



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 March 2024

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

A Message from Mr Lavin...

It has been great to welcome everyone back to school this week after the mid-term break. It has been a lovely week in school.

Reading Development Day - Yesterday, we hosted all of the Reading Leaders from the Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust. There were 13 teachers in total and they spent time watching lessons, talking to staff and children, learning about our approach to teaching reading. The feedback from the visitors was fantastic and it was proud moment to hear such positive feedback regarding our curriculum and children's attitudes to learning. A huge well done to everyone!

Parent's Evening - You will have received a booking form to confirm your choices 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 **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

Reminder

It is World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Children will take part many different activities all around books. Children can dress up as their favourite character for the day, but there is no pressure to do so. Own clothes is fine. Please do not feel the need to go to any expensive.

Have a great weekend - see you on Monday!

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 4th 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

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

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

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World Book Day - Book Swap

BOOK SWAP

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

7 MARCH 2024

Join our book swap by bringing in a pre-loved book you would like to pass onto a new home



Please bring your preloved book to your child's class teacher

by Wednesday 6th March 2024

On World Book Day, you will get to swap your book for a different pre-loved one!



St Stephen's RCP



#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

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

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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

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Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Bessie & Ayrah
RLS	Bella W
RNE	Noah B
Y1SH	Arthur
Y1JL	Ronnie
Y2LS	Kingsley
Y2AL	Thomas
Y3HB	Bruce
Y3LH	Riley
Y4LM	Bobby
Y4SM	Estee
Y5LW	Matilda
Y5GB	Hannah
Y6HG	Isabella
Y6DF	Kiera

Readers of the Week

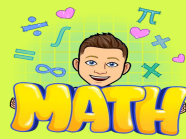


Nursery	Emily
RLS	Evie R
RNE	Oreofeoluwa
Y1SH	Henry
Y1JL	Keziah
Y2LS	Jacob
Y2AL	Leo
Y3HB	Thomas
Y3LH	Rocco
Y4LM	Patrick
Y4SM	Yasmin
Y5LW	Farren
Y5GB	Jaime Leigh
Y6HG	Nancy
Y6DF	Yong





Maths Star



Nursery	Nellie
RLS	Freddie
RNE	Sienna H
Y1SH	Aaliyah
Y1JL	Amelia
Y2LS	Arabella
Y2AL	Lano
Y3HB	Boma
Y3LH	Harrison
Y4LM	Tarandeep
Y4SM	Layla W
Y5LW	Jenson
Y5GB	Lily
Y6HG	Leah
Y6DF	Louie

Writing Star



Nursery	Isobel
RLS	Michael N
RNE	Darcie
Y1SH	Gabriella
Y1JL	Frankie
Y2LS	Anastazja
Y2AL	Emmanuel
Y3HB	Adam
Y3LH	Peyton
Y4LM	Vanellope
Y4SM	Alisha
Y5LW	Tejiri
Y5GB	Scarlett
Y6HG	Benjamin
Y6DF	Eddie T

**1%
BETTER**





Attendance

Whole School: 93%

Nursery AM	88.1%	3HB	94.6%
Nursery Full Day	94.3%	3LH	95.1%
RLS	79.8%	4LM	87.1%
RNE	95.7%	4SM	95%
Y1SH	99.5%	5LW	94.6%
Y1JL	93.8%	5GB	96.9%
Y2LS	94.8%	6HG	90.7%
Y2AL	89.7%	6DF	93.8%

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 2LS	41	6th: 2AL	9
2nd: NurFD	19	7th: RNE	4
3rd: 1JL	18	8th: RLS	3
4th: NurAM	11		
5th: 1SH	11		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5LW	36	5th: Y3LH	8
2nd: Y5GB	34	6th: Y4LM	5
3rd: Y3HB	18	7th: Y6HG	2
4th: Y4SM	9		
5th: Y6DF	8		



Religious Education

Stations of the Cross at the Laudato Si' Centre



On Saturday 16th March the Laudato Si' Centre will be holding a Stations of the Cross woodland walk. This is for families to visit, reflect and pray together.

The following link provides further information and booking links:

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/sc-stations-2024/>

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,

When you fasted in the desert,
You must have been hungry.
During this Lenten season, help us fast.

Help us realise that some boys and girls are always hungry.

Maybe by giving up our favourite food or drink,

We can have an idea of how that feels.

Give us the strength to do this and help us to offer up this sacrifice to you who sacrificed yourself for us.

Amen

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Nursery

Nursery have had an amazing first week back. The children have settled straight back into the school routines really well.

This week we have started a new book called 'Jaspers Beanstalk.' The children have sequenced the story, made full sentences about different parts of the story and talked about how Jasper feels throughout the story.

In Maths we have looked at different ways to make 5 and the children are ready to move onto number 6 next week.

We have also completed Forest school and PE.

The children have worked extremely hard on their mark making, cutting and pencil grip skills this week. Every child is now attempting to write their name independently.

All parents evening times for **WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH** have been sent out and appointments will be in the **school hall**.

Question - What did Jasper do to help the beanstalk to grow?

Reception

We have had such a fantastic first week back and we really can't quite believe we are readying ourselves for Year 1!

We have started our new book "Bloom" that links really well to our new topic of growing. We have learnt about parts of a plant as well as what plants need to blossom and bloom. We have planted our own bean plants - we can't wait to watch them grow. In maths, we have been thinking about length and height. We have been exploring the vocabulary relating to these areas and we have been comparing.

The children's writing this week has been a real stand out. We can tell that they have all practised their names during the half term and their confidence is amazing. We know we are in for a great half term.

Just a gentle reminder that **BOOK CHANGE** for **BOTH** classes will now take place on **WEDNESDAYS** for **ALL** children. Books and diaries need to be in school on this day. Books need to be read at least 3 times a week by the children and diaries signed each time - otherwise books will not be changed. Books also need to be in school on their usual reading day so that class teachers can read with the children and feedback to families at home.

*Question - can you find 3 objects from your home? Put them in order from **LONGEST** to **SHORTEST**.*



Year 1

What a lovely first week back we have had in Year 1. The children have been working super hard, and really showcased this to our visitors this week. Well done!

This week, we have been exploring our new book 'How to look after your dinosaur'. The children were very excited when our very own dinosaur egg was delivered to our classrooms! We have been using emojis to think about thoughts and feelings in the story. In Maths, we continue to consolidate addition to 20 knowledge. In science, we have completed our 'Animals' topic, by learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. The children have really enjoyed this topic. In history we learnt all about Amelia Earhart and completed a fact file about her life. We agreed she was a very inspiring woman. We finished the week with an amazing forest school session, and enjoyed attending mass.

Question: What is Amelia Earhart best known for?

Year 2

What a great first week back after half term Year 2 have had! It has been great to see the children and they have settled back into learning like a dream.

This week, we have been catching up with our curriculum. We completed our Geography unit about continents and oceans at the start of the week and the children created a double page spread about how we can protect our oceans. We have now started our new History unit about The Suffragettes and the children have been really engaged in this. They have learnt about who the Suffragettes were and how they changed women's rights. In Science, we have started our unit about Plants. The children learnt the different parts of plants and what they need to grow.

In Maths, we have continued to learn about Shape and we have been drawing different 2D shapes.

In English, we have started our new text, Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory. The children loved listening to this story and they explained different emotions that characters felt using emojis. Our visitors were very impressed!

We ended the week in a lovely Mass about Friendship - well done to all our readers. We spent the afternoon continuing to develop our stories in Story Seekers.

Question: How have women's rights changed?

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Year 3

This week has been very exciting in Year 3. Both classes enjoyed a retreat day with Mrs Farmer. It was a lovely opportunity for the children to reflect, worship and express their thoughts and feelings during Lent. They did this through looking at scripture, looking at religious icons and singing hymns. On Wednesday, both classes took part in a Forest Schools session. In English, our new book is 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. As part of our work on this text, the children had to gathered language to help them to describe a tree. Our Forest Schools session helped them to experience looking at a tree close up and to feel its textures.

In Maths, we have looked at dividing two digit numbers by one digit using both partitioning and place value charts to help us understand how to divide a range of numbers.

In History we have been looking in more detail at why, when and where the Ancient Olympics took place including who took part.

Question: What were winners in the Ancient Olympics awarded?

Year 4

Well done to Year 4 on their first week back!

We are continuing to work our way through Multiplication and Division and into our new topic of Length and Perimeter in Maths. The children are also continuing to prepare for their MTC in May and they are working so hard!

In English, we have started studying Macbeth and are learning all about Shakespeare's famous tragedy set in Scotland. The story focuses on Macbeth's rise to power and looks at the themes of revenge and murder! So far, the children have made their predictions based on the front cover, answered some questions based on the text and made further predictions using a timeline to help them sequence the story.

In RE, we are in the season of Lent and are beginning to study this new topic, learning all about the lead up to Easter Sunday.

'Sound' is our new topic in Science and the children have learnt about the structure of the ear and how to create sound on different instruments. In History, we are studying The Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and have looked at why someone may choose to invade another place and what the advantages of that may be.

True or False: vibrations travel from the outer ear to the object that created them?



Year 5

This week has been a very busy one for both classes in Year 5. 5LW have enjoyed their first Brass Music lesson and rehearsals for our Passion play are well underway. We are excited to share this with you in Holy week.

In English, we have used a number of different strategies to analyse the concluding chapters of *Brightstorm*. These include using emojis to track character's emotions, writing hashtag summaries, identifying and ordering the main events and supporting impressions with evidence from the text. The children are becoming proficient in using these techniques and have particularly enjoyed using song lyrics, puns, alliteration and rhyme to improve their hashtag summaries.

Formal written methods for multiplication and division have been a focus this week in Maths. The children have practised multiplying 4 digit by 2 digit numbers, used short division for 4 digit divided by 1 digit numbers and solved one and two step problems.

In Guided Reading, we have explored historical poems, including the *Highwayman* by Alfred Noyes. The children were fascinated to analyse this classic poem and could make inferences about the actions of the characters, as well as identifying similes, metaphors and personification in the original poem.

Question: What are your impressions of the character of Eudora Vane?

Year 6

The children have come back to school with a fantastic attitude towards their learning. In English, we have been thinking about the death of Baba and how this has affected Marinka. We imagined we were Marinka and wrote a eulogy; some children expressed anger towards Baba and some love. Well done Year 6!

In Maths, the children have been working with decimals all week. This has included looking at the place value involved, as well as rounding, multiplying and dividing them. Our RE lessons have focused upon Lent. The children have completed their check in tasks for our new unit of work which is focusing upon the Holy Week Masses and Liturgies held in Church.

In Science, we explored how additions of components altered circuits. For example, we explored what happened the the strength of a bulb when more bulbs are added to a circuit with no additional voltage.

A reminder that we hold Year 6 boosters for all children Monday- Thursday at 8.20am. We do strongly encourage children to attend, and to be prompt to the sessions, so that they can make the full use of the time.

Question: What did Baba decide to go through the gate?