



Friday 16th February 2024

# Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

## A Message from Mr Lavin...

And just like that, another term has come to a end! We are now over half way through the academic year and I could not be more proud of how the children are progressing with their learning.

## Nursery Assembly

On Wednesday our youngest children delivered a class assembly to their families and I could not have been more proud of them all! It was so lovely to hear the story they have been learning in class and why they love their parent/carers so much! It was wonderful and if you were able to attend I hope you enjoyed it.

## Year 5

A shout out to our Year 5 children who went to Jodrell Bank this week. There were many comments on how well behaved the children were - they are a credit to our school!

## Ash Wednesday Mass/ Lenten Appeal

On Wednesday Years 1 to 6 attended Mass to receive their ashes - it was a beautiful mass. Reception and Nursery had a special service with Father in school - he was very impressed with them. This week, children brought home a St Joseph's Penny Box. This is part of our Lenten Charity work and we've had lots of boxes returned already! Thank you so much for your kind generosity.

## Character Curriculum

As part of our Character Curriculum and our ambition to ensure children are aware of how to keep themselves safe outside of school, all classes today completed sessions around Water Safety. It would be great if they could share this information at home with you!

**Continued on the next page...**

## 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.'**

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## **A Message from Mr Lavin continued...**

**Parent's Evening** - You will be receiving a booking form to confirm your choices in time for Parent's Evening on Wednesday 6th March 2024. .

I am sure you will enjoy hearing about your child's progress, understanding their targets for improvement and love seeing some of their work (please remember to leave them a note on their name card). Please do make every effort to attend if you can.

Please **enter via the school hall** and you will be directed to your child's teacher. The plan is as follows:

- Year 6 will be in the school hall
- Year 5LW will be in the school hall
- Year 5GB will be in Miss Birtles classroom
- Year 4SM will be in Mr Meleady's classroom
- Year 4LM will be in Miss Murray's classroom
- Year 3 will be in the Year 3 classrooms
- Year 2 will be in their classrooms
- Year 1 will be in the school hall
- Reception will be in their classrooms
- Nursery will be in the hall

## **Emmaus CAT**

We were hoping to join Emmaus CAT on 1st March but unfortunately this has been delayed again due to the small land issue. The new revised date is 1st April 2024 - I will keep you updated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support this term. I would like to thank our hard working staff for always going above and beyond for the children of St Stephen's. Enjoy a well deserved break everyone!

See you on Monday 26th February when school reopens,  
**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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## Dates for your calendar - Spring 2

### Week Beginning 26th February 2024

Date	Event
26/02/24	Return to School
27/02/24	Y3LH Retreat in School
29/02/24	Y3HB Retreat in School
01/03/24	Year 1,2 and 3 Mass

### Week Beginning 18th March 2024

Date	Event
20/03/24	Y4LM Class Assembly 9:05am School Hall
22/03/24	Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Easter Bonnet Parade on the playground after drop off
22/03/24	KS2 Decorate an Egg competition

### Week Beginning 2nd March 2024

Date	Event
06/03/24	Parents' Evening
07/03/24	World Book Day (Dress up)
08/03/24	Year 6 and Reception Mass

### Week Beginning 25th March 2024

Date	Event
27/03/24	Year 5 Passion Play (times and venue to be confirmed)
28/03/24	Whole School Mass at 10am
28/03/24	School closes for Easter Break at 1:30pm

### Week Beginning 11th March 2024

Date	Event
13/03/24	Y3 Reconciliation 5pm in Church
07/03/24	World Book Day
15/03/24	Year 4 and 5 Mass

New dates will be added as the term commences, I will highlight these in a different colour.

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

### **EYFS/ Key Stage One**

I am thrilled to confirm that our Annual Easter Bonnet Parade for Children in **Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** is back this year! We invite all children to create an Easter Bonnet at home and bring it in for a Parade on **Friday 22nd March**. It is a wonderful event and has been supported so well in past years. Parents are invited to attend.



**Plan 1 will be for parents from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to gather on the playground after drop off. Children will then parade their bonnets on the playground for all to see - if the weather is bad, we will go to plan 2. We will inform you the day before when we know more about the weather!**

Plan 2 will be in the school hall at the following times to watch your child walk down the catwalk. Please only attend during your allocated time, we will clear the hall before the next set of parents are allowed to enter so please wait outside until a member of staff signals for your time to come in:

Nursery and Reception: 9:00-9:15 am

Year 1: 9:20 am - 9:30 am

Year 2: 9:35 am - 9:40 am

**We will allow you to take individual photographs of your child but you will not be allowed to photograph or film the parade for Safeguarding reasons.**

### **Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)**

For children in Key Stage 2, **Years 3 to 6**, we invite children to decorate an egg - we have had some incredible creations over the years and I cannot wait to see what comes in this year. We display the eggs in the school hall on the day for all classes to come and look at the creations.

**\*\*Please can we ask for donations of Easter Eggs to help us with the prizes for the Bonnet and decorated eggs - these can be sent in with your child or left at the office.**

**THANK YOU!\*\***



**| Be Ready | Be Respectful | Be Safe |**

**#TEAMSTSTEPHENS**

WEBSITE: [www.stsrcp.school](http://www.stsrcp.school)  
TWITTER: @stsrcp  
TEL: 0161 370 2071



## Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



<b>Nursery</b>	Elliott & Alyssa
<b>RLS</b>	Michael N
<b>RNE</b>	Ava
<b>Y1SH</b>	Jessica
<b>Y1JL</b>	Odin
<b>Y2LS</b>	Jake
<b>Y2AL</b>	Pati
<b>Y3HB</b>	Clark
<b>Y3LH</b>	Ember
<b>Y4LM</b>	Leah
<b>Y4SM</b>	Saul
<b>Y5LW</b>	Finley
<b>Y5GB</b>	Lyla
<b>Y6HG</b>	Benjamin
<b>Y6DF</b>	Eddie O

## Readers of the Week



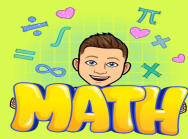
<b>Nursery</b>	Flora
<b>RLS</b>	Lula
<b>RNE</b>	Evie N
<b>Y1SH</b>	Rosie
<b>Y1JL</b>	Jessica
<b>Y2LS</b>	Kalani
<b>Y2AL</b>	Thomas
<b>Y3HB</b>	Jensen
<b>Y3LH</b>	Tegan
<b>Y4LM</b>	Dolly
<b>Y4SM</b>	Layla B
<b>Y5LW</b>	Sienna
<b>Y5GB</b>	Evelyn
<b>Y6HG</b>	Hollie
<b>Y6DF</b>	Isobella

**1%  
BETTER**





## Maths Star



<b>Nursery</b>	Layla-Mai
<b>RLS</b>	Leo
<b>RNE</b>	Tommy
<b>Y1SH</b>	Arthur
<b>Y1JL</b>	River
<b>Y2LS</b>	Annie
<b>Y2AL</b>	Niall
<b>Y3HB</b>	Hudson
<b>Y3LH</b>	Charlie
<b>Y4LM</b>	Elijah
<b>Y4SM</b>	Poppy
<b>Y5LW</b>	Phoebe
<b>Y5GB</b>	Sam
<b>Y6HG</b>	Evan
<b>Y6DF</b>	Olivia

## Writing Star



<b>Nursery</b>	Alfie
<b>RLS</b>	Gadiel
<b>RNE</b>	Tilly
<b>Y1SH</b>	Muzaffar
<b>Y1JL</b>	Louie
<b>Y2LS</b>	Myley-Dean
<b>Y2AL</b>	Raya-Mae
<b>Y3HB</b>	Luna
<b>Y3LH</b>	Lani
<b>Y4LM</b>	Charles
<b>Y4SM</b>	Isaac
<b>Y5LW</b>	Emelia
<b>Y5GB</b>	Sara
<b>Y6HG</b>	Nancy
<b>Y6DF</b>	Jersey

# 1% BETTER

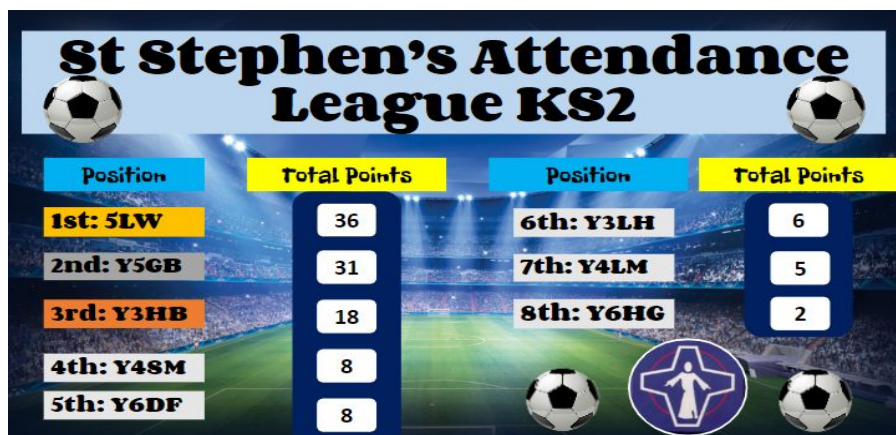
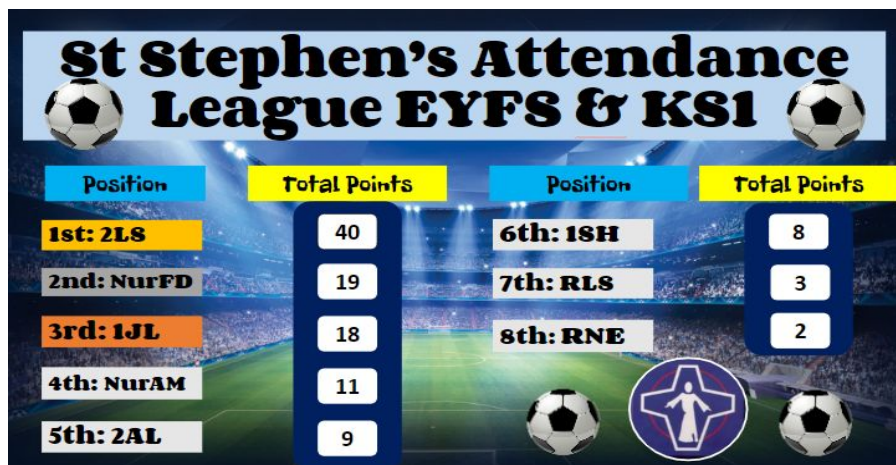




## Attendance

Whole School: 88.1%

Nursery AM	77.5%	3HB	88.1%
Nursery Full Day	89.4%	3LH	81.6%
RLS	77.9%	4LM	84.5%
RNE	83.2%	4SM	85%
Y1SH	88%	5LW	93.3%
Y1JL	86.6%	5GB	92.2%
Y2LS	93.8%	6HG	91.5%
Y2AL	87%	6DF	92.9%





## Religious Education

### Lent

This week, the children have been reflecting upon Lent. Father C spoke to the children in Church about how during Lent people should be praying more as it is a season of Prayer and reconciliation with God. In class, the children have been thinking about their Lenten promises. These include:

- Promises to fast (to give something up)
  - Promises to be more prayerful
  - Promises to be more charitable

# Lent



### 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 Jesus,  
On Ash Wednesday, ashes remind us that we are a small part of God's creation. They remind us that we're no better than anyone, and they humble us before you and others.  
Help us see that you love each of us exactly the same.  
Amen





## **Nursery**

What a lovely way to end our third half term in Nursery. Thank You to everyone who attended our class assembly. The children worked so hard to learn their lines, the songs and the dances we knew it would be amazing.

This week the children have learnt about Shrove Tuesday, Valentines Day and Water Safety. They decorated and tasted pancakes, learnt the story of valentines and spoke about how to stay safe when around water. In Maths we have learnt all about the number five.

On Wednesday we welcomed Father into class with Reception where we received our ashes.

Some children entered a competition to design a new honey label. All staff in nursery are extremely proud of every child and how much they have developed since the start of the year.

Have a lovely week and we can't wait to hear all about your half term.

*Question: What did Julia do to Saint Valentine?*

## **Reception**

What a lovely way to end our third half term in Reception at St. Stephen's. This week we have been so busy having lots of fun learning time. We innovated our story of "Handa's Surprise" and added descriptions of the animals. We then retold our new version in our own words. In maths, we have thought about doubling numbers and subitising with larger numbers. Subitising is tricky so we will definitely keep practising. We welcomed Father into class on Wednesday where we received our ashes. We thought about the things we are sorry for and reflected on this special day. In RE we enjoyed our "Be a Light" afternoon where we made candles to represent Jesus, we also had a wonderful forest school session where Mrs Artingstall planned lots of "light" activities for us to take part in. On Friday, we learnt about the importance of staying safe in the water. We also created honey labels for a competition.

We are honestly so proud of the children and how much they have grown and developed so far. As we start the second half of the academic year, the children will be starting to get ready for Year 1. We are really excited! Have a lovely half term.

*Question: What did special thing did Anna do in the temple?*



## Year 1

What an amazing half term we have had in Year 1, we are so proud of all the children's progress and efforts!

This week, we have been writing our own story narrative in English using our Man on the Moon text. In Maths, we have been continuing our work on doubles, and using near doubles to help with addition and subtraction. During RE we have been talking about Lent, and making our own Lenten promises. The children were extremely respectful and sensible during our Ash Wednesday mass and enjoyed receiving their ashes. In History, we have continued our Flight topic, and have been learning all about the Wright brothers, and their invention of the first powered aeroplane. Today, we have celebrated Water Safety day, and have been learning about how to stay safe near water.

We hope you have a lovely half term and look forward to welcoming the children back.

**Question: What year did the Wright flyer make its first successful flight?**

## Year 2

We have had a great final week of this half term. How time has flown by!

In English this week, we have used our research about different birds to create a non chronological report. We then published them into some beautiful leaflets.

In Maths, we have been exploring shape. Throughout our lessons we have been consolidating our knowledge of shape names from year one. We have then been exploring the number of sides and vertices of a shape, as well as considering the definition of a polygon.

In Science this week, we have been looking carefully at sustainability. We have considered how plastic can be both helpful and harmful.

This then links to our Geography unit. We have started to name and locate the 5 oceans of the world and will later explore how to keep our oceans clean.

We ended our week continuing our story seekers programme.

We also had a water safety themed afternoon where we looked at different hazard close to natural water sources (including seas and oceans).

**Question: What are the names of the 5 oceans?**

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## Year 3

### **An incredibly busy week in Year 3!**

**In English the children worked very hard on planning and writing a biography of Greta Thunberg. We looked at the similarities and differences between last week's story book called 'Greta and the Giants' and this week's non-fiction text all about Greta's life.**

**In Maths, we worked on multiplying two digit numbers by a one digit number using partitioning. The children solved a range of different problems using the method they learnt. Many of the children also got certificates for their 8 times table recall.**

**In RE we started to talk about Lent and its importance. On Ash Wednesday, we enjoyed a lovely mass and received ashes.**

**In History, we have looked at the city states of Ancient Greece, in particular those of Athens and Sparta. The children had to explain the differences in the way the societies of these two countries worked and how they were ruled.**

**Question: What made Greta Thunberg start 'Fridays for Future' strikes?**

## Year 4

**What a week! Year 4 have worked incredibly hard this week.**

**In English we have reached the end of our text '*The miraculous journey of Edward Tulane*'. The children have had a go at being authors themselves and writing their own continuous chapter from the text.**

**In Maths we have been revisiting perimeter and looking at corresponding units of measure. The children have grasped the concept of kilometers, meters, centimeters and millimeters really well and worked hard mastering their skills.**

**We have now come to the end of our Geography unit about rivers, we have had some very interesting discussions about pollution, flooding and why rivers are important to us. After the half term, we will be moving on to our history topic all about '*The Anglo Saxons and Vikings*' which, I am sure, the children are really looking forward to.**

**How many meters are in a kilometer?  
How many Kilometers are in 7,850 meters?**



## Year 5

Another busy week here in Year 5! The children have not let the half term approaching slow them down.

In Maths, we have been continuing our unit on Multiplication and Division whereby the children have been using area models to support them in multiplying 2-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. We extended this further using the formal written method to multiply 3-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. When we return from the half term, we will begin using multiplication to solve problem questions and introduce division methods.

Understanding the journey of Maudie and Arthur in our Brightstorm novel has brought us to analyse features of newspaper reports in English this week. To do this, we began comparing two articles reporting on the Brightstorm expedition disaster, analysing the features, orientations and effectiveness of each.

On Wednesday, Year 5 had their trip to Jodrell Bank. It was a fantastic experience where the children explored the exhibitions, listened to talks, explored the interactive learning sites and enjoyed a fantastic show in the Space Dome. The children were very enthusiastic and extremely well behaved on the trip and we are very proud of them!

This week, we have begun to practice our Passion Play, in preparation for our performance next half term. The children have received their scripts and it would be great if they could practice over half term in preparation for our next lot of rehearsals in the first week back.

We hope all children and families have a lovely half term break and get some well deserved rest. We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 26th February 2024.

**Question: What are the orientations of a newspaper report?**

## Year 6

This week has flown by in Year 6! The children have been working extremely hard in all aspects of the curriculum this week.

In Maths, we have now completed our unit on algebra with the children now able to solve two-step and two-variable equations.

We have focused on summarising in English and have summarised main events within different chapters of our text, 'The House with Chicken Legs'. The children have further analysed Marinka's character and considered her emotions at different points in the story.

On Wednesday, we attended Ash Wednesday Mass. When we returned to school, we shared our Lenten promises and created crosses to remind us that we are all journeying together through Lent.

Last week, the children started bringing home their new homework books. Each week, the children will be set a test from each book to complete at home. We will then mark these together as a class and discuss the answers.

We hope that all the children and families in Year 6 have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back at 8.20am for Boosters on Monday 26th February.