



**Friday 15th March 2024**

# Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe

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

I hope you and your families are well. It has been another busy week here at school with lots to celebrate. A highlight has been the amount of sporting activities/competitions this week!

**Swimming Gala** - Last Friday evening, a group of children competed in the Tameside Catholic School's annual Swimming Gala. Congratulations to those children who took part and for representing the school so well. They won lots of medals and we could not be more proud!!

**Cheerleading** - On Tuesday, our Cheerleading Squad travelled to All Saints High School to take part in a competition against the other Catholic Schools in Tameside. They children were complimented on their incredible performance and their team spirit. Well done to the team!

**Girls Football** - On Monday evening, our Girls Football team played their Semi-Final Cup game against Manchester Road. Unfortunately, the end score was 1-0 to the visitors. The girls played so well as a team and did us all proud!

**Boys Football** - On Wednesday night, our Boys Football team played their Cup game against St Anne's, Audenshaw. The final score was a whopping 13-1 to St Stephen's! A huge well done to all the team!

**Year 3 Sacramental Programme** - Congratulations to our Year 3 children to made their First Forgiveness on Thursday evening. The children were so respectful. This is an important Sacrament to make, in preparation for their Holy Communion. We keep all of these children in our prayers.

## **Next Week:**

- It is Shakespeare Week next week and we have a drama company coming into school so all classes will take part in a workshop - it is going to be great I am sure. We've asked for £2 donation to help us with the cost of this experience so if you can, please make payment via ParentPay. As the hall is needed for the workshop, we will have to rearrange Y4LM class assembly due to take place on Wednesday - we will be in touch with a new date soon.
- Please read the information regarding the Easter Bonnet Parade (EYFS, Y1 and Y2) and the Decorate an Egg Competition (Y3-6) on the next page.

**Enjoy your 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.'**

## Dates for your calendar - Spring 2

### Week Beginning 18th March 2024

Date	Event
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 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

New dates will be added as the term continues, 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>	Wyatt & Ocean
<b>RLS</b>	Nicholas
<b>RNE</b>	Darcie
<b>Y1SH</b>	Kendrick
<b>Y1JL</b>	Valentina
<b>Y2LS</b>	Felix
<b>Y2AL</b>	Gabbie
<b>Y3HB</b>	Oscar
<b>Y3LH</b>	Caoimhe
<b>Y4LM</b>	Amelia W
<b>Y4SM</b>	Avaya
<b>Y5LW</b>	Lacey
<b>Y5GB</b>	Deborah
<b>Y6HG</b>	Lennie
<b>Y6DF</b>	Daisy

## Readers of the Week

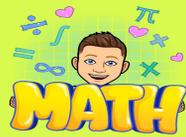


<b>Nursery</b>	Pippa
<b>RLS</b>	Noah T
<b>RNE</b>	Brume
<b>Y1SH</b>	Gabriella Rose
<b>Y1JL</b>	Abigail
<b>Y2LS</b>	Annie
<b>Y2AL</b>	Pati
<b>Y3HB</b>	Lydia
<b>Y3LH</b>	Roman
<b>Y4LM</b>	Freddie
<b>Y4SM</b>	Layla B
<b>Y5LW</b>	Declan
<b>Y5GB</b>	Abigail
<b>Y6HG</b>	Acher
<b>Y6DF</b>	Poppy





## Maths Star



<b>Nursery</b>	Ayrah
<b>RLS</b>	Lula
<b>RNE</b>	Chester
<b>Y1SH</b>	Nathaniel
<b>Y1JL</b>	Jessica
<b>Y2LS</b>	Myley-Dean
<b>Y2AL</b>	Aurora
<b>Y3HB</b>	Kacpar
<b>Y3LH</b>	Freya
<b>Y4LM</b>	Patrick
<b>Y4SM</b>	Finnie
<b>Y5LW</b>	Emelia
<b>Y5GB</b>	Liam
<b>Y6HG</b>	Desta
<b>Y6DF</b>	Melody

## Writing Star



<b>Nursery</b>	Dustie
<b>RLS</b>	Cole
<b>RNE</b>	Michael S
<b>Y1SH</b>	Hazel
<b>Y1JL</b>	Harry
<b>Y2LS</b>	Gavriel
<b>Y2AL</b>	Lano
<b>Y3HB</b>	Elvis
<b>Y3LH</b>	Elliott
<b>Y4LM</b>	Harrison
<b>Y4SM</b>	Jacob
<b>Y5LW</b>	Cory
<b>Y5GB</b>	Naomi
<b>Y6HG</b>	Carter
<b>Y6DF</b>	Eddie

1%  
**BETTER**





## Attendance

Whole School: 94.3%

Nursery AM	85.7%	3HB	95%
Nursery Full Day	97.4%	3LH	98.7%
RLS	84.5%	4LM	92.2%
RNE	93.5%	4SM	92.9%
Y1SH	96.9%	5LW	93.1%
Y1JL	94.8%	5GB	98.1%
Y2LS	97.9%	6HG	93.9%
Y2AL	94%	6DF	93.5%

### St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 2LS	46	6th: 2AL	10
2nd: NurFD	24	7th: RNE	4
3rd: 1JL	18	8th: RLS	3
4th: 1SH	12		
5th: NurAM	11		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5GB	40	5th: Y4SM	9
2nd: Y5LW	38	6th: Y4LM	5
3rd: Y3HB	19	7th: Y6HG	2
4th: Y3LH	11		
5th: Y6DF	9		



## Religious Education

### Reconciliation

On Wednesday 13th March, thirty six children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The children maintained a prayerful environment and spoke with maturity. Well done children!

Please keep all our Sacramental Programme children in your prayers.

### Baptism

A polite reminder that Baptisms cannot be arranged through school. If you would like your child Baptised, please speak to Father C or Father Wilson after weekend Mass.



### 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,  
Lord my God, I thank you for the great gift of your forgiveness.

I will now try to love you with all my heart and soul and mind, and I will try to love others too.

Help me by your holy grace.  
Amen.



## **Nursery**

We have had an amazing week in Nursery.

We have finished our story 'The tiny Seed.' This has helped us to learn about how plants grow and the different seasons. The children have really enjoyed reading this story. Next week we are taking part in Shakespeare week and will be reading an adaptation of A midsummer night's dream.

In Maths we have been learning about height and length. The children have been comparing heights/ lengths of one another, sticks and beanstalks. The children have learnt lots of new vocabulary such as 'shorter,' 'taller,' 'height,' 'length.'

This week was British Science Week. The children have completed observational drawings of plants, using magnifying glasses to see the flowers in more detail. They took part in some experiments making magic potions and rain clouds.

Question: Stand back to back with someone at home. Who is shorter?  
Lie down next to someone at home. Who is longer?

## **Reception**

We have had yet another busy week in class. We enjoyed reading a story called "Lulu Loves Flowers" which is all about a little girl who makes her own flower garden. She sings the rhyme "Mary Mary" in the story and decorates her garden with bells and shells. In maths we have continued to learn about the numbers 9 and 10. We have thought about one more as well as different amounts that equal 9 and 10.

The beans that we planted at the start of the half term as part of our Understanding the World (linking to RE) are really starting to grow. These will be coming home today. We would love photo updates on class dojo to see how they are getting on in their new environment.

In RE we have started to learn about the Easter story and what the cross symbolises. We are ready for another busy week next week and are looking forward to Shakespeare week with the rest of the school.

PLEASE NOTE: No homework will be sent home in red books this week. Homework is to make an Easter Bonnet for our parade on Friday (SEE CLASS DOJO MESSAGE.)

**Question: What 4 things to plants and flowers need to grow?**



## Year 1

Another week in Year 1 comes to an end! The children are working really hard. In English, we have been focusing on using bossy verbs to support in writing instructions, for 'How to look after your dinosaur'. In Maths, we continue our place value to fifty, and have been counting using tens up to fifty. As we come to the end of our 'Flight' topic in History, we have been working in teams to design our very own aeroplane! In Science, we have been learning all about how to care for the planet and why it is important. The children have thought of some super ways to care for our Earth. We continue to work independently in Rainbow challenge time and developing our phonics daily.

**Question: can you name three ways to look after our planet?**

## Year 2

This week has been British Science Week and Year 2 have started their Living Things and their Habitats unit in their Science lessons. We have explored our local habitats around school and we observed which plants and animals are found in the forest and pond areas. The children have also started learning about polar, desert, woodland and ocean habitats and what plants and animals need to survive in these areas.

The children have produced their own letters of resignation in English this week. They wrote a letter to Mr Bunny from the perspective of the chickens explaining why they are quitting their jobs.

In Maths, we have completed our Shape unit and learnt the properties of 3D shapes. We have continued to rehearse our stories in preparation for our Storyseekers performance next week and the children are becoming increasingly more confident in their story-telling strategies in order to engage their audience.

**Question: How are polar bears adapted to live in a polar habitat?**



## Year 3

**This week in Year 3 has been very special as on Wednesday, the children made their First Reconciliation. In school we have done lots of preparation, thinking about the choices we make and the importance of forgiveness. The children took part in the service with respect and patience.**

**The children are really enjoying our new Geography topic. 'Restless Earth-Earthquakes.' This week, we looked at the layers of the earth and what they are composed of. The children found our second lesson fascinating; we learnt about tectonic plates and how they have changed the land mass of the earth over millions of years.**

**In English, we have learnt and practised some important grammar in preparation for writing a narrative. We learnt about apostrophes for possession and how to use speech punctuation.**

**In Science we planned, executed and evaluated a comparative experiment in which the children investigated which soil was the most absorbent.**

**In Maths we began our new unit on length and perimeter.**

**Question: What kind of movement do tectonic plates make to cause an earthquake?**

## Year 4

We have come to the end of another busy week of Year 4.

In English this week, we have been looking at the witches' spell in Macbeth and all the wonderful vocabulary in it. Next week, we will be writing our own spells using Shakespeare's text to inspire us.

In Maths, we are onto Length and Perimeter and making good progress towards the Multiplication Check in a few month's time.

In RE, we are looking at the topic of Lent and when it begins and what this period of time symbolises in the Liturgical calendar. We will be writing our own Lenten promises next week.

**Question: which colour is associated with Lent?**



## Year 5

In year 5 this week, we have completed Brightstorm in English. We planned and wrote a newspaper article detailing the outcome of the expedition to South Polaris. We concentrated on writing an engaging headline and orientation, using direct and reported speech, using formal language and incorporating parenthesis.

During Shakespeare Week next week, we will be studying 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The children will make predictions based on images from the book, analyse the characters of Hermia, Helena, Demetrius and Lysander and write a letter in character as Hermia.

In Maths, we have completed multiplication and division by applying our understanding and methods to word problems. We will now move on to equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages, as well as area and perimeter.

As part of our 'Properties of Materials' unit in Science, we have explored materials to test for magnetism, transparency, hardness and conductivity. Next week, we will plan and conduct an investigation to test which material is the best thermal insulator.

**Question - What are the important features of a newspaper report?**

## Year 6

We've had an extremely busy week in Year 6 this week! The children have completed their mock SATs and have impressed us greatly with their positive attitude and resilience- well done Year 6.

In English we concluded our unit on, 'The House with Chicken Legs'. We have rewritten a chapter from the point of view of the house which the children enjoyed greatly! We focused upon applying narrative writing features such as: fronted adverbials, multi-clause sentences and dialogue.

In Maths, we have been looking at finding percentages of amounts. This has centred on using our known facts such as 50%, 25%, 10% and 1% to help us to get to any percentage.

As we are in the season of Lent, we explore symbols of Lent in our RE lesson. We looked at a range of symbols and compared and grouped them with an explanation. The children showed a secure understanding of Lent and Holy Week- well done!

As it is British Science Week, we combined our Geography and Science lessons to explore renewable and non-renewable resources.

**Question: What is the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resources?**