



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

Friday 9th May 2025

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

**A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN**...I hope you had a great Bank Holiday weekend! It's been great to see the great weather continue and this has helped us to maximise outdoor activities as much as possible! This week we have turned our thoughts to the Conclave that happened this week in Rome. Children have gained an understanding of how it works to elect a new Pope and took part in a nationwide assembly live from Rome. Last night, white smoke poured from the chimney, which signalled that the Cardinals elected a new Pope. We pray for Pope Leo XIV as he begins this significant journey.

**CARITAS Award** - My special CARITAS award this week goes to Oscar C in Year 4DS. He was so thoughtful yesterday with one of his friends! This really demonstrates Catholic Social Teaching! Well done!

**Crowning of Our Lady** - Today our Key Stage 1 and 2 children came together and laid flowers at the feet of Our Lady in the school hall. Thank you to our Head Girl and Head Boy for crowning Our Lady. The display in the hall is spectacular. As always, thank you so much for your kind donations of flowers. Our youngest children had a little liturgy outside Church at Our Lady's statue. It was beautiful, and as always, our early years children were so respectful. Thank you so much for your generous donation of flowers. What a wonderful community we have!

**Emmaus Review** - On Wednesday this week we had our SEND Review, where headteachers and SENCOs from other schools within the Trust, alongside an Executive Leadership, look at all aspects of our SEND department. The visit was a great success and I thank all the staff at St Stephen's for making our school a truly inclusive environment.

**Year 2 Class Assembly** - Thank you to our Year 2 children for putting on a fantastic class assembly on Thursday morning. Thank you for taking the time to attend. We are all so proud of the children.

**Year 6** - Next week, our eldest children take their national assessments - SATS. The children have been preparing hard for these assessments and next week is an opportunity to demonstrate all of their hard work. Please keep our Year 6 children in your prayers. It is vital Year 6 are in school every day next week - and on time! If you know your child is going to be late, please phone the office as soon as possible so we can make the necessary arrangements. If they are unwell and are going to be absent, please let me know straight away.

Have a fantastic weekend! *Mr Lavin, Headteacher*

**Our Values:**  
**St Stephen's**  
**CARES**

**Compassion**



**Ambition**



**Rejoice**



**Excellence**



**Service**



**#TEAMSTSTEPHENS**

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

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## Dates for your calendar - Summer 1

### 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

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## Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



<b>Nursery</b>	Imoleoluna & Pearl
<b>RLS</b>	Ophelia
<b>RNE</b>	Kofi
<b>Y1SH</b>	Chester
<b>Y1LB</b>	Faaizah
<b>Y2JL</b>	Declan
<b>Y2AL</b>	Muzaffar
<b>Y3HB</b>	Jake
<b>Y3LH</b>	Isla
<b>Y4DS</b>	Olivia
<b>Y4SM</b>	Riley
<b>Y5LW</b>	Godwin
<b>Y5LS</b>	Isaac
<b>Y6GB</b>	Phoebe
<b>Y6DF</b>	Sam

## Readers of the Week

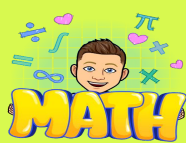


<b>Nursery</b>	Yousuf & Lennie
<b>RLS</b>	Aryel
<b>RNE</b>	Alice
<b>Y1SH</b>	Tilly
<b>Y1LB</b>	Lula
<b>Y2JL</b>	Scarlett
<b>Y2AL</b>	Huckleberry
<b>Y3HB</b>	Panagiotis
<b>Y3LH</b>	Raya-Mae
<b>Y4DS</b>	Brooke
<b>Y4SM</b>	Charlie
<b>Y5LW</b>	Hanna
<b>Y5LS</b>	Laicee
<b>Y6GB</b>	Travis
<b>Y6DF</b>	Deborah





## Maths Star



<b>Nursery</b>	Roman
<b>RLS</b>	Lena
<b>RNE</b>	Cole
<b>Y1SH</b>	Evie
<b>Y1LB</b>	Jake
<b>Y2JL</b>	Poppy
<b>Y2AL</b>	Seon
<b>Y3HB</b>	Runo
<b>Y3LH</b>	Sophie
<b>Y4DS</b>	Bruce
<b>Y4SM</b>	Keane
<b>Y5LW</b>	Noah V
<b>Y5LS</b>	Poppy
<b>Y6GB</b>	Lily-Grace
<b>Y6DF</b>	Sara

## Writing Star



<b>Nursery</b>	Elsa
<b>RLS</b>	Harlow
<b>RNE</b>	Romie
<b>Y1SH</b>	Jeremy
<b>Y1LB</b>	Iremide
<b>Y2JL</b>	Keziah
<b>Y2AL</b>	Maisie
<b>Y3HB</b>	Henry
<b>Y3LH</b>	Esme
<b>Y4DS</b>	Millie
<b>Y4SM</b>	Tegan
<b>Y5LW</b>	Leraya
<b>Y5LS</b>	Layla B
<b>Y6GB</b>	Charlie
<b>Y6DF</b>	Jaime-Leigh

1%  
BETTER







Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday is traditionally known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. The Gospel reminds us that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and that, if we listen to him, we can rely on him to guide our lives in the right direction.

Sheep are so unpredictable and undependable. They are easily startled and often run in the wrong direction, appearing constantly to change their mind. Sometimes we too can head in the wrong direction and we need help to keep our lives on the right path.

Jesus is the patient shepherd who never gives up on us. He came so that we could experience the fullness of life here, and to lead us into the joys of eternal life.

Enjoy a special time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **LIFE**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from  
the Saints

*"To live well is to love God with all your heart."*  
Saint Augustine

### THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025



Jesus said, "The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one."

Adapted from John 10:27-30  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year C

Getting to know Jesus makes life joyful.  
Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your  
local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

Having Hope  
in our Families

Jesus wants us to share in his life because he loves us so much. He offers us eternal life and that's a gift which we can begin to receive today. When we listen to Jesus and follow him we can already begin to experience eternal life, to live in God's love, here and now!





# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



### 1 READ & REFLECT! Listen & Learn with Jesus, the Word!

One day, Jesus said to the disciples, "My sheep listen to my voice. I know my sheep and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one."

**What does Jesus give to those who follow him?**

Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Spend a few relaxing moments pondering the picture together. Share any thoughts before moving on.



#### Sunday Gospel Gallery

Look at this Sunday's Gospel picture. What can you see? How do you feel? What does it make you think about?

### 2 SHARE & CARE! Growing in Goodness & Love: This Wednesday's Word...

"Life is a gift from God. The voice of Jesus is unmistakable! He guides us along the path of life."

*Pope Francis*

Ask your child what the word 'life' means to them. Ask your child who, or what, makes their life happy right now. What is most important to them in their life? It may help your child if you tell them something that gives you life, or is important in your life. You might want to tell your child how they make your life special.

How can we follow Jesus the Good Shepherd this week, and make life better for others at home, at school or in the community? Perhaps we can: always tell the truth; be generous and share; listen carefully to wise parents, teachers and other good people; show our gratitude to all those who teach and lead us through life, and pray for them too; help someone to feel special and valued - to feel alive.

**LIFE**



### 3 Dear Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd who knows us by name and guides us through life. Please help us to follow you always. Amen.

**FINDING THREE!**

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

**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>SHEEP</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>KNOW</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>LISTEN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FOLLOW</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ETERNAL</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>LIFE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>JESUS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>FATHER</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**

Cross out the letters **u b d** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

**beterdnalu kunbowd shudebep fodlulowb**

Jesus said, "I \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ and they  
\_\_\_\_\_ me. I give them \_\_\_\_\_ life."



Jesus continues to be our Good Shepherd through the lives of people who show us how to live in a way that pleases God. He wants to make our lives special and complete, and he wants us to make life better for others too.



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...





## Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have enjoyed the rhyme 'Hickory Dickory Dock' in our phonics sessions.

We have been focusing on the initial sounds in our own names and learning to recognise our own names independently as we come into Nursery each morning.

In Maths this week, we have enjoyed the rhyme '5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer' we have been learning to sequence events in the order that they happen using language such as first, next, after and last.

We have continued listening to our topic book 'The Odd Egg' this week, remembering the sequence of events in this book and what hatched from each egg along the way. We have then used a story map to retell the story in detail.

In our creative area this week we have been decorating our own 'Odd Eggs' and enjoyed a lovely activity of decorating Mary Our Lady. We know how special Mary is.

Today we joined in a very special ceremony outside of our church alongside the reception children where we got to Crown Our Lady- we placed flowers by her statue and sang songs and said prayers with respect.

*Question- What colour do we associate with Mary?*

## Reception

I can't believe we're already well into May—another week has flown by! The children continue to amaze us with their hard work and enthusiasm, and we are so proud of all they are achieving.

This week, we began exploring our new class text: "Things with Wings." This engaging non-fiction book is all about animals and insects that have wings. In Literacy, we've been summarising key points and sharing our favourite facts from the text—ask your child what they've learned!

In Maths, our focus has been on numbers beyond 10. We've explored 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19, using subitising skills to recognise how many have been added to 10 without counting. Outdoor learning was a real highlight this week. The children got creative making their own spider webs and explored new ways to write and make marks outside. Their creativity and curiosity continue to shine—well done, Reception!

In RE, we've been learning about Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We took part in a special crowning service at the Mary statue outside church, and some of the children had the opportunity to do a reading. It was a beautiful moment of reflection and celebration.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

*Question: If a spider has 8 legs, and then loses 2, how many will it have?*

*Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe*





## Year 1

This week, along with the rest of the school, we have been praying for the Cardinals as they elect a new Pope. We watched a live broadcast from The Vatican about the election of the new Pope. We have also started to think about our new unit of work about holidays and holy days. In English, we continue work on our class story 'Meerkat Mail'. The children used emojis to describe how Sunny felt during the different places he visited. They then wrote sentences to describe Sunny, using colourful semantics. In Maths, children have been counting in multiples of 5 and recognising equal groups. In Science this week, the children have been learning about the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees. In History, we celebrated VE day and recognised its significance. As May is the month of Mary, year one have created Mary- Queen of Peace artwork on a canvas. We also crowned Mary with flowers in a special assembly. We finished the week with a lovely mass all about spreading peace.

**Question- What is the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees?**

## Year 2

What a busy 4 day week it has been! During prayer and liturgy, we have been focusing on the election of a new Pope and we joined a live assembly from Rome about this. As well as this, we have continued to honour Mary in the month of May and we have produced some beautiful artwork for a canvas which we shared in assembly today, focusing on Our Lady of Lourdes. During this assembly, we also crowned Mary with flowers and then we went to Mass to reflect on how we can spread peace.

In English, we planned a letter of response about whether we think the Junkyard Man will let Arfy be his dog or not. We will be writing these next week before we find out whether Arfy finds an owner.

We have now finished our Mass and Capacity unit in Maths and we have learnt how temperature is measured.

Yesterday, we celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE day and the children were very interested in learning about this.

To end our week, we had an Art day where we looked at construction as a form of art and we created our own stick people in Forest School.

**Question: What does VE day mark?**

*Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe*





## Year 3

**This week the children enjoyed watching a special live broadcast from The Vatican about a new Pope being elected. They learnt about how this is done and joined in prayers asking God to help the Cardinals make a wise choice. On Friday it was lovely to see all the flowers the children brought into school to adorn Our Lady in the hall. Year 3 read about Our Lady of Knock and painted her on a canvas. Year 3 also joined Years 1 and 2 at mass today. The theme of the mass was 'Spreading Peace.' This week in English we continued with our book, 'Escape to Pompeii' and the children looked at vocabulary which describes a volcano and its eruption. They also recapped on using inverted commas to show speech by writing short dialogues. In our Maths unit on Mass, the children practised comparing masses of objects as well as adding and subtracting grams and kilograms. We began our new history topic about Boudicca by placing historical events on a timeline, starting with the Stone Age.**

**Question from Science: Can you explain how we see objects?**

## Year 4

Although it's only been a four-day week in school, we've still been very busy in Year Four!

Our English lessons are still focused on Dare to Care: Pet Dragon and the children have been using their analysis and inference skills to uncover new information about the content and style of our new text through a variety of CLIMB questions and predictions. The children seem to be really enjoying this text so far! In Maths, we are still learning about fractions and decimals and the children are persevering brilliantly. Please can I ask that you continue to push the children to practise their times tables again and again, as we head towards the MTC date. There has been a notable improvement in the scores so we hope that this continues to improve further as time goes on! Well done, children! Our RE lessons at the moment have been focused on Pope Francis, and today, the children watched a live video from Rome where Conclave are deliberating over who our new Pope will be. The children were fascinated to learn about this process. We also crowned Our Lady in assembly this morning and the children have produced some lovely artwork and brought in beautiful flowers to go with this. Finally, in science, we have been discussing sustainability and looking into the advantages and disadvantages of electricity and in geography, the children learnt about the different zones of a mountain.

Question: can you name two types of renewable energy?



## Year 5

We've had a fantastic week in Year 5!

In English, we've now finished reading *Brightstorm*, and the children are excited to get started on writing their own newspaper articles based on the dramatic events that took place on the Third Continent. They are looking forward to reporting the real truth!

In Maths, we have been rounding decimals and have started to explore percentages—beginning with spotting them in images and converting them into fractions.

Science has been particularly fun, as we've been looking at the different stages of human development, focusing on babies and children. A real highlight was when the children compared their own baby photos to how they are now—lots of smiles and laughter! Thank you for providing the baby photographs for the children.

In History, we have looked carefully at the reign of Elizabeth I and why it was called the 'golden age'.

We also took part in the Crowning of Mary on Friday, which was a beautiful and thoughtful way to welcome the month of May and remember our Mother Mary.

**Questions: What does percent mean? What is 75% as a fraction?**

## Year 6

This week, the children have worked incredibly hard to consolidate their knowledge and understanding of key skills and concepts across the curriculum. We have continued our revision in grammar lessons, focusing specifically on inverted commas, commas for clarity as well as recapping word classes and being 'markers' to highlight areas of misconception and make necessary adaptations to answers which have been completed incorrectly. A difficult skill which the children have worked hard to develop. In maths, the children have continued to practice arithmetic questions daily and have worked hard in lesson to consolidate their understanding of symmetry and reflection in preparation for the reasoning papers next week. Well done Year 6!

In History, we have continued our learning on Crime and Punishment - looking at punishments for crimes during the Anglo-Saxon period. The children learnt about Wergild and considered whether they deemed the punishment fair and fit for the crime. This generated some excellent discussions and interest in the topic!

We know that the SATs can be daunting but this is your opportunity to showcase everything you have learnt. All of the hard work will pay off! Good luck Year 6 - we are rooting for you!

**Question: What was Wergild?**