Y2AL	Hollie
Y3DM	Dolly-Rae
Y3CSLH	Yanis
Y4GB	Harlow
Y4HB	Erin
Y5LW	Rihanna
Y5DW	Brock
Y6HG	Anais
Y6DF	Bonnie

## Handwriters of the week



Nursery	Noah T
RKF	Abigail
RNE	Sofia
YISH	Gabrielle
YILB	Anastazja
Y2LS	Luna
Y2AL	Freya
Y3DM	Noah V
Y3CSLH	Riley-James
Y4GB	James
Y4HB	Phoebe
Y5LW	John-Paul
Y5DW	Vinnie
Y6HG	Edwin
Y6DF	Beatrice





## Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Ivy Beau
RKF	Rose
RNE	Bobby
Y1SH	Sophie
Y1LB	Panagiotis
Y2LS	Olivia
Y2AL	Oscar
Y3DM	George
Y3CS/LH	Charles B
Y4GB	Hannah
Y4HB	Gustavo
Y5LW	Olivia
Y5DW	Isabella
Y6HG	Sum Yin
Y6DF	Evie

## Sports Superstars

Nursery	Elliot
RKF	Noah
RNE	Deedee
Y1SH	Grace
Y1LB	Kaiden
Y2LS	Evelyn
Y2AL	Leila
Y3DM	Leraya
Y3CS/LH	Avaya
Y4GB	Lexi
Y4HB	Sienna
Y5LW	Dexter
Y5DW	Tan
Y6HG	Maddison
Y6DF	Lucas

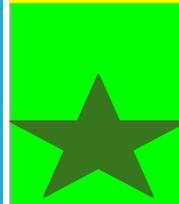
## House Points

Blue  
5944



Red  
6378

Yellow  
8665



Green  
6518

### Totals So Far!

Blue 125, 995  
 Green 120, 321  
 Red 113, 333  
 Yellow 144, 917



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## Attendance

Whole School	92.9%
Nursery AM	62.5%
Nursery Full Day	72.5%
RKF	96.4%
RNE	88.9%
Y5H	91.1%
Y1LB	92.5%
Y2LS	94.4%
Y2AL	93.1%
Y3DM	91.1%
Y3CS/LH	97.3%
Y4GB	99.2%
Y4HB	92.9%
Y5LW	95.8%
Y5DW	95.3%
Y6HG	96.4%
Y6DF	94.6%



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	42	6th: 2AL	12
2nd: NurFD	41	7th: RKF	9
3rd: 2LS	39	8th: RNE	4
4th: 1SH	18		
5th: NurAM	16		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y4GB	43	5th: Y3LH/CS	17
2nd: Y6HG	28	6th: Y6DF	15
3rd: Y4HB	25	7th: Y5DW	7
4th: 5LW	19		
5th: Y3DM	17		

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## Religious Education

### The Season of Easter

This half term we celebrate the 50 days of Easter, the greatest of all Christian celebrations. We also have the Feast of the Ascension (40 days after Easter). We finish the half term with the celebration of Pentecost – the birthday of the Church!

In class, the children will read and learn about the appearances of Jesus after the Resurrection. We will consider how we can prepare ourselves for the Pentecost celebration.

Please find below the big questions for each RE topic this half term:

- Reception and Nursery: What is Good News?**
- Year 1: Do we need holidays and holydays?**
- Year 2: Why should we spread the Good News?**
- Year 3: What's the use of energy?**
- Year 4: What's so important about new life?**
- Year 5: How can energy transform?**
- Year 6: What do I want to witness in my life?**

### Mass Times

Saturday Vigil  
5.30pm  
Sunday  
10.30am

Our Parish Priest is  
Father B. Wilson.



### Prayer of the Week

Lord of Easter Promise,  
Where I've buried my compassion... break open the tomb.  
Where I've buried my sense of mercy... break open the tomb.  
Where I've buried my humanity... break open the tomb.  
Where I've buried my love for my Heavenly Father...  
break open the tomb.  
Where I've buried my willingness to forgive... break  
open the tomb.  
Help me roll away the stone and find the miracle of  
new life.



Amen



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## Nursery

It has been lovely to be back this week. The children have really grown up.

It has been a little quieter than normal due to the chicken pox.

We have started our new book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. We also had a special delivery this week of 5 of our very own baby caterpillars which we will look after, watch and observe them grow!

In maths we have been looking at sequencing and putting things in the right order. The children have been great at finding where things are incorrect and putting it back in the right order.

We celebrate St George's Day too. We looked at the story of George and the Dragon.

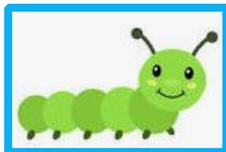


## Reception

The children have certainly hit the ground running this half term. We are so excited for what the summer term will bring, although we can't quite believe it's the final term of the school year.

The children were very excited to find out that our frogspawn has hatched into tadpoles. We have been checking each day for the next stage.

In Literacy, we read the story "The Woolly Bear Caterpillar" which we are really enjoying. We are expecting our very own special visitors in the next few days....



In maths we have started to think about numbers beyond ten and looking to see if we notice any patterns. In particular, the 1 more pattern. We have been using our ten frames to represent these larger numbers. We have also learnt a new word: **estimate**. Can you remember what this word means?

A letter has been handed out this week about our Creepy Crawly show. Payment can be made via ParentPay. Thank you.

Question: Can you estimate how many tadpoles we have?



## Year 1

We have had a very busy start to the summer term and the children have settled back into routines with ease. We began the week by sharing the story of Easter Sunday and the Good news it brings. In English we have started a new book, Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravett. The children really enjoyed the story that follows the character of Sunny as he tries to find the perfect place to live. The story led us to discuss and write about our families and the children wrote great character descriptions of Sunny. In maths we completed assessments on last half terms topics and began a new topic where the children were comparing lengths and heights. They also began to measure in cms. We continued our plants topic in science and spent our session identifying the parts of a tree and then recognising evergreen and deciduous trees. In geography we focussed on Wales - looking at famous landmarks and the capital city of Cardiff. We had fun trying to pronounce the name of the longest place in Wales. We have also spent an afternoon in forest school where the children learned about Queen Victoria and made hobby horses. They loved trotting and galloping around the forest and field. On Friday we enjoyed completing activities based around our patron saint, St. George.

**QUESTION: Can you spot some deciduous and evergreen trees locally?**

## Year 2

This week, we have welcomed our children back to school and they have been superstars. They have been demonstrating our world class behaviours and working hard.

This week, the children have been excellent Mathematicians. We have been continuing to broaden our understanding of multiplication and division by dividing by two, doubling, halving and completing the inverse to check our calculations. We have also been continuing our unit based on money. We have been identifying the value of different coins and notes; then using this knowledge to create different amounts.

In English, Miss Seville's group have been continuing to study Pandora. We have been extending our vocabulary and compared two contrasting settings, making excellent word choices. Miss Leigh's group have started the study of 'Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory'.

In Religion, we have been studying the Easter story and considered how the women felt when they arrived at the tomb to find Jesus' body was missing. The children showed great maturity and empathy during this study.

**Question: Which coins can you use to make £3 and 24p?**

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## Year 3

It has been a really fun and interesting first week back with lots of new units started.

In English we have we have begun our new book called 'Bear and the Piano'. The children have really enjoyed the story and the work so far. In maths we have moved onto our next fraction unit. We have completed questions and problems focused on adding and subtracting fractions.

In RE we have looked at the ascension and written from the perspective of a disciple.

In Science we have begun our new unit of work on 'Magnets'.

In Guided reading we have used the book 'Adam Wins the Internet' to answer questions. The children have loved this book and many have commented on wanting to carry it on at home. The book can be purchased on amazon.

Question- What materials/metals are magnetic?

## Year 4

Year 4 have had a great week back in school. The highlight was definitely our forest schools session with Mrs Artingstall. After learning about the Anglo Saxon findings at Sutton Hoo, the children made longships out of clay and used other items from the forest to make oars, sails and people. It was great to see the children using their imaginations to create a historical ship. In Maths we have made a good start on our Fractions unit. The children are engaging well with understanding the whole, mixed numbers and counting through one. Our new English text, 'Dare to Care, Pet Dragon' saw us looking at 'Dragonatomy.' Then we had to analyse dragon eggs and become experts on a particular species.

Earlier this week, we read the story of The Resurrection. We thought in particular about how Mary Magdelene felt when she discovered the empty tomb and how difficult it must have been for her when she told the disciples as they did not believe immediately.

**Question:** How were important Vikings buried?



## Year 5

All of the children (and adults) had a fantastic day on Tuesday at Bramall Hall. The children represented the school well, displaying world class behaviours, participating enthusiastically and asking interesting questions about life in Tudor times.

We couldn't be prouder of them.

To continue our learning this week, we have explored where the Tudors fit into a timeline of British history, as well as ordering Tudor monarchs and their reign. To understand the Tudors better, we learned about the War of the Roses between the Lancastrians and Yorkists, culminating in the Henry Tudor's victory at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

We also investigated the appearance and characteristics of Henry VIII in more depth using a range of primary and secondary sources. The children were challenged to scrutinise the evidence, identifying the source and how trustworthy it may be. Our studies will now concentrate on Henry VIII's break from Rome and the effects of the Reformation on English society both then and now.

In English, we have begun our unit on 'Ride the Wind' by Nicola Davies. We have made inferences about the events in the story, setting and characters, whilst also exploring in more depth the relationship between Javier and his father. This will continue next week.

**What surprised you the most about Henry VIII? Did it give you a new perspective on the kind of person he was?**

## Year 6

We have enjoyed welcoming the Year 6 children back to school this week and the children have been working extremely hard!

In Maths we completed our algebra topic which included using simple formulae. In our morning maths (Fluent in 12) we have been revising angles and solving missing angles within shapes.

We began our new book in English this week: Cicada. The children loved listening and discussing the story and showed great compassion and empathy towards our main character. We have also been revising grammatical features in the lead up to the SATS. This week we have revised past tense, direct/ reported speech and standard English.

In Guided Reading this week we read an extract from 'The Snow Queen'. This text had some challenging vocabulary which we had to define to make sense of parts of the text.

Please may we take this opportunity to remind you that morning booster sessions are still taking place on a Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8.20am.

**Question: Angles in a triangle equal..... Angles in a quadrilateral equal.....**

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## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES



It's been another remarkable week!  
Here are just a few photographs of learning experiences to share with you.



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