



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 1st December 2023

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

A Message from Mr Lavin... Another busy week at St Stephen's has come to a close - I can't quite believe there is only three weeks left of this term. This week has been Assessment Week - children have taken part in assessments in Maths, Reading and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. The children have worked extremely hard and I am so pleased with the progress they are making. These assessments help teachers to understand where there are gaps in learning and ensure children are progressing well with the curriculum. A huge well done to everyone!

Christmas season is upon and I cannot wait to see the preparations for the various performances to start. This Sunday is the 1st Sunday of Advent - we light the first purple candle on our Advent Wreaths, which is a symbol of Hope as we await the arrival of baby Jesus.

Christmas Fair - Thank you so much to our PTA and the Church Community for coming together to hold such a fantastic Christmas Fair. I am always so grateful for the hard work and dedication that goes into organising these events. A huge thank you to all involved and to you for your continued support in raising vital funds for school.

Y4SM - Thank you to Mr Meleady's class for sharing a wonderful class assembly this week. It is always a pleasure to watch how much the music tuition that children receive benefits our children. As always, thank you for taking the time to attend. Class Assemblies will resume in the New Year and I will provide the dates in the final newsletter of the term.

Christmas Coffee Morning - Our Pupil Parliament Team have planned an event for our Parishioners and for all Grandparents on Friday 8th December. Refreshments for Grandparents will be served from 9am in the School Hall and there will be a few songs performed from our Christmas Productions. Spread the world to your families.

Early Career Teachers - Yesterday, we hosted an event for all the Early Career Teachers within the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust. There were 13 visitors in total and they spent time visiting classrooms and watching how we do things here at St Stephen's. They were very complimentary about the work we do at St Stephen's and were very impressed with our children. It's great to showcase our school at events like this and helps us share the great practice to the other schools within Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust. Our conversion is still underway and we hope to join Emmaus officially on 1st January 2024.

The next few weeks are jam packed so please do look at the calendar dates on the next page.

Have a great weekend! 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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BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

Dates for your calendar

Date	Event
06/12/23	Choir performing in Piccadilly AM
08/12/23	Christmas Jumper Day £1.00 donation
08/12/23	Christmas Coffee Morning for Grandparents and Parish Community
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

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Chester & Nehneh
RLS	Louie
RNE	Sienna-Rose
Y1SH	Maisie
Y1JL	Noah
Y2LS	Kalani
Y2AL	Elijah
Y3HB	Adam
Y3LH	Tegan
Y4DM	Lereya W
Y4SM	Charlotte
Y5LW	Gustavo
Y5GB	Abigail
Y6HG	Desta
Y6DF	Daisy

Readers of the Week



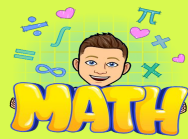
Nursery	Dustie
RLS	Leon
RNE	Victoria
Y1SH	Sayo
Y1JL	Harry
Y2LS	Lyna
Y2AL	Isla
Y3HB	Hudson
Y3LH	Leila B
Y4DM	Elijah B
Y4SM	Elise
Y5LW	Ralph
Y5GB	Harrison H
Y6HG	Isabella
Y6DF	Blaize

**1%
BETTER**





Maths Star



Nursery	Wyatt
RLS	Zaviyar
RNE	Oreofeoluwa
Y1SH	Olenka
Y1JL	Octavia
Y2LS	Parker
Y2AL	James
Y3HB	Eliza
Y3LH	Caoimhe
Y4DM	Serenity
Y4SM	Mia Bella
Y5LW	Lucie
Y5GB	Deborah
Y6HG	Teddy
Y6DF	India

Writing Star



Nursery	Lucie
RLS	Leo
RNE	Sienna H
Y1SH	Ivy
Y1JL	Lily
Y2LS	Annie
Y2AL	Lyne
Y3HB	Thomas
Y3LH	Riley
Y4DM	George
Y4SM	Laicee
Y5LW	Darcy
Y5GB	Harrison R
Y6HG	Zach
Y6DF	Rihanna

**1%
BETTER**





Sports Star



Nursery	Flora
RLS	Jake
RNE	Harper
Y1SH	Dennis
Y1JL	Cornelia
Y2LS	Myley-dean
Y2AL	Thomas
Y3HB	Clark
Y3LH	Riley
Y4DM	Yugank
Y4SM	Lola
Y5LW	Finley
Y5GB	Lilly
Y6HG	Archer
Y6DF	Dexter

Class Dojo Points



Nursery	206
RLS	653
RNE	730
Y1SH	956
Y1JL	605
Y2LS	506
Y2AL	673
Y3HB	541
Y3LH	822
Y4DM	1253
Y4SM	692
Y5LW	1805
Y5GB	1898 Winners!!
Y6HG	611
Y6DF	935

**1%
BETTER**





Attendance

Whole School: 94.5%

Nursery AM	67.9%	3HB	95.8%
Nursery Full Day	94.7%	3LH	97.1%
RLS	87%	4DM	92.9%
RNE	90.9%	4SM	94.6%
Y1SH	93.1%	5LW	97.5%
Y1JL	97%	5GB	99.6%
Y2LS	98.1%	6HG	92.9%
Y2AL	91.7%	6DF	95.8%

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 2LS	18	6th: RLS	3
2nd: NurFD	15	7th: RNE	2
3rd: 1JL	11	8th: 2AL	1
4th: NurAM	9		
5th: 1SH	3		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5LW	22	5th: Y3LH	4
2nd: Y5GB	17	6th: Y6HG	2
3rd: Y3HB	8	6th: Y6DF	2
4th: Y4SM	7		
5th: Y4DM	4		



Religious Education

Travelling Nativity

Next week, our children will begin to bring their class travelling nativity home.

Within the travelling nativity bag, there will be a nativity scene, a candle and prayers, Please share these at home with your families and then return it the next day to school for another family to enjoy.

If you take any pictures, please email these to Mrs Gibson (hanah.gibson@stsrcp.co.uk) for our whole school display.



Ten Ten Meeting

Due to technical difficulties, we were unable to host our Ten Ten Meeting.

The new date will be Monday 4th December at 9.10am. Thank you for your understanding.

Ten Ten is our PSHE and RSHE scheme in school. This is aimed at new Nursery and Reception parents however, anyone can attend if they would like a refresher.

An email will be sent today with the link to the meeting.

All information will be sent via email to all families on Monday evening.

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

O Lord Jesus Christ, our King and Saviour, may we never forget your love for each one of us, a love that led to death on a cross. We praise you always.

Amen.





Nursery

This week the children have worked extremely hard practicing their Nativity performance. Please keep learning any lines and songs at home.

The children are at the Imitation stage of their talk for writing sessions in our book "WOW said the owl." In Maths we have been learning about AB patterns and the children are excited to progress to ABC patterns next week.

In forest school this week the children planted a bean and then went into the forest where they were given a piece of dogwood to use as a magic wand as in the winter it glows red. The children got really creative and were turning their friends into frogs, dogs, cats and bunny rabbits.

On Monday we have our owl visit. We have spoken to the children about being quiet around the owls and how they must listen to instructions to ensure the owls stay safe.

Can you retell the story of "WOW said the owl."

Reception

The children in Reception have been working so hard, especially in Literacy. We have innovated our story "Room on the Broom." The children decided to change the witch to Father Christmas who lost his presents! The children were amazing when retelling their innovated version. Well done, Reception!

In maths, we have been working hard to learn how numbers 1-5 are made up.

We have been thinking about how the smaller numbers (parts) are added together to make the whole.

In RE we took part in Baptism service of Baby Stephen. We took on different roles (parents, Godparents, Priest, congregation) and enjoyed this very special sacrament.

Next week will be the start of our "celebration" topic. We are excited to begin our new text "Jesus' Christmas Party."

Question: Can you innovate your favourite story at home?



Year 1

The children have been working through their termly assessments in maths, reading, spelling and writing. They have worked hard and we are proud of their efforts. We started our new Geography topic, looking at the United Kingdom. The children were able to locate countries and seas.

In RE we concluding our Baptism topic by sharing what we had learned. The children remembered many of the rituals and symbols of the sacrament.

In maths we continue to work on our mental maths and to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction. We can see many scores improving by the end of the week.

Our Rainbow Challenges are being completed independently by many of the children and we are pleased to see their resilience when working alone. We finished the week by celebrating Mass with Year 2 and 3.

QUESTION: Can you name the countries of the UK?

Year 2

This week, we have been completing our termly assessments and we are so proud of the children's resilience! They have worked extremely hard and we are so proud of the progress that the children are making in all areas.

We started off the week by completing our Art unit and the children produced some beautiful observational drawings of the items that they collected in the forest last week.

In English, we have started reading a Christmas text, Little Robin Red Vest. The children have explored how Little Robin is full of the Christmas spirit and they have been analysing the key features of a letter. They have even written their own letters to Father Christmas that have been sent off to the North Pole!

In Maths, we have been building on the skill of addition by making 10, and we have applied this knowledge to solve addition with 3 single digit numbers.

In R.E, we have looked at the order of a Baptism and discussed any that we have been to. We ended the week with a lovely Mass and all the children were beautifully behaved.

Question: What is the most efficient way to solve $6 + 9 + 4$?



Year 3

This week in Year 3 we have been working hard to complete our assessments in English and Maths.

In our English unit we completed our unit on 'Stone Age Boy' by writing a non-chronological report. Our History learning also helped the children to write an informative and knowledge-rich text.

In Art, we compared a modern artist's use of charcoal when portraying dogs with the work of Degas. Next, we looked in detail at Stone Age cave paintings found in caves in Europe and South America. Using charcoal, the children created their own cave pictures including handprints and figures.

In Geography, we looked at the countries which make up the United Kingdom. The children studied maps which showed the main cities; the seas around the UK and its rivers. On Friday, our mass had the theme of Prayer. Ten Year 3 children did the readings in church. They read clearly and confidently.

Question: What is the capital of Wales?

Year 4

In year 4 this week it has been assessment week. The children have been tested on their reading abilities through a reading paper alongside their STAR reading test. In maths the children have been assessed through a maths paper as well as a STAR math test. For their writing skills, the children have worked on a paper that tested their grammar, punctuation and spelling. The children have done brilliantly and some of the scores highlight just how hard we have worked this term!

In English we have drafted and published our biography writing on the life of Amanda Gorman. The finished products look brilliant!

In maths this week we have a big push again on our times tables and worked hard on improving our knowledge.

In Geography we have continued our unit on rivers. We have looked at rivers from around the world alongside rivers from Manchester.

We have looked this week at using our Happy Breathing to calm us down when we are in a state of stress, anxiousness or anger. The children have really enjoyed this.

Question- what do we call the part of the river that meets the sea?



Year 5

This week has been assessment week across school.

In year 5, the children have approached all of the assessments in a mature manner, working hard to apply their understanding and showing resilience and focus.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements!

In English, we have continued our learning around Room 13, planning and beginning to write the missing chapter from the book. We will continue to work on these pieces of writing next week, editing and improving our work and publishing our final pieces.

Our new unit of work in Maths is fractions. The children have completed work on finding unit and non-unit fractions and using models and images to recognise equivalent fractions, before moving on to converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa.

As part of our Typography and Maps unit in Art, the children used cut-out shapes to create their own fonts and explored using household items, such as screws, nuts and bolts, to create and sketch their own letters. Next week, we will develop our sketching skills using maps and newspaper print as a base for our imagery.

In RE, we used historical paintings to explore the topic of friendship. The children identified important qualities of a good friend and produced a creative piece of work of their own demonstrating friendship.

Question - What are the three most important qualities in a friend?

Year 6

We've had another jam packed week in Year 6! In English, we have continued reading 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. We have been analysing what writing and grammatical features make a narrative exciting. Our grammar focus has been punctuating direct speech and next week we will be integrating dialogue into a small section of narrative.

In Maths, we have been continuing to work through fractions. This has involved multiplying and dividing fractions by integers and other fractions. We have also looked at finding part of a whole, as well as finding the whole when given a part.

In RE, we have concluded our work on Judaism by looking at Yom Kippur. We loved how this is a charitable time and thought about how we could be more charitable in our own lives.

We were excited to begin a new reading project in class. We will be reading 'A Christmas Carol' in our reading sessions which is an extremely challenging text. Thank you to Mr Lavin who has purchased a copy of the text for each child!

Question: What is Yom Kippur?