



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 October 2023

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

WOW! I cannot quite believe we have come to the end of the Autumn 1 Term, and what a term it has been! Our youngest children have settled in so well to our school routines and we all cannot wait to see them flourish over the terms to come. All children continue to work super hard and I am proud of their achievements so far this year. I would like to thank you all for your continued support and to thank the staff of St Stephen's for their continued hard work in providing the very best for your children.

Parent's Evening - I hope you found this week's Parent's Evening useful and that you are clear about how well your child is doing, and their areas for development. Y5GB parents - we will be in contact early next term to provide you with a new date.

Class Assembly - Thank you to Mr Muschamp's class for a wonderful class assembly this week. It is great to see all of your great work! Thank you parents/carers for attending. Next terms assemblies are in the calendar on the next page.

Parking - I am being contacted regularly regarding parking around school from very upset residents. Please do take care when parking around the school, particularly if you are blocking entrances to driveways or making it impossible for residents to drive down to their homes. Thank you for your understanding.

Year 3 Sacramental Mass - Last Sunday, those children in Year 3, who will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion this year, were presented to the Parish Community. It is a really special time for these children. Please keep them in your prayers as they move forward on their Sacramental Journey.

Congratulations - Congratulations to Mrs Gibson, who yesterday was appointed as Assistant Headteacher for Curriculum Development and Pedagogy. She remains as Year 6 teacher, and is responsible for developing our school curriculum. I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best in this role.

Calendar Dates - On the next page, you will find all calendar dates for the Autumn 2 Term, including all Christmas events. You will also find the term dates for next academic year.

And for now, it is time for a well deserved rest for us all. I hope you have a wonderful break with your families, and we look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Monday 30th October 2023.

Have a break, **Mr Lavin, Headteacher**

Our Values: St Stephen's CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



'It's the right thing to do...'



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Friday 15th September 2023

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Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
30/10/23	Autumn 2 Term Begins
01/11/23	Whole School Mass @10am
06/11/23	School Photos Day
08/11/23	Y2 Class Assembly (both classes together)
10/11/23	Y1, 2, 3 Mass @10am
13/11/23	Anti-Bullying Week
13/11/23	Odd Sock Day £1.00 donation
15/11/23	Y3LH Class Assembly
17/11/23	Y4/Y5 Mass @10am
22/11/23	Y3HB Class Assembly
24/11/23	Y6/Reception Mass @10am
26/11/23	PTA Christmas Fair
29/11/23	Y4SM Class Assembly
30/11/23	Nasal Flu
01/12/23	Y1, Y2, Y3 Mass @10am

Date	Event
08/12/23	Christmas Jumper Day £1.00 donation
08/12/23	Y4/Y5 Mass @10am
12/12/23	Nursery Nativity - School Hall at 9:30am
13/12/23	Reception Nativity - School Hall at 9:30am
14/12/23	Reception Nativity - School Hall at 9:30am
14/12/23	Year 1 Carol Concert - School Hall at 2:30pm
15/12/23	Year 2 Play - School Hall at 9:30am
15/12/23	Reception / Y6 Mass @10am
19/12/23	KS2 Carol Service 2pm in Church
20/12/23	Christmas Dinner Day
21/12/23	Christmas Party Day
22/12/23	Whole School Mass @10am
22/12/23	School closes @ 1:30pm
08/01/24	School Reopens

#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

WEBSITE: www.stsrcp.school
TWITTER: @stsrcp
TEL: 0161 370 2071

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St Stephen's RC Primary School Calendar 2024-2025

Autumn 1 Term (38 days)		
Staff INSET (1)	Monday 2nd September 2024	School Closed
Staff INSET (2)	Tuesday 3rd September 2024	School Closed
School reopens	Wednesday 4th September 2024	School Opens
School closes for mid-term break	Friday 25th October 2024	Half term begins at 3:15pm

Autumn 2 Term (35 days)		
School reopens	Monday 4th November 2024	School Opens
School closes for Christmas	Friday 20th December 2024	Half term begins at 1:30pm

Spring 1 Term (29 days)		
Staff INSET (3)	Monday 6th January 2025	School Closed
School reopens	Tuesday 7th January 2025	School Opens
School closes for mid-term break	Friday 14th February 2025	Half term begins at 3:15pm

Spring 2 Term (38 days)		
School reopens	Monday 24th February 2025	
School closes for Easter	Wednesday 16th April 2025	Half term begins at 1:30pm

Summer 1 Term (19 days)		
School reopens	Monday 28th April 2025	School Opens
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May 2025	School Closed
School closes for mid-term break	Friday 23rd May 2025	Half term begins at 3:15pm

Summer 2 Term (31 days)		
School reopens	Monday 9th June 2025	School Opens
Staff INSET (4)	Friday 4th July 2025	School Closed
School closes for Summer	Tuesday 22nd July 2025	Summer begins at 1:30pm
Staff INSET (5)	Wednesday 23rd July 2025	School Closed

190 School days + 5 INSET = 195 days**Staff INSET - School closed for pupils**

Monday 2nd September 2024	School Closed for INSET
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	School Closed for INSET
Monday 6th January 2025	School Closed for INSET
Friday 4th July 2025	School Closed for INSET
Wednesday 23rd July 2025	School Closed for INSET

Bank Holidays

Wednesday 25th December 2024	Bank Holiday for Christmas Day
Thursday 26th December 2024	Bank Holiday for Boxing Day
Wednesday 1st January 2025	Bank Holiday for New Year's Day
Friday 18th April 2025	Good Friday
Monday 21st April 2025	Easter Monday
Monday 5th May 2025	Early May Bank Holiday
Monday 26th May 2025	Spring Bank Holiday
Monday 25th August 2025	Summer Bank Holiday

The table above shows 190 pupil school days and 5 INSET days. Any application for leave of absence during term time will only be considered by the headteacher if there are exceptional circumstances that warrant granting leave. Please note: Family holidays should not be taken during term time.

AUTUMN

IN TAMESIDE



Autumn Events

Introduction to Foraging Walk & Talk

on Tuesday 24 October
11am-1pm at Chadwick Dam, Ashton



Bat Detecting Family Walk & Talk

on Wednesday 25 October
5.30pm-7pm at Chadwick Dam, Ashton



Tea Foraging Walk & Talk

on Thursday 26 October
2pm-4pm at Chadwick Dam, Ashton



Apples & Alchemy

at Werneth Low Country Park
Sunday 29 October, 11am - 3pm



Autumn inspired Wall hanging

Tuesday 24 October

Embossed foil Folk art

Thursday 26 October

Portland Basin Museum
Drop in any time between
11am-3pm.

£1.30 per child.

Suitable for children
of all ages. Children must be
accompanied at all times.



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IN TAMESIDE

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Please could we remind you of Dolce's payment terms for your child's school meals.

We ask that all SchoolGrid accounts are kept in credit at all times and any meals taken will be deducted from this balance.

You can make a payment by logging on to your SchoolGrid account and clicking [account] - [make card payment]. This can be topped up as often as you like and for your chosen amount. If a figure is showing in the payment box, you can delete this to add more credit.

Should your account fall into arrears, you will be sent an automated arrears notification, by email, reminding you to top up your account.

If your account falls into arrears by three meals, your child's account will now become frozen. You will need to immediately credit your SchoolGrid account (as above) as we will no longer be able to provide a school meal until the arrears have been cleared.

Direct debit is no longer a payment option at Dolce's education catering.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact customer care on 01942 707709 or email customer care@dolce.co.uk

Regards,
Dolce Customer Care





Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Readers of the Week



Handwriters of the week



Nursery	Adrian & Erin
RLS	Cole
RNE	Harriet
Y1SH	Aaliyah
Y1LB	Poppy
Y2LS	Runo
Y2AL	Ava
Y3HB	Luna
Y3LH	Klayson
Y4DM	Jacob
Y4SM	Samson
Y5LW	Travis
Y5GB	Audrey
Y6HG	Carter
Y6DF	Annalise

Nursery	Elliott
RLS	Jake
RNE	Aurora
Y1SH	Maisie
Y1LB	Odin
Y2LS	Michelle
Y2AL	Lano
Y3HB	Jeremiah
Y3LH	Ember
Y4DM	Charles
Y4SM	Jacob
Y5LW	Beau
Y5GB	Annabelle
Y6HG	Khaceriah
Y6DF	Lacey

Nursery	Emily
RLS	Louie
RNE	Brume
Y1SH	Huckleberry
Y1LB	Amelia
Y2LS	Panagiotis
Y2AL	Thomas
Y3HB	Boma
Y3LH	Keane
Y4DM	Daisy
Y4SM	Estee
Y5LW	Ralph
Y5GB	Jemima
Y6HG	Mabel
Y6DF	Melody





Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Alfie
RLS	Gadiel
RNE	Vinnie
YISH	Ivy
YILB	Lily
Y2LS	Arabella
Y2AL	Raya-Mae
Y3HB	Daley
Y3LH	Elliott
Y4DM	Isla
Y4SM	Tallulah
Y5LW	Erin
Y5GB	Abigail
Y6HG	Ava
Y6DF	Eddie T

Sports Star of the Week

Nursery	Adrian
RLS	Evie
RNE	Tilly
YISH	Arthur
YILB	Keziah
Y2LS	Michelle
Y2AL	Harrison
Y3HB	Luna
Y3LH	Adora
Y4DM	Harrison
Y4SM	Saul
Y5LW	Finley
Y5GB	Minhat
Y6HG	Amelia
Y6DF	Dolton

Dojo Points

Nursery	603
RLS	837
RNE	1197
YISH	1259
YILB	1257
Y2LS	508
Y2AL	1083
Y3HB	1619
Y3LH	930
Y4DM	865
Y4SM	1014
Y5LW	2780
Y5GB	2844
Y6HG	1432
Y6DF	1026

Winners!

'It's the right thing to do...'





Attendance

Whole School	93.2%
Nursery AM	100%
Nursery Full Day	89.5%
RLS	88%
RNE	81.3%
Y1SH	92.3%
Y1LB	93.8%
Y2LS	96.2%
Y2AL	94.8%
Y3HB	93.3%
Y3LH	92.9%
Y4DM	96.6%
Y4SM	95.7%
Y5LW	97.1%
Y5GB	94.2%
Y6HG	91.4%
Y6DF	95.4%



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

St Stephen's Attendance League

Each week our classes compete to gain points

on our attendance league!

Points are calculated based on the highest class percentages for each key stage.

100%



1st place = 3 Points

2nd Place = 2 Points

3rd Place = 1 Point

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1			
Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 2LS	9	5th: RNE	2
2nd: NurFD	7	6th: RLS	1
3rd: 1LB	6	6th: 2AL	1
3rd: NurAM	6		
4th: 1SH	3		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2			
Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5LW	8	5th: Y3LH	3
2nd: Y5GB	7	6th: Y6HG	2
3rd: Y3HB	6	7th: Y6DF	0
3rd: Y4SM	6		
4th: Y4DM	4		

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Religious Education

All Saints Day

On Wednesday 1st November, we will be celebrating All Saints Day.

All Saints Day a day commemorating all the saints of the church, both known and unknown, who have attained heaven.

Please join us for Mass at 10am on Wednesday 1st November.



Mass Times

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

Our Parish Priest is Father B. Wilson.

We keep Father Wilson in our prayers as he recovers from illness.

We welcome Father Callistus Orjika to St Stephen's as our assistant priest as Father Wilson recovers.

Class Masses will continue weekly on a Friday at 10am Mass.

Prayer of the Week

Lord, what about you and me?
I don't want to forget you
just because I'm away from
my normal routine.

Keep close to me, Lord, and
remind me that my relationship
with you should never take a
break.

Loving God, we pray for all
children as they prepare for a
new season in their lives.

Amen



OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

How to Pray the Rosary





Nursery

This week we have had an Autumnal last week. The children have painted autumn trees, rescued insects from the spider web, painted with conkers, used scissors to cut out autumnal pictures and painted, washed and scooped the insides out of pumpkins.. In RE we have made bookmarks for the children to bring home with their weekly books. In Maths, we have begun to sort objects by colour, shape and size. We have participated in lots of lovely additional activities this week including Black History Month, Dance-A-Thon and Fire Safety Day. It was lovely to see you all at parents evening this week. We had 100% attendance. I hope you all have a lovely week off. Please send pictures on dojo of what you get up to.

•Question – Who is Mae Jemison?

Reception

We cannot believe we have completed our first half term in Reception! It has flown by and the children have grown and learnt so much already.

We have finished our Autumn topic. We really enjoyed "The Leaf Thief" story. This week we innovated the story. We changed the characters, setting and main events of the story and came up with actions. We then retold the new version of the story. Both classes came together on Thursday and performed for each other.

In maths, we have continued to think about measures. We have thought about capacity, height and length. We have been completing lots of comparison activities and learning and using appropriate vocabulary.

We had a great time at the St. Stephen's Dance-A-Thon - we danced our socks off and we raised a lot of money for a great cause.

We enjoyed a variety of activities based around fire safety on Friday and we enjoyed our first class mass with our special friends.

We hope everyone has a great half term break!

*Please see the message on Dojo regarding Reception VIPs after the half term. Thank you!

Question: Would we use the words tall and short to compare worms or towers?



Year 1

We have had a great final week of term in year 1! We really enjoyed speaking to you at parent's evening and sharing your child's progress. In English this week, children used their story maps to write some of their own stories. In maths, we have been writing addition number sentences and finding systematic number bonds within 10. In science, children used their sense of smell and described what things smelled like. Children were then assessed on their understanding of the 5 senses. In history this week, we learned about our current prime minister and discussed what rules we would enforce if we were in charge. In R.E we studied the Judaism religion, focussing on the key figures, Abraham and Moses. To finish the week, we had our Fire Safety afternoon. Children learned about how to avoid fire hazards and how to stay safe in the event of a fire.

Name one thing you should do in the event of a fire.

Year 2

We've had a great final week of this half term in Year 2! We can't quite believe how quickly the time has gone.

In English this week we have been applying all of the skills we have learnt this half term to write a diary entry from the perspective of a character in the Highway Rat. The children have expanded their vocabulary and been ensuring that they use time adverbials effectively in their writing.

In Maths, we have continued to work on our addition and subtraction skills through the revision of number bonds and fact families.

In Religion this week, we have completed our unit about new beginnings. The children have written some beautiful prayers thanking God for the creation of our world and everything in it.

We have also been brilliant historians this week, continuing our study of The Great Fire of London. The children have analysed extracts from Samuel Pepys' diary. During our workshop on Thursday, we time travelled back to 1666 where we completed lots of drama activities to immerse ourselves in what life was like during the great fire. The children were amazing!

We completed our week with a fire safety study and considered different hazards. Finally, we enjoyed inviting you into school during parents' evening and sharing with you the great work that your children have been completing.

Question: What was it like on Pudding Lane during the Great Fire of London?



Year 3

What an amazing week in Year 3! At the start of the week, both classes enjoyed their second session of Forest Schools. This time the activities were all around our History topic of The Stone Age. In teams, the children had to make a den with a selection of materials. Later they made prints like cave paintings. This week we celebrated Black History month. Year 3 looked at the life of Malorie Blackman, a famous children's author. We were impressed by her resilience as initially she struggled to find a publisher willing to publish her work. In Maths we have worked on adding and subtracting 1 and 10 to/from a range of numbers. We had to decide which place value columns would need to change each time.

We finished reading the Bear and the Piano in English and reviewed the story. The children are really enjoying our class book 'Omar.' Many of them are keen to read the next books in the series.

Question: Can you name the titles of three books written by Malorie Blackman?

Year 4

This week in year 4 we have focused on 3 specific learning areas outside of our core learning. In History we have celebrated Black H^Istory month by producing work on the amazing GB athlete Jessica Ennis Hill. The children have written fact files about her through research and also created cartoon artwork depicting her Gold medal performance at the 2012 games.

In RE we have focused on Judaism this week and specifically the Torah and the Bar/Bat mitzvah ceremonies. The children have been extremely respectful and have showed fantastic engagement throughout the week.

In PSHE we have looked at fire safety. This work has provided children with key information and support in understanding the dangers of fire.

In math we have continued our subtraction and addition focus, looking at estimation, inverse operations and written methods.

Question- What ages do boys and girls become adults in Jewish faith?



Year 5

This week, in year 5, we have learned about the Maya writing system. The children took part in an information hunt, answered questions relating to Maya writing, replicated Maya logograms, created logograms of their own and explained how Maya writing has influenced our own writing today. The children enjoyed finding out about this ancient language and were fascinated to learn there are 24 ways to write B'alam (Jaguar)

To conclude our unit on 'Ourselves' in RE, we researched the life of St Oscar Romero, an archbishop and martyr who gave his life for his beliefs in El Salvador in 1980. We created non-chronological reports about his life, family, his work with the poor in his community and how he can inspire us to follow our own beliefs as Christians.

We concluded the week with our Fire Safety day. The children completed a range of activities including: identifying fire hazards, planning escape plans, learning how to stay safe and ring for help and the importance of fire alarms in our homes.

Question - What are logograms, syllabograms, glyphs and codices in Maya writing?

Year 6

We have had another fantastic week in Year 6 this week.

In English, we finished reading 'The Final Year'. The children sighed when it ended and demanded a part 2 be written! Maybe we will have to write some persuasive letters to Matt Goodfellow! Next term, we will be reading 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. If the children would like to buy this to read along in class it would significantly add to their learning experience.

In Maths, we have been completing working through long division and the way we interpret remainders. This has often been in the context of reasoning and problem solving questions, which have challenged the children and their understanding of the concepts. We have also looked at some multi-step problems, which tend to be some of the more challenging questions. We have been incredibly proud of the resilience all of the children have shown in Maths through the week.

We continued to explore evacuation in History and the children explored primary resources and analysed if they were reliable or not. We learnt that many evacuation photographs are bias.

Question: Explain the stages of long division