



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter 'Every child, every chance, every day!'

Friday 2nd May 2025

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely Easter break with your families. We only have a short term ahead but it is jam packed! It has been a lovely first week back, especially with the warmer weather!

Pope Francis

On Easter Monday we sadly lost our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Pope Francis was a great leader who focused our minds greatly on compassion and service. This week we took part in a mass to celebrate his life and to prayer for his eternal rest in heaven with Jesus.

Classes have also been reflecting on his life and his mission this week in their RE lessons, and took part in celebration of the word sessions. It has been a real week of reflection.

Our prayers now turn to the Conclave which begins next week, where the Cardinals begin voting for our new Pope. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide them in their decision making.

Crowning of Our Lady

As we have now entered the month of May, children attended mass this morning to crown Our Lady and place flowers they had made in class at her feet. It was a beautiful mass.

Next Friday, Friday 9th May, children will crown Our Lady here in school during a special assembly. We ask that all children bring in one flower with them for our beautiful display.

CARITAS Award

As you know I had out a special award each which to a child that I have noticed demonstrating Catholic Social Teaching. This week's winner is Lleyton and Jemima for crowning Our Lady so beautifully this morning.

Parent Survey - Please find the link below to our annual parent survey. I would appreciate it if you could take the time to complete it. It is always great to hear your positive feedback, as well as areas we can improve on so please do make every effort to fill it in. The survey will close on Tuesday at 1pm. Link: <https://forms.gle/j2wJXG4c8goTQndh9>

Have a lovely long weekend.

A reminder that school is closed on Monday as it is a bank holiday.

Mr Lavin, Headteacher

Our Values:
St Stephen's
CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

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Dates for your calendar - Summer 1

Week Beginning 5th May 2025

Date	Event
05.05.25	Bank Holiday - School closed
08.05.25	Y2 Class Assembly (both classes) 9:05am School Hall
09.05.25	Crowning of Our Lady School Assembly - all children to bring in a flower please
09.05.25	Y1, Y2, Y3 Mass at 10am

Week Beginning 12th May 2025

Date	Event
12.05.25	Y6 GPS SAT
13.05.25	Y6 Reading SAT
14.05.25	Y6 Maths 1 and 2 SAT
15.05.25	Y6 Maths 3 SAT
16.05.25	Y3 Lowry Trip - details to follow
16.05.25	Y4 and Y5 Mass

Week Beginning 19th May 2025

Date	Event
19.05.25	Y1SH Stay and Pray 9:05am
20.05.25	Y1LB Stay and Pray 9:05am
23.05.25	Reception and Y6 Mass at 10am
23.05.25	Break the Rules Day
23.05.25	School closes for half term at 3:15pm



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Betsy
RLS	Flora
RNE	Alfie
Y1SH	Ava
Y1LB	Raya
Y2JL	India
Y2AL	Rahilla
Y3HB	Kingsley
Y3LH	Thomas H
Y4DS	Olivia
Y4SM	Sofija
Y5LW	Freddie
Y5LS	Joe
Y6GB	Lilly-Mai
Y6DF	Harlow

Readers of the Week

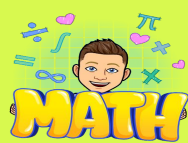


Nursery	Matilda & Teni
RLS	Coby
RNE	Isobel
Y1SH	Darcie
Y1LB	Jaxon
Y2JL	Lin Xi
Y2AL	Seon
Y3HB	Arabella
Y3LH	Hudson
Y4DS	Eliza
Y4SM	Adora
Y5LW	Mehrsam
Y5LS	Charlie
Y6GB	Travis
Y6DF	Anabelle





Maths Star



Nursery	Sonny
RLS	Dustie
RNE	Kofi
Y1SH	William
Y1LB	Leo
Y2JL	Cornelia
Y2AL	Hazel
Y3HB	Kaiden
Y3LH	Lano
Y4DS	Kacper
Y4SM	Emily
Y5LW	Charles
Y5LS	Yasmin
Y6GB	Alexis
Y6DF	Naomi

Writing Star



Nursery	Marnie
RLS	Nellie
RNE	Ocean
Y1SH	Maverick
Y1LB	Ivy
Y2JL	Ronnie
Y2AL	Muzaffar
Y3HB	Lyna
Y3LH	Thomas F
Y4DS	Jensen
Y4SM	Rocco
Y5LW	Isla
Y5LS	Frances
Y6GB	Reece
Y6DF	Delilah

1%
BETTER





Nursery

Welcome back to Summer Term One.

We have had such an exciting week in Nursery this week with the arrival of our lovely new furniture. Our new classroom layout is fantastic and we have been very busy exploring all our new areas of learning. We are so lucky that we get to enjoy the new areas this term.

The weather has been very kind to us this week which has meant that we have also been able to explore the outdoors. We have loved the sand and water areas especially.

We have loved observing our tadpoles in our small pond area (we don't think it will be too long until we see some Froglets) and we have been looking after our chicks outside- we have now named them and their names are April, May and June. They have grown so much over the past few weeks we can't wait to see them grow even more.

One of our new book focuses this term is 'The Odd Egg' by Emily Gravett. We have discussed what animals lay eggs and showed great knowledge of this.

In our Liturgy and RE sessions we have remembered Pope Francis, we created some lovely candles to say Thank you to Pope Francis and listened to the story of the Good Shepherd during a special assembly led by Mrs Ellison.

Question What hatched from inside of 'The Odd Egg'.

Reception

Welcome Back, Reception!

It has been so lovely to welcome you all back—we hope you had a wonderful break! We are very excited to welcome Mr Mottershead to the team, we are excited for the term ahead!

This week, we finished our work on The Woolly Bear Caterpillar. The children enjoyed innovating the story by changing the main character, and they came up with some fantastic ideas! They worked really hard to write their new versions in full sentences. Sentence writing will be a big focus for us this half term, so any extra writing practice at home would be very helpful. We also enjoyed a minibeast hunt on the field to kick off our exciting new topic. The children loved exploring the outdoors and discovering all the tiny creatures that live around us—it was a great way to spark curiosity and discussion!"

In Maths, we've started our new unit on numbers beyond ten. Using our ten frames, we explored the numbers 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. The children have been using STEM sentences to help build their understanding, such as: "10 and 1 more is 11."

In Religious Education this term, we have been doing lots of reflecting and giving thanks for Pope Francis. We took part in a beautiful Early Years Liturgy where we learned about the story of the Good Shepherd. Through this story, we explored how Pope Francis acts as a shepherd, guiding and caring for us, just as the Good Shepherd looks after His sheep. It was a meaningful experience that helped us understand the importance of compassion, leadership, and faith.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend.

Question: If Mrs Ellison has 1 full ten frame, and another ten frame with 3 spaces filled - how many altogether?



Year 1

We have had a lovely week learning new things and enjoying the sun. The children started their week with a Mass in remembrance of Pope Francis and followed this with a celebration of the word in class. The children wrote some lovely prayers dedicated to him. We were so proud of how thoughtful and respectful the children were.

In maths we have had fun learning to count in jumps of 2 and 10. In our fluency work we have been finding one more and one less.

In English we have started a new story called Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravett. The children have been learning to retell the story using their story map. We continue to work hard in our daily phonics sessions.

We started a new topic in history about the Victorians and in science we continued our plants theme by learning the difference between wild and garden flowers.

The children made beautiful flowers as part of our creative challenge and have laid them in the Mary altar, in church, following our special mass to crown Mary.

Task: please practice counting in 2's and 10's.

Year 2

What a lovely first week back after Easter we have had, and the weather has definitely reflected this! We have had a very prayerful week at St. Stephen's. We started off the week by reflecting on the sad news about Pope Francis and we have written some beautiful prayers for him. We had a lovely Mass on Tuesday to remember him and consider the impact he had on Catholics. We have also been making flowers for the month of Mary, and we honoured her by bringing these to her statue in Mass on Friday.

Alongside this, lots of learning has been taking place. We have started a new book in English 'Can I Be Your Dog?' and the children have been immersed in this new story. We have also learnt how to use apostrophes for singular possession. In Maths, we have continued our Mass and Capacity unit and we have measured in millilitres and litres and we have solved problems involving these. In Science, we have been learning about food chains and in History, we have started our new topic - The Sinking of the Titanic. This is a fantastic topic and the children have been excited for this all year! We started by learning about what the Titanic was.

Question: Include an apostrophe in the phrase below: Arfys tail



Year 3

Although it was a sombre start to the new school term with the passing of Pope Francis with the children remembering his life and work through writing his biography as well as attending mass in his memory, this was a fantastic week for Year 3. On Thursday we went on our trip to the Liverpool World Museum where we saw Egyptian artefacts, wonders of our earth, information and objects to do with space travel and everyone's favourite... the dinosaurs. It was all fascinating for the children. 3HB also visited the Walker Art Gallery where we attended a workshop based on a painting which depicted the Greek myth of Atalanta. The children became engrossed in the story of the picture as it was told by one of the museum educational guides. 3LH enjoyed a hands on workshop with Roman artefacts.

On Friday we attended mass for the Crowning of Our Lady. Each child had created their own flower and laid it at Mary's feet.

Question: What is a [sarcophagus](#)?

Year 4

Welcome back to school and the Summer term! We hope you all had a restful break with the children and that they are ready to get stuck back into their learning.

With the sad passing of Pope Francis on Easter Monday, the children have been celebrating his life and work through a memorial Mass and a research task in class by creating their own biographies about his early life, rise to prominence and the lasting legacy he has left on the Catholic church. The children were interested to learn about his life before the papacy and that he also had a very different name! It was great that the children also learnt about how the next pope will be elected and how conclave cast their votes when preparing for this important moment.

In our English lessons, we are now looking at our instructional text, Dare to Care, all about taking care of a pet dragon! We really hope the children enjoy this unit of work and that it gives them the chance to showcase everything they have learnt this year! In Maths, we are still working through fractions and decimals, two big topics, but the children are really trying their best, so please do encourage them to keep up the effort and to continue using TTRs as often as they can, ahead of the Multiplication Check.

We are learning about sustainability in science and mountains in geography at the moment and the children have been making links between the topics, reflecting on how to conserve and protect our environment and its natural features.

Question: was Pope Francis the 265th Pope? True or False?



Year 5

We're thrilled to announce that our children have returned for the Summer Term feeling refreshed and full of energy! With lovely weather gracing us, the outdoors has become an extension of our classroom, where the children enjoyed a wonderful Forest School session with Mrs Artingstall as we embark on Hedgehog Awareness week.

In Maths, the children have been mastering the art of ordering and comparing decimals, as well as rounding them to the nearest integer. Next week will focus on understanding percentages and equivalent decimals, fractions and percentages..

In History, we've journeyed back in time to discover the remarkable reign of Queen Elizabeth I. Our young historians have been identifying her significant achievements and understanding what made her a fascinating leader. They have also scrutinised evidence to determine whether the Elizabethan era truly was a golden age of exploration and technological advancement.

With the sad passing of Pope Francis, our RE lessons this week have focused on the man that was the 'People's Pope', as well as his inspirational letter Laudato Si, calling for a unified approach to caring for our common home.

Question: What do you think will be Pope Francis's most enduring legacy?

Year 6

Welcome back Year 6! It has been lovely to welcome back the children as they have been so enthusiastic and have put their best foot forward in everything they have done. The sunny weather has most definitely helped too!

As we are drawing closer to the SATS, we have focused upon perfecting our skills and exam technique when approaching test style questions in guided reading, GaPS and Maths. The children have worked extremely hard and we are so proud of them! This week's GaPS focuses have been hyphens, different types of clauses and tenses.

Maths this week has focused on statistics whereby the children have been able to analyse and represent data in the form of pie charts. In order to do this, the children have used their understanding of fractions, percentages and angles, as well as using protractors accurately.

In RE, we have been learning about four parts of the Easter Vigil: The solemn beginning of the vigil, the liturgy of the word, the Baptism liturgy and the liturgy of the Eucharist. Following this, we composed monologues from the perspective of Mary Magdalene to express her emotions when she realized that Jesus was not in the tomb. Additionally, following the sad passing of Pope Francis, we have researched his life as the 'People's Pope' and considered his legacy and what he will be remembered for. With this, the children have written a eulogy for Pope Francis to celebrate his life and achievements.

Question: What is a hyphen used for?