



Friday 4th April 2025

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... What a difference a week of lovely weather makes! It has been great to see so much outdoor learning going on this week! A highlight was popping over to the allotments to see our Nursery children planting and feeding our chickens! The excitement in our youngest children was fantastic to watch!

Show Racism the Red Card - On Monday representatives of our Pupil Parliament, alongside Miss Seville, attended a workshop all around raising awareness of racism. The children had a great time and we look forward to them sharing their work with the rest of the school.

Year 3 Reconciliation - A huge congratulations to those children in Year 3 who completed the Sacrament of Reconciliation yesterday afternoon. The service was beautiful and as always, thank you for supporting the children on this journey.

Nursery Stay and Play - Thank you to those parents who were able to attend Nursery Stay and Last last night. It was wonderful to see so many of you exploring the Nursery setting! I know how excited the children were to show you the arrival of their baby chicks!

Nursery Entrance / Reception Playground - You may have noticed that sections of the Nursery entrance pathway and the Reception playground have been cordoned off for Health and Safety reasons, as the paving flags are currently unsafe.

We are actively working on solutions, but in the meantime, we kindly ask that you avoid walking on the flags and instead follow the pathway around the nursery building as a temporary measure.

To help us limit the amount of people in this area, I would like to restrict the Nursery entrance to those parents of children in Nursery only. All other parents should use the main school gate on Chappell Road.

Have a great weekend,
Mr Lavin, Headteacher

Our Values:
St Stephen's
CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



| Be Ready | Be Respectful | Be Safe |

#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

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Dates for your calendar - Spring 2

Peace Garden

I am sure you will have seen the development of our Peace Garden. Gary and Martin have been working so hard to create a special environment where children can pray and reflect together as a class.



The prayer garden will be a memorial for Miss Dempsey's mother, Josie Dempsey, who worked at St Stephen's for many years. We've been thinking of ways of honouring her and believe this is a perfect way.



There is still more to do in the space but I thought I'd share some of the pictures so far.

Week Beginning 7th April 2025	
Date	Event
11.04.25	Easter Bonnet Parade EYFS/KS1 Outside 9:15am KS2 Decorate an Egg Competition

Week Beginning 14th April 2025	
Date	Event
15.04.25	Y5 Passion Play 9.15 am in Church
16.04.25	Whole school mass 10am School closes at 1:30pm



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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 11th April**. 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 (Friday 11th April) 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 |



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Esme & Ruben
RLS	Chester
RNE	Natalia
Y1SH	Noah
Y1LB	Phoebe
Y2JL	Ronnie
Y2AL	Rosie
Y3HB	Lexie
Y3LH	Oscar
Y4DS	Jeremiah
Y4SM	Charlie
Y5LW	Serenity
Y5LS	Poppy
Y6GB	Sienna-Rae
Y6DF	James

Readers of the Week

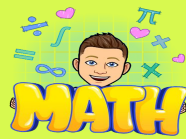


Nursery	Luca
RLS	Aryel
RNE	Christoforos
Y1SH	Jeremy
Y1LB	Vinnie
Y2JL	River
Y2AL	Kendrick
Y3HB	Adriel
Y3LH	Aurora
Y4DS	Oscar
Y4SM	Jeremiah
Y5LW	Jacob
Y5LS	Samson
Y6GB	Erin
Y6DF	Jaime





Maths Star



Nursery	Ellis
RLS	Adrian
RNE	Buddy
Y1SH	Aurora
Y1LB	Ivy
Y2JL	Jessica
Y2AL	Rahilla
Y3HB	Freddie
Y3LH	Harrison
Y4DS	Clark
Y4SM	Riley
Y5LW	India
Y5LS	Isla
Y6GB	Lacey
Y6DF	Ted

Writing Star



Nursery	Bessie
RLS	Darcy
RNE	Autumn
Y1SH	Ava
Y1LB	Louie
Y2JL	Abigail
Y2AL	Alise
Y3HB	Jake
Y3LH	Milliane
Y4DS	Pippa
Y4SM	Poppy
Y5LW	Zoe
Y5LS	Mia-Bella
Y6GB	Orla
Y6DF	Rosie

1% BETTER





1 Enjoy reading this Sunday's Gospel

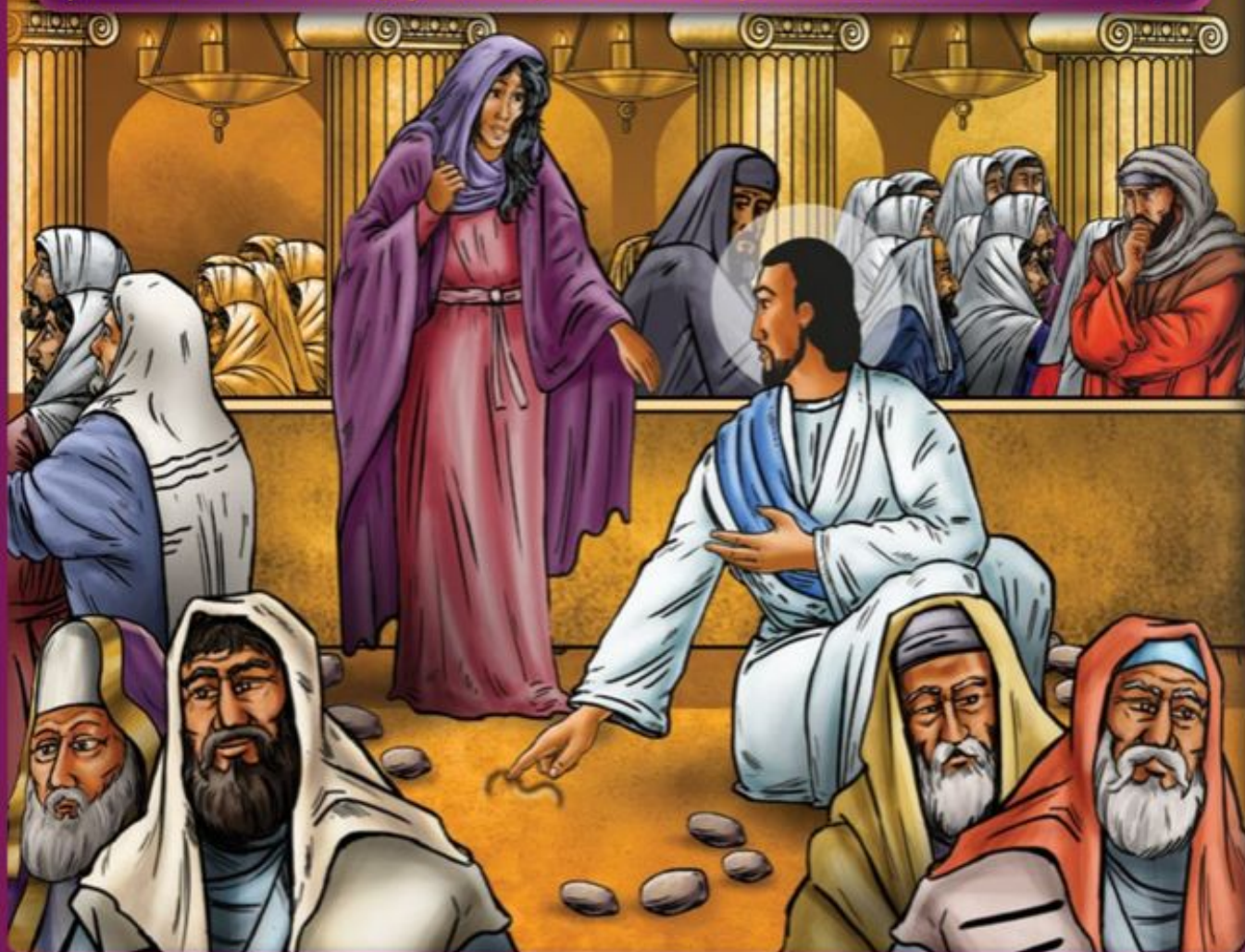
Living Lent 2025

Jesus was teaching in the Temple when the teachers of the Law brought a woman to him who had broken the Law. They said to Jesus, "Master, this woman has broken the Law and should be stoned to death. What have you to say?" Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, "If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." When they heard this they went away quietly, one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman. Then Jesus asked the woman, "Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she replied. "Neither do I. Go, but do not sin any more," said Jesus.



Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 6th April 2025 Cf. John 8:1-11 (the 5th Sunday of Lent, Year C)

Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? What does the picture make you think about? Now enjoy exploring this Wednesday's words, which are **NEW START**.





"Let us allow God's constant help to make us new people." *Pope Francis*

What did Jesus say to the woman? This Sunday's Gospel reveals the depths of God's mercy and compassion and the need for each one of us, in our own way, to make a new start with God. Regardless of our past, each day we are given an opportunity to make a new start. Jesus just waits for us with the gentleness and patience of God. Lent is traditionally a time for making a new start. Ask your child if they have made any new starts this Lent. If so, how's it going? How does their new start help them or others? It may help your child if you mention any new starts you have made recently - or especially for Lent - and tell them how it's going for you.

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come.
We have only today. Let us begin." *St Teresa of Calcutta*

God is always ready to help us to start afresh. As Easter approaches, are there any new starts that we can make with our family, friends or with God? Perhaps we can: remember to start each morning with a prayer and thank God for each new day and for each other; make a new start with church; follow Jesus' example in this Sunday's Gospel by being merciful to others. You may also like to choose something new to start together that will strengthen your family.



Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to be more understanding and always ready to make a **new start** with you and with each other. Amen.

WEDNESDAY
WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE 8
WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**



JESUS
WRITING
TEACHERS
LEFT
STOP
SINNING
START
ANEW



SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS
BACKWARDS OR **DIAGONALLY**

J	E	C	H	S	W	E	A	N	H	S
U	S	T	A	R	T	J	N	Z	G	C
S	S	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S	J
T	T	C	O	A	N	G	W	S	E	E
I	O	A	W	P	C	H	C	S	U	T
R	P	G	R	E	C	H	E	T	S	S
W	W	R	I	T	T	F	E	L	J	G
G	N	I	T	I	R	W	G	R	E	W
N	G	S	I	N	N	I	N	G	S	R
A	W	E	N	A	L	E	F	T	U	I
W	I	N	G	N	I	N	N	I	S	C



creptlihed scitrh stahcid tocnah

"Has no _____ condemned you?" "No one, _____,"
she _____ . "Neither do I," _____ Jesus.

Cross out
the letters
chf
in the 4 jumbled
words to find
4 real words.

We all sometimes do wrong things which
upset others and can make us feel sad too.
But God still loves us and will always
give us the strength to make a new
start with him and with each other.

This week I will try my best to ...

.....
.....





Nursery

It has been a very week in Nursery indeed!

Monday saw the arrival of 10 Living eggs! By Wednesday we had 3 baby chicks and by Thursday Evening we had 9 baby chicks!

It's been such an amazing experience, watching them hatch, seeing them stand up for the first time and observing their every movement!

We can't wait to see what happens next week and we may even be able to hold one!

We have also been carefully observing our Class Caterpillars, they are still in their cocoon stage and we hope to meet beautiful butterflies next week.

This week in Phonics, we have enjoyed the rhyme 'Wind the Bobbin up', continuing with rhyming words and our sound focus of 'b'.

In Maths we have consolidated our learning on Capacity, we have also been working hard to use preposition words when describing where the Teddy Bear is placed.

In our RE sessions we have been listening to the Easter Story, we have reflected on the story and spoke about how special Jesus is.

We have enjoyed singing 'Magic Penny' and 'Our God is a Great Big God' in our Liturgy sessions this week as well as coming together in a lovely circle to reflect on what Jesus means to us.

Question- What type of Beans did we plant at the allotment this week?

Reception

What a great week of weather we have had! Spring has definitely sprung in Reception and we have jumped into April with some fantastic learning.

We have started our new text "The Woolly Bear Caterpillar." This is all about life cycles, but also underpins the golden thread of our school of vision: "Every child, every chance, every day," being kind and including everyone. It is definitely worth a watch on YouTube. The book will carry over into the new half term after Easter, ready for us to welcome our own caterpillars.

This week, we finished our maths unit all about 9 and 10 where we have really focused on the bonds to 10. Knowing these off by heart will really help us as we move up through school.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

*Question: Can you complete the life cycle?
Egg...Caterpillar...Chrysalis.....*



Year 1

This week has been busy and productive. We have been so pleased with how the children have approached their assessments over the last two weeks. Regular reading and phonics homework is really paying off, thank you for all your support.

We started a new book this week called Big Bad Owl. The children wrote lovely sentences to describe the setting of Cupcake Woods. They also generated interesting questions to ask Scowl, the grumpy owl in the story. They enjoyed making a "Happy Hat" like the one worn by Little Bird who tries to cheer up Scowl.

In maths we have been learning about capacity and volume. We have been comparing and describing volumes of different containers. In geography we completed our end of topic assessment on Weather – the children have remembered so much key knowledge.

In RE we continue to look at the story of Palm Sunday and its importance during Holy Week.

Task: Can you read all your Tricky words at speed?

Year 2

What a busy week in Year 2! The children have been completing their spring assessments, and have shown resilience and determination throughout. We could not be more proud of them.

This week in Maths the children have completed their work with length and height and are really confident with this. In English, the children consolidated their understanding of our Shakespeare text 'Ella Bella Ballerina' based on 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by writing a diary entry detailing events in the story.

Throughout the week we have been working hard on our D&T project making hand puppets. The children have practised a running stitch, designed their puppet and have been making it using felt. They have thoroughly enjoyed it. We completed the week with a lovely Celebrating of the Word, ahead of the fifth Sunday of Lent.

Question - How can you keep yourself safe when using a needle?



Year 3

This was a very special week in Year 3 as the children in the Sacramental Programme made their First Reconciliation on Thursday afternoon. It was a beautiful service supported in prayer and song by the Year 3 children who were not in the programme. This week was also special as both Year 3 classes enjoyed a retreat day with Mrs Farmer. The children had the opportunity to meditate on Jesus' parables and to write down their personal thoughts and prayers. On Monday it was Eid and Mrs Nourine kindly brought in some festive food and celebrated with the children.

In Maths, we have continued with our fraction work, looking at non-unit fractions and fractions on scales. We are also doing well on our six times table. In English, we finished off a letter from King Lear to his daughter Cordelia asking for forgiveness for his bad behaviour. In Science we have started a new unit on Light. In our first lesson we looked at light sources as well as sources of natural and artificial light. In Spanish we completed our unit on musical instruments.

Question: [Why is the Sacrament of Reconciliation important?](#)

Year 4

With the sun shining, Year Four have had a great week!

We began the week in English by writing a letter to Macbeth, either persuading him to follow through with his wicked plans or urging him to reconsider. The children have loved this story so far and really enjoy discussing the themes and characters. Their writing was excellent and really showcased their abilities.

In RE, we have thinking about Lent. We have been reading scripture that teaches us about Jesus' time in the desert and how to live in God's way during this special time. The children created some collages which included images and symbols relating to Ash Wednesday and scripture. We then carried out some research on the Catholic Charity CAFOD to find out how they offer aid and almsgiving to those who most need it.

In Geography, we have be learning about some of the world's most famous mountain ranges. The children did an excellent job of plotting them on a map and recalling their knowledge of continents.

Question: [What are some of the world's most famous mountain ranges?](#)



Year 5

Year 5 have had another excellent week of learning!

In English, we concluded our work on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, where the children delved into the characters of Hermia, Helena, Lysander, and Demetrius. They produced some excellent character descriptions, showcasing their understanding of the story.

In Maths, we began exploring decimals, focusing on decimals to two decimal places and investigating the equivalence between fractions and decimals.

Our Religion lessons centered around the 'Mystery of Faith' prayer, where the children thoughtfully crafted their own child-friendly versions, capturing its deeper meaning.

In History, we continued our study of the Tudors, examining the effects of the Reformation on various groups of people and its lasting impact on the modern world. To round off the week, we celebrated a beautiful mass, where the children showed great reverence and participated with enthusiasm. It's been a week filled with learning, reflection, and growth!

Question: How would you describe Helena from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'?

Year 6

What a lovely week it has been here in Year 6, especially with the nicer weather!

In English, we have worked extremely hard to use formal language and cohesive devices to plan, write and edit newspaper articles outlining the events of the fight scene in *Romeo and Juliet*. The children should be really proud of themselves.

Towards the end of the week, we analysed persuasive letters and considered different viewpoints on the appropriate outcome of Romeo's crime in preparation to plan and write a persuasive letter to the Prince of Verona next week.

In Maths, we have begun our unit on 'Shape' whereby the children have utilised their understanding and use of protractors to measure and classify angles before using known facts to calculate angles around a point and on a straight line, vertically opposite angles and interior angles of a triangle. Well done year 6! We will continue our leaning on angles next week as we begin to look at angles in quadrilaterals, polygons and circles.

In History, we have continued our learning of 'Crime and Punishment' by delving into Roman punishments and considering how this compared and influenced punishments for crimes today.

Question: How many degrees are there on a straight line and in a full turn?