



Friday 9th February 2024

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

A Message from Mr Lavin...

I cannot quite believe we only have another week left of this half term! I have been amazed at some of the work children have been completing this week and I have handed out many Headteacher awards! Well done children.

We have been celebrating 'Children's Mental Health' week this week and I have loved hearing about all of the ways children take care of their well-being. Mrs Williams has shared via Dojo some great sessions that children can take part in outside of school so do take a look. Today was 'Express Yourself' day in school and children certainly did that! Well-being and Mental Health is not just looked at during this week, it is a core part of our curriculum and I am pleased to see the progress children have been making in their 'My Happy Minds' work.

Girls' Football - Yesterday, the Girls' football team travelled to Manchester United's training ground in Carrington to take part in a competition. They represented the school fantastically.

Year 5GB - Thank you to the children for delivering a fantastic class assembly, where they showcased the work they have been completing in their music lessons. We have some very talented children!

Thank you for adhering to the new times of the gates. We've seen a really big reduction in lateness this week, meaning children can start their day promptly and learning time is maximised.

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and we begin Lent. Children will attend mass at 10am to receive Ashes. You are very welcome.

A reminder that school closes for our mid-term break on **Friday 16th February at 3:15pm.**

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...'



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter
'A world class school for children that want to make the world a better place as God intended.'

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

Dates for your calendar - Spring 1

| Week Beginning 12th February 2024 | |
|--|--|
| Date | Event |
| 14/02/24 | Nursery Class Assembly 9:05am |
| 14/02/24 | Whole School Mass @ 10am - Ash Wednesday |
| 14/02/24 | Y5 Trip to Jodrell Bank |
| 16/02/24 | Own Clothes Day £1 donation towards School Books |
| 16/02/24 | Water Safety Day |
| 16/02/24 | Half term begins 3:30pm |

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Nursery | Olivia U & Dustie |
| RLS | Raya |
| RNE | Nancy |
| Y1SH | Huckleberry |
| Y1JL | River |
| Y2LS | Adriel |
| Y2AL | Bruke |
| Y3HB | Ebony |
| Y3LH | Adora |
| Y4LM | India |
| Y4SM | Layla B |
| Y5LW | Declan |
| Y5GB | Emily |
| Y6HG | Tan |
| Y6DF | Dexter |

Readers of the Week



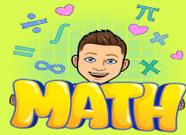
| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Nursery | Lua |
| RLS | Ivy |
| RNE | Harriet |
| Y1SH | Kendrick |
| Y1JL | India |
| Y2LS | Lexie |
| Y2AL | Emmanuel |
| Y3HB | Olivia |
| Y3LH | Muwaffaq |
| Y4LM | Yugank |
| Y4SM | Luca |
| Y5LW | Phoebe |
| Y5GB | Jemima |
| Y6HG | Desta |
| Y6DF | Harvey |

**1%
BETTER**





Maths Star



| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Nursery | Erin |
| RLS | Evie R |
| RNE | Sienna-Rose |
| Y1SH | Rosie |
| Y1JL | Finley |
| Y2LS | Kaiden |
| Y2AL | Thomas |
| Y3HB | Willow |
| Y3LH | Hollie |
| Y4LM | George |
| Y4SM | Yasmin |
| Y5LW | Alexis |
| Y5GB | James |
| Y6HG | Reggie |
| Y6DF | Alfie B |

Writing Star



| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Nursery | Chester |
| RLS | Jake |
| RNE | Victoria |
| Y1SH | Maisie |
| Y1JL | Octavia |
| Y2LS | Anastazja |
| Y2AL | Isla |
| Y3HB | Adam |
| Y3LH | Ethan |
| Y4LM | Noah V |
| Y4SM | Charlotte |
| Y5LW | Reece |
| Y5GB | Harlow |
| Y6HG | Evan |
| Y6DF | Isobella |

1%
BETTER





Attendance

Whole School: 90.3%

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----|-------|
| Nursery AM | 70% | 3HB | 88.8% |
| Nursery Full Day | 88.8% | 3LH | 91.3% |
| RLS | 84.6% | 4LM | 90.5% |
| RNE | 81.3% | 4SM | 92.5% |
| Y1SH | 93% | 5LW | 95.4% |
| Y1JL | 88.8% | 5GB | 93.4% |
| Y2LS | 96.8% | 6HG | 90.3% |
| Y2AL | 90.2% | 6DF | 90.8% |

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

| Position | Total Points | Position | Total Points |
|------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| 1st: 2LS | 37 | 6th: 1SH | 7 |
| 2nd: 1JL | 18 | 7th: RLS | 3 |
| 3rd: NurFD | 17 | 8th: RNE | 2 |
| 4th: NurAM | 11 | | |
| 5th: 2AL | 9 | | |

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

| Position | Total Points | Position | Total Points |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1st: 5LW | 33 | 5th: Y6DF | 6 |
| 2nd: Y5GB | 30 | 6th: Y4LM | 5 |
| 3rd: Y3HB | 18 | 6th: Y6HG | 2 |
| 4th: Y4SM | 8 | | |
| 5th: Y3LH | 6 | | |



OWN CLOTHES DAY FOR BOOKS

Our Year 2-6 children are embarking on a new reading project called 'Just Read'.

We are holding an own clothes day on **Friday 16th February 2024** to raise money to develop our reading spine in school to support this. Own clothes is for all classes in school.

The suggested donation is £1.

Thank you for your continued support 😊



Religious Education

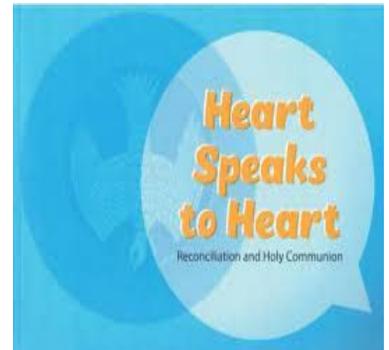
Sacramental Programme

Our current Year 3 children have started to prepare for the Sacramental Programme in class.

We follow a scheme called, 'Heart Speaks to Heart' which runs alongside their weekly RE lessons.

If your child is not in Year 3, but is participating in the programme, they will complete the programme with me after the half term.

Further information regarding Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be sent via email after the half term.



Mrs Gibson

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

Dear God,
Bless us as we get closer to the Lenten season.
Bless us and show us our wrongs, so we can make things right.
Help us have faith in dark or hard moments.
Help us sacrifice the things we enjoy during Lent.
Amen.



Nursery

Well Done Nursery for another amazing week in school. This week we have been learning about our Mental Health, Being safe on the internet, Chinese New Year and the history of Valentine's day. The children have helped to create a talk for writing story about Valentine's day and we can't wait to showcase it in our assembly on **Wednesday 14th February**. Parents/carers are welcome to watch our assembly which will be in the school hall at **9:05**. In Maths the children have learnt all about the number 4. In Forest school this week the Children gathered all they needed to build their bird hide in the forest. Children and adults worked together to tie the ropes to put up the tarpaulin. Children enjoyed hitting it from underneath. We then played a game called Find my Animal Partner and Land Sea and Air. Children are learning the names of the most common birds that visit our forest. Robin, wood pigeon, house sparrow, wren, blue tit, and blackbird.

Question - What animal are we celebrating for Chinese New Year? The Year of the...

Reception

This week has been jam packed! We are really loving our class text "Handa's Surprise" and can now retell the story using Talk for Writing actions and a story map. We will move on to story innovation next week. We can't wait to discover what our new adapted version will be!

In maths, we have continued to think about the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We have thought about 1 more and 1 less as well as the composition of the three numbers. In RE, we looked at the story of "Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the Temple" - this is where Simeon declared Jesus was the light of the world. We chose a light form and wrote Jesus inside.

We have also taken part in "Safer Internet Day" where we designed posters and "Children's Mental Health" week - we expressed ourselves through dance this afternoon!

Thank you for a lovely week, Reception!

Question: How many different ways can you make 8? Remember our learning about 2 parts making a whole.)



Year 1

This week in Year One we have been immersing ourselves in our new text, "Man on The Moon". We have created a story map and orally rehearsed the story. We have used our knowledge to write sentences, describing events in Bob's day. In maths we continue our work on addition and have been using our bonds to 10 to help us work out our bonds to 20. We have also been learning our doubles to 10. The children have enjoyed improving their score on a "Hit the Button" game. In History we have been chronologically ordering methods of flight on to a timeline. In RE we completed our check out task on Special People.

Each day we have enjoyed a Mental Health session based around the theme of "Making My Voice Heard". The children have used ideas from this and My Happy Mind to think about their wellbeing. The children looked fabulous on Friday when they dressed to express!

Question: Can you say all your doubles to 10 at speed?

Year 2

Year 2 have had a lovely week for Children's Mental Health Week. They have thought about ways that they can develop a positive mindset and ways to look after their mental health. We ended the week with 'Dress to Express' and the children looked fantastic in their own clothes!

On Wednesday, we had a visit from Greater Manchester Fire Service. This was really informative and engaging for the children and it taught them important life skills about what to do in event of a fire.

As well as this, we have completed our Addition and Subtraction unit in Maths. It is fantastic to see the children applying their knowledge and taught methods into problem solving and arithmetic activities. Next week, we will be starting our Shape unit.

In English, we wrote a letter of apology on Monday from Buster the Cat to the birds. We have been preparing for our final extended piece of writing for Lizzie and the Birds which will be a non-chronological report. This week, the children analysed the features of a non-chronological report and they designed their own imaginary bird and wrote a fact-file about it. Yesterday, the children researched a bird of their choice and they will be writing a non-chronological report about it next week.

In R.E, the children learnt about how we greet the Gospel and they described how we can think, speak and love like Jesus.

In Geography, we completed an information leaflet all about Africa.

Question: What should we do if there is a fire?



Year 3

This week in Year 3 we have explored the problem of deforestation, both through our English text, 'Greta and the Giants' and through our Science topic of Soils. The children read and researched all about the impact of deforestation on plant and animal wildlife. This led to them writing a speech from an endangered animal's viewpoint. They had to persuade those responsible for destroying their habitats to stop. We enjoyed using drama to imagine what the animals might say.

In RE, we looked at the Joyful Mysteries and how Mary took on her role as a mother. We followed her life through the feast days dedicated to her.

On Friday we enjoyed 'Express Yourself' day and took part in activities to build our self esteem. The children talked about what makes them happy and proud of themselves.

In Maths we have continued to practise our 8 times table. We also started a new unit on multiplication and division which has seen the children look at related multiplication and division facts.

Question: What is organic matter?

Year 4

Year 4 have worked very hard again this week and we have achieved a lot!

We are nearly at the end of our story about Edward Tulane in English and this week we have been writing our own internal monologues in character as Edward, as he faces more obstacles on his miraculous journey!

In Maths, we have been practising our 12 times tables and getting ready for our Multiplication Check in May! Next week, we will be focusing on the 4 times tables and rounding off our unit of Multiplication and Division.

We also learnt about flooding in Geography and what the cause and effect of it can be. In RE, we continued to learn about community by looking at the specific roles and the hierarchy within the Catholic Church.

As it has been Mental Health week, the children have watched and reflected on different videos about ways of looking after themselves, and we have had conversations around how our feelings and emotions are all valid and that we can be kind and look out for others too. On Friday, the children looked great when they came to school ready to express themselves!

Question: Who is the head of the Catholic Church?



Year 5

Firstly, 5GB performed a fantastic music assembly this week, sharing their skills on the tenor horn with children, staff, parents and friends. This was a wonderful way to celebrate their learning in Music and conclude their music tuition. The Tameside Music Service will now deliver their lessons weekly to 5LW until the end of the academic year. Letters are to follow.

This week the children in year 5 we have enjoyed participating in activities for Children's Mental Health Week, as well as Internet Safety day. In particular, we have explored keeping safe on social media, which also linked closely to our work on the effects of social media on mental health and wellbeing - an increasing concern for children and young adults in the UK.

In English, we analysed chapter 8 of *Brightstorm*, used parenthesis to add detail to sentences from the book and identified the differences between direct and indirect (reported) speech. This links to our work on newspaper articles, which we will be concluding next week.

In Maths, we are using images and models, as well as formal methods, to multiply 4 digit by 1 digit numbers, progressing to multiplying by a 2 digit number. Next week, we will extend this learning to problem-solving and using formal methods of division to calculate the inverse.

This week has also seen us complete our work on Earth and Space in Science, explaining day and night, the rotation and orbit of the Earth and phases of the Moon. We can not wait to visit Jodrell Bank next Wednesday to consolidate and extend our learning further.

Question: When should you use the 'Report Abuse' button online?

Year 6

We've had another busy week in Year 6 this week! The dedication of the children attending boosters in the morning is amazing- all Year 6 are welcome!

In English, we have met a new character, Nina, in the House with Chicken Legs. We have analysed both Marinka and Nina's characters comparing similarities and differences. Inspired by our *Macbeth* guided reading lessons, we put ourselves in Nina's shoes and wrote monologues that illustrated her despair and confusion.

In Maths, we have continued our work in Algebra, with the children demonstrating their resilience and reasoning skills. Specifically, we have been looking at how to form and solve equations in the contexts of both arithmetic and word problems.

Our RE lesson this week focused upon the Sacrament of Ordination and what happens during an ordination service. The children wrote information leaflets about the service and included religious vocabulary and language.

The children were extremely engaged during our Geography lesson this week. We explored map bias and learnt about why maps are presented in different ways. The children particularly enjoyed analysing historical maps and identifying how maps have progressed over time.

We ended the week with a visit from the fire service who led an informative session about fire safety in the home.

Question: What is map bias?