



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 3rd November 2023

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... Welcome back to the first newsletter since our return to school following the mid-term break. I hope you enjoyed the break and spending some special time with your families. We have had a great start to the term with lots of exciting things happening around school - I am sure you will enjoy reading all about these in the class summaries later in the newsletter.

World War 1 Week - We had a special themed week based on World War 1 this week. Each year group took a different aspect/ event that happened and studied it in detail. Some of the work children have produced has been outstanding.

All Saints Day - On Wednesday, we attended mass as a whole school to celebrate All Saints Day. It was a lovely celebration and as always, children's singing and behaviour was remarkable. Many of the parishioners commented on how much they loved seeing the children at mass. Remember mass it on Saturday evening at 5:30 pm and Sunday morning at 10:30am - Father would be delighted to see the children there!

School Photographs - On Monday it is individual, and siblings, school photographs. If your child usually comes into school in their PE on Monday, we would advise that they come into school in their full school uniform and they can change into their PE kit after the photographs have been taken. We ask that full school uniform is worn, including a school tie.

This information is just for those parents that wish to have a family photograph with siblings who do not attend St Stephen's. If you would like a sibling photograph with a child **not** attending St Stephen's yet, please queue at the school hall from **8:30am**. Bring all your children with you (including those who attend St Stephen's) and after the photograph we can take them to their classroom - this should make the morning run smoothly. Please bring an umbrella for the queue if it is raining as it will be one family at a time in the hall.

All other children should arrive at school as normal. Sibling photographs with all of your children attending St Stephen's will be organised by school during the school day.

All dates for the term can be found on the next page - please make sure you note down the Christmas events!

Have a lovely weekend, and keep extra safe if you are attending bonfires!
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
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 (RNE)
14/12/23	Reception Nativity - School Hall at 9:30am (RLS)
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

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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.



Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Readers of the Week



Handwriters of the week



Nursery	Eddison & Pippa
RLS	Freddie
RNE	Tilly
Y1SH	Deedee
Y1LB	Keziah
Y2LS	Freddie
Y2AL	Harrison
Y3HB	Eliza
Y3LH	Charlie
Y4DM	Dolly
Y4SM	Estee
Y5LW	Lily-Grace
Y5GB	Sam
Y6HG	Kaitlyn
Y6DF	Jensen

Nursery	Cole
RLS	Isabella W
RNE	Vinnie
Y1SH	Alise
Y1LB	Sienna
Y2LS	Jake
Y2AL	Sophie
Y3HB	Boma
Y3LH	Poppy
Y4DM	Tarandeep
Y4SM	Isla
Y5LW	Alexis
Y5GB	Scarlett
Y6HG	Tyler
Y6DF	Louie

Nursery	Lena
RLS	Lula
RNE	Tommy
Y1SH	Denis
Y1LB	Declan
Y2LS	Linen
Y2AL	Hudson
Y3HB	Pippa
Y3LH	Tegan
Y4DM	Jacob
Y4SM	Frances
Y5LW	Charlie
Y5GB	Lyla
Y6HG	Kyrah
Y6DF	Oscar





Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Annie
RLS	Betti
RNE	Aurora
Y1SH	Luke
Y1LB	Rose
Y2LS	Jacob
Y2AL	Sam
Y3HB	Brooke
Y3LH	Alex
Y4DM	Elijah
Y4SM	Avaya
Y5LW	Tejiri
Y5GB	Macy
Y6HG	Megan
Y6DF	Alfie H

Sports Star of the Week

Nursery	Fi Fi
RLS	Leighlah
RNE	Maverick
Y1SH	Deedee
Y1LB	Ronnie
Y2LS	Gavriel
Y2AL	Lena
Y3HB	Kacper
Y3LH	Mustafa
Y4DM	Charlie
Y4SM	Yasmin
Y5LW	Seth
Y5GB	Lexi
Y6HG	Leah
Y6DF	Toby H



Dojo Points will return next week



Attendance

Whole School	95.1%
Nursery AM	96.3%
Nursery Full Day	99.3%
RLS	95.5%
RNE	89.1%
Y1SH	94.7%
Y1LB	95.5%
Y2LS	98.9%
Y2AL	94.3%
Y3HB	93.3%
Y3LH	90.4%
Y4DM	94.6%
Y4SM	96.1%
Y5LW	98.8%
Y5GB	96.5%
Y6HG	94.1%
Y6DF	96.2%

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	11	6th: RNE	2
2nd: NurFD	10	7: RLS	1
3rd: NurAM	7	7th: 2AL	1
4th: 1LB	6		
5th: 1SH	3		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5LW	11	5th: Y3LH	3
2nd: Y5GB	9	6th: Y6HG	2
3rd: Y3HB	6	7th: Y6DF	1
3rd: Y4SM	6		
4th: Y4DM	4		



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

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Religious Education

November- A Month of Remembrance

The month of November is traditionally a time in which the Catholic community remembers those who have died.

In this month, we remember all those who have died and have entered Heaven. During Liturgies and Prayer time in class, the children will be praying for their family and members who have joined God for everlasting life in Heaven.



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

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

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Nursery

What an amazing first week back we have had. The children have read and re-told the story of Meg and Mog, invented their own stories and began to use puppets to retell familiar stories. In Maths the children have been sorting objects and guessing the rule. On Thursday we started our new story book 'Owl Babies.' The children have really enjoyed flying round outside like owls, sorting feathers and owl footprints and have made a large owl tree for our display. We also took part in WW1 week and made a large poppy wreath for our classroom door. Next week the children are going to take part in Forest School - where possible every child needs to bring wellies/appropriate footwear in for this.

Question - Why do we wear poppies?

Reception

What an amazing MONSTER week we've had. The children have made and described a monster sock puppet (thank you for all of the sock donations!!), we have made monster biscuits, we have fed the monsters some monster sounds. We have created monsters in the creative area and written names for them in the writing area. In the construction area we have designed and built homes for our monsters to live in! In maths we have been looking at circles and triangles - we used these shapes to make shape monsters.

We had an amazing time at our monster ball. We ate monster food, played monster games and of course did some monster dancing!!

On Thursday afternoon, we learnt about World War 1 as part of the school's World War 1 week. Next week, we will complete some poppy art with our Year 6 special friends.

Question: What is special about a circle and a triangle?



Year 1

We have had a lovely first week back in school. The children have settled back into routines with ease. It has been good to see them working more independently in their Rainbow Challenges.

In English we have started our new story "Supertato" by Sue Hendra.. The children were surprised to find the Evil Pea had visited our classroom and caused some chaos!

They have created Wanted posters to track him down!. In maths we have been learning our number bonds to 10.

We have had a focus on WWI and the children have been learning about the purple poppy and how it commemorates the efforts of animals in service.

In science we have started to look at the seasons, with a focus on autumn and changes in our environment. We have also been learning about the significance of remembrance in history and in our faith. In RE we have been discussing what it means to belong.

Question: Can you recall number bonds to 10 quickly?

Year 2

Year 2 have had a very busy first week back and we have been completing all our units from last half term. We have now finished our learning about the Great Fire of London and the children have a good understanding of how firefighting methods have changed and how London was rebuilt after the fire. We can't wait to showcase our work to you in our assembly next Wednesday! In Science, we have been learning about humans as mammals and we investigated how exercise increases our heart rate. We have completed our Judaism unit in R.E and the children have written their own blessings for Shabbat.

Question: How was London rebuilt after the Great Fire of London?

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Year 3

Another jam packed week in Year 3. The children were so excited to start our new English book, 'Stone Age Boy.' They enjoyed creating a conversation in role between the main character and the Stone Age girl.

This week in History, we learnt about the truce in World War One. This was when the British and German troops took part in a football match and exchanged small presents. The children completed a fascinating piece of writing. They wrote a diary entry as one of the British soldiers, describing events and expressing how he felt to be so far from home.

In Maths we have been working hard on our three times tables. Many of the children are already confident.

In RE this week, we explored an aspect of Judaism. Specifically, synagogues and the job of the rabbi. The children found it interesting to point out the similarities and differences between a synagogue and a church.

Question: What is the name of the Jewish holy book?

Year 4

This week in year 4 we have completed our English work on our class book Lost Happy Endings. We have edited our work to improve our draft version and published on a cool, witches hat template.

In math we have moved onto looking at area. We have looked at counting squares inside shapes to calculate the area of given shapes.

In RE we have begun our new unit focused on 'being called'. We looked at stories of being called and spoke about the decisions made. We also read through the bible story of David being called called to be King by God and we re-told this story in our own written form.

In Science we have started our new unit on matter. We have analysed the three elements of matter and looked at the processes that take place to move matter from one state to another.

Question- What are the three forms of matter?



Year 5

A fantastic week here in Year 5. We were excited to welcome the children back after the half term and we have produced some great pieces of work.

Developing our understanding of Ancient Maya, the children conducted research into the Maya Calendar and discovered that the Mayans had three calendars which were used simultaneously; the Long Count, the Haab and the Tzolkin. We used this research and information to produce some excellent double page spreads. The children should be very proud of their achievements.

In English, we have utilised our understanding of formal language and letter structure to produce formal letters of complaint to our local MP, Angela Rayner. With inspiration from 'Saving the butterfly', the children unpicked and understood problems faced by refugees in the UK. This generated some interesting, thoughtful and considerate discussions regarding the conditions which are faced and the children identified possible solutions to these. The children worked extremely hard to make appropriate choices of formal language to make their writing more sophisticated and we are excited to post the published pieces of writing to Angela Rayner.

In RE, we have completed our unit on 'Ourselves' by planning a collective worship to celebrate and rejoice in what we have learnt. These will be held next week. To begin our new unit on Judaism, the children have begun writing non-chronological reports about the Passover, considering how it is celebrated, why it is important and when it is held.

Question: How many days were in the Tzolkin year?

Year 6

Year 6 have come back with a fantastic attitude towards their learning. We have completed our final pieces of writing on the Final Year in English. The children wrote an apology letter from PS to Nate and enjoyed writing informally whilst showing off their knowledge of sentence structure.

Within our spelling lessons, we have revised adding the ly suffix. Assignments have been set on spelling shed for the children to complete and we would encourage all children to log in at home.

In Maths this week, we have been finishing off our unit on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This has included looking at the order of operations and how to use known facts to help us with further problems.

In RE, we have completed our unit on God's love for us. We used our poetic knowledge and understanding from English to write poems to reflect upon God's love.

Finally, in History we have learnt about the Manchester Blitz. The children wrote detailed diary entries recounting what a night in shelter was like during the Blitz. The emotive language used was fantastic!

Question: When did the Manchester Blitz take place?

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