



## BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

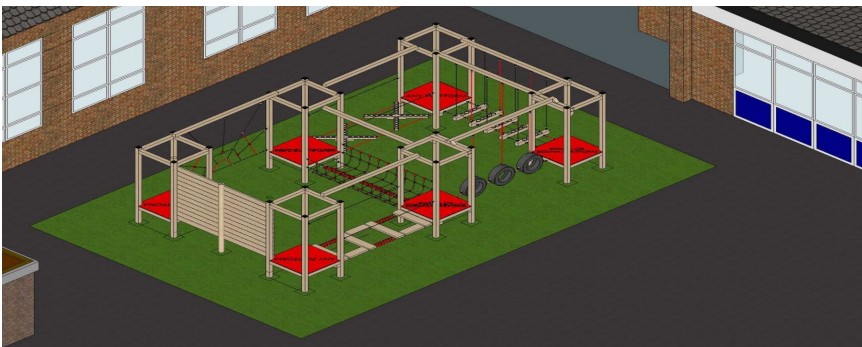
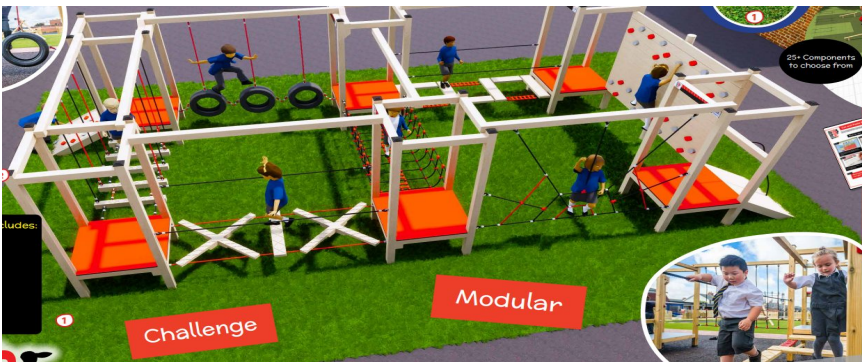
### A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN

I hope this Newsletter finds you well. We have made it to the end of our first half term and it has been a really successful one. Children have settled back so well and are making great progress. As ever, I am so proud to be the Deputy Head of St Stephen's. A huge thank you to you and all of the school staff for all of the support you and hard work you have provided this half term

At this weeks Parent's Evening, I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to hear all of the fantastic things children have been learning, and you have a good idea on where improvements can be made. If you have not been able to make Parent's Evening this week, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher, who will be more than happy to arrange an alternative time.

### Playground

I am delighted to confirm that we have now secured an installation date of Phase 1 of our playground improvement project. Work begins on Wednesday 10th November and should roughly take a week to install. A reminder of what the children have chosen. This is will installed outside the Y1 classrooms.



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### DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

22/10/21	Mid-term break begins
01/11/21	Return to school
01/11/21	Pantomime
01/11/21	World War 1 Week
04/11/21	KS1 Classes Mass
04/11/21	Y5 Mayan Morning
08/11/21	School Photo Day
11/11/21	Remembrance Day
11/11/21	Lower KS2 Classes Mass
15/11/21	Anti-Bullying Week
18/11/21	Upper KS2 Classes Mass
23/11/21	R-Y6 Nasal Flu Vaccine
25/11/21	KS1 Classes Mass
25/11/21	Y6 Safety Squad in school
01/12/21	Y4 Retreat in school
02/12/21	Upper KS2 Classes Mass
17/12/21	Christmas Holidays at 1:30pm

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**St Stephen's RCP**  
*'Together we can achieve our best'*

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Friday 22nd October 2021  
Issue 8

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## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

As mentioned, this is phase 1 of a much bigger plan. Completing the project in phases is the most practical, and cost effective way

Each fundraiser you have take part in has gone towards the project, as well as investment from the school budget. Without your support, children would not have the playground they deserve - so a big thank you, and to the PTA, for your support so far. Phase 2 is to update the playground markings that we currently have. Children will have the opportunity to decide what they would like. We hope to complete this phase by the end of the academic year.

### **COVID-19 Procedures around school**

This week, Senior Leaders / Governors have reviewed the current arrangements to the beginning and the end of the day and we have decided to make some important changes. Please do take the time to read the information below.

#### **Start of the school day**

We will be continuing with the current morning arrangements for now. As a school we find this a much smoother way to the start of the school day. Also, we love being at the front gate in the mornings to say 'Hello' to children and parents. However, we will be making a time change. From **Monday 1st November**, all gates will **open at 8:40 am** and will **close at 8:50am**.

Children will sanitise their hands when they enter the classroom to help the flow of children coming through the gate. All children after this time will need to go to the main school office and will receive a late mark. Our current arrangements are meaning there is a real delay to the start of teaching. Registration will officially begin at 8:50am with lesson one of the day beginning at 8:55am. A prompt start of the day is so important and I hope you support us in this change.

#### **End of the school day**

**This information below is for Years 1 to 6. The current arrangements for Nursery and Reception will remain in place.**

From **Monday 1st November**, we will return to the pre-COVID way of children being collected; children can be collected from their classroom doors. Your child's class teacher will email you directly to explain where their classroom is if you are unfamiliar with the layout. **The end of the school day is officially 3:15pm.**

The gates will not open for you to come onto the site until **3:10pm**. The site gates will close again promptly at **3:25pm**. This is because each night we use the playground and field for after school club and after school sports. We believe reverting back to this system will allow for stronger lines of communication between parents and teachers. Year 6 children will be allowed to walk home alone from 3:15pm.

I know these arrangements may not suit everyone, and some really like the way it is currently, however we do need to strike a balance. As always, we will give this a go, and review the procedures if necessary.

*Continued on the next page...*

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## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

### Remembrance

After half term we will be thinking about those who have passed away and offer our prayers to them. We will have a special box in the main office area where children can put any names that they, or you, would like us to pray for. Our Chaplains will also be selling Poppies. We will send out further information after half term.

**I hope you and your family have a safe, and restful mid-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 1st November when gates open at 8:40am.**

*Mr Lavin Deputy Headteacher*

**THOUGHT OF THE DAY: 'FASHION YOUR LIFE AS A GARDEN OF BEAUTIFUL DEEDS.'**

### Sports News from Mr Grantham

St Stephen's have shown outstanding achievement this term. We've started off exactly how I knew we would, not only with their ability but with a fantastic attitude towards competition. The A team started this term with a tournament at Manchester United and from the get go the team were flying, going unbeaten and winning the tournament. This means they will be entered into the finals against all other winning schools in the summer. Their next game was against Cannon Burrows which was going to be another tough team but again our boys were up to the challenge and came out on top beat them 6-1.

The B team started their campaign with a great result winning their first match 2-1 with a late goal by St Stephen's (fergie time!!!). This was a great opportunity for the B team as this was for some of them their first ever match and all I can say is that it is onwards and upwards for them because they played absolutely outstanding.

Girls have also started their year with a bang, as they have shown fabulous attitude and commitment. Girls played in their first tournament, they were up against 8 other schools in the area. There was some tough teams to play against but our girls stepped up to the challenge and came out fighting and got the results (1Win, 2 Draws and 1 Lost).

I also would like to mention that the girls football after school club is at its highest around tameside with nearly 20 girls attending every week all I can say is ... WHO RUNS THE WORLD!

All in all a fantastic start to the year and it doesn't stop there as we have cross country coming up, hockey tournaments, handball and netball and more Lets keep this up **#teamststephens!**

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## Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Nursery	Halle and Sienna
RKF	Bruke
RCL	Henry
Y1LD	Riley
Y1J00	Daley
Y2SH	Elise
Y2AL	Hanna
Y3LW	Hannah
Y3CS/DH	Beau
Y4DS	Michal
Y4HB	Annalise
Y5LS	Ashley
Y5DM	Charlie
Y6HG	Liam
Y6DF	Pixie

## Readers of the Week



Nursery	Rosie
RKF	Sophie
RCL	Arabella
Y1LD	Jeremiah
Y1J00	Evelyn
Y2SH	Alisha
Y2AL	George
Y3LW	Delilah
Y3CS/DH	Nico
Y4DS	Hollie
Y4HB	Callen
Y5LS	Heidi
Y5DM	Leni-Rey
Y6HG	Ethan
Y6DF	Lexie

## Handwriters of the week



Nursery	Hazel
RKF	Harrison
RCL	Freddie
Y1LD	Trinity-Rose
Y1J00	Ruby
Y2SH	Charlotte
Y2AL	Elijah
Y3LW	Rosie
Y3CS/DH	Gustavo
Y4DS	Xhaceriah
Y4HB	Kiera
Y5LS	Lucas
Y5DM	Bonnie
Y6HG	Grace
Y6DF	Harley





## Sports Stars of the Week

Nursery	Cornelia
RKF	Esme
RCL	Felix
Y1LD	Roman
Y1J00	Ruby
Y2SH	Saul
Y2AL	Dolly-Rae
Y3LW	Sara
Y3CS/DH	Beau
Y4DS	Zachary
Y4HB	Melody
Y5LS	Louie
Y5OM	Edward
Y6HG	Evie
Y6DF	Joshua

## House Points

Blue  
4344



Red  
6264

Yellow  
5289



Green  
5934

### Totals So Far!

Blue 38,533  
 Green 41,359  
 Red 37,344  
 Yellow 33,323



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## Attendance

Whole School	93.9%
Nursery AM	87.2%
Nursery Full Day	94.3%
RKF	84.7%
RCL	92.5%
Y1LD	81.8%
Y1J'OD	95.8%
Y2AL	98.6%
Y2SH	92.6%
Y3LW	97.6%
Y3CS/DH	95.7%
Y4DS	93.6%
Y4HB	92.2%
Y5DM	89.5%
Y5LS	94%
Y6HG	97.1%
Y6DF	97.9%



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

## Attendance Challenge!

This term, we challenged the children to be in school every day. The winner of this term's challenge is **Jessica in Y5DM - you will be getting a special prize after half term!** Well done!

**100%**



## St Stephen's Attendance League

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

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 2AL	12	3rd: RKF	5
2nd: NurAM	7	4th: NurFD	3
2nd: IJO'D	7	4th: RCL	3
3rd: ILD	5		
3rd: 28H	5		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y6DF	16	5th: Y4HB	2
2nd: Y3CS/DS	8	5th: Y6HG	2
3rd: Y4DS	7	6th: Y5DM	0
4th: Y3LW	6		
5th: Y5LS	2		

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## Religious Education

### Come and See

Next term, our whole school Come and See topic will focus on the Sacraments.

Nursery through to Year 3 will be learning about being welcomed into God's family through the sacrament of Baptism

In Year 4 the children will explore Confirmation and what it means to be called and chosen.

The Year 5 classes will discuss what is commitment and how this relates to marriage.

In Year 6, the children will learn about Holy Orders.

To prepare for these lessons, at home you could share pictures of the children and/or family members receiving one of the sacraments and talk about the special day.

### Mass Times

All of the children in Years 1-6 have attended Mass this term.

This week, some of our Reception children went to Mass for the first time with their Year 6 special friend. Next term, we look forward to celebrating Mass with the next group of Reception children.

These have been beautiful services and we thank Father Wilson for leading Mass each week.

Saturday Vigil : 5.30pm  
Sunday: 10.30am  
Parish Priest: Father B. Wilson

### Prayer of the Week School Holiday Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for this holiday-  
an extra chance for fun and play.  
There's so much I can learn and do  
even if I'm not in school.

All the beauty and gifts abound.  
The world you created is all around.

Today's a chance to go explore,  
try new things, and discover more.  
I'll miss my teacher and my friends  
just as happens on weekends.

But I know that for today,  
I'm thankful for this holiday.

### The Rosary at Home

Ten Ten have provided free Rosary resources for you to share at home with your family. Following the following link to access the resources:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/prayers-for-home/prayers-for-home-joyful-mysteries/>



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## Our Fantastic Learning!

### Nursery

We have completed our first half term! I am so proud of how well the all the children have settled in to our routine and love our learning. Our story this week has been Room on the Broom. We turned our indoor water area in to a witches' potions area, with a Halloween theme. We made lots of potions with spider and eyeballs! Our sensory tuff tray had potion making things too, lots of great sharing and language used in these areas. We have enjoyed learning our nursery rhyme of the week and our number song - make sure you practise at home!

The children enjoyed their bike ability session again this week, they are getting practising using their skills on the balance bikes.

The children had PE on Thursday this week with Mr Grantham and had lots of fun going on the adventure playground. Finally, we had our Forest school session with Mrs Artingstall. Every week we feed the chickens and ducks, collect leaves, herbs and flowers for our mud kitchen. Emmeline wrote us a letter to say she had lost her hat, again, and could we help her find it! We are good at finding her hat! We have been carving and exploring pumpkins and making potions in the outdoor area.  
Enjoy your half term.

### Reception

What a busy and exciting week we have had in Reception Class!

We have enjoyed reading "Funny Bones" and drawing the funny skeleton family. We have made pumpkin slime and pumpkin soup by mixing different ingredients together. We talked about the different smells and textures. We made our own fizzing potions and made our own spells. The children have had an amazing first half term!

We have been making plans to work more closely with Year 6. All of the Reception children have a special friend who will follow them through their Reception year supporting them in their play and learning. We all went to church with the Year 6 children. Some of the Reception children went to their first school mass supported by their special Year 6 friend. Well done to all and enjoy your half term break!

Question - What happened to the dog skeleton?

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## Year 1

Another amazing week in Year 1. Our highlights included.

- Art day-learning all about Henri Matisse, and painting in his style with lots of interesting shapes and bright colours.
- Our Autumn walk, discovering all the changes now that Autumn is here.
- Joining in with an author reading and "draw along" for our book "Look up!" We drew and wrote about the cat from the story.
- Solving a maths problem about putting bottles of strawberry and chocolate milk in a milk crate, finding all the possibilities. (This helped to apply our skills with number bonds to 6)
- Listening to a story that we share with the Jewish people- how Abraham and Sarah trusted God and travelled far.

Question: What changes do you notice now that Autumn is here? Perhaps you could go on another Autumn walk with your family.

## Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic week! We have completed our History topic of The Great Fire of London and we have learnt how firefighting has changed from 1666 to present day. We have also completed our Art topic and have experimented with colour mixing and using charcoal. We had lots of fun (and got very messy!) and have produced some wonderful, realistic paintings of fire.

For Black History Day, we are learning about Bob Marley and we have written our own verses to "Three Little Birds". I'm sure the children will be singing them all through half term! Miss Leigh and Mrs Healey are so proud of how hard the children have worked this half term and we hope they enjoy their well earned rest.

Question: How has firefighting changed from 1666 to present day?



## Year 3

This week we have focused on our History topic in Year 3, learning about Neolithic farming, Skara Brae, Stonehenge and Iron Age Hillforts, as well as being hunter-gatherers. The children were very inquisitive, with fantastic questions and an endless enthusiasm for their learning. In Design Technology, we designed, planned, baked and evaluated Iron Age bread. The tasting of the Iron Age bread had mixed results in class, with some children loving the taste, whilst others were less impressed. As part of Black History Month, we learned about Malorie Blackman - a famous Black, female author and children's laureate from 2013 - 2015. We designed a book front cover in the style of her most famous books (Noughts and Crosses and Check Mate), produced a fact file about her life and were inspired by the poetry in her book Cloud Busting. It has been a very busy and enjoyable half term. We cannot wait to learn about the human body in Science and compare Manchester to Thessaloniki in Geography next half term.

Question – Why were Iron Age hillforts so successful at protecting Celtic tribes?

## Year 4

As part of Black History Month, Year 4 explored the presence of racism in football, reading news articles and watching clips from Newsround. We discussed recent incidents surrounding Euro 2020 and how social media has contributed to footballers being racially abused. The children then wrote a newspaper article on the subject for the First News newspaper.

Miss Scaife's class enjoyed their last drumming lesson this week. Mrs Bilic's class will start their sessions next half term with Miss Scaife's picking it up again after Christmas.

In our Art lessons we have been researching and designing Roman mosaics, learning about how and why they were made and the types of designs which were created. The children have loved copying intricate designs as well as creating their own.

This week we learnt about how important The Torah is in Judaism. We couldn't believe that every scroll was handwritten with no mistakes allowed! We made our own scrolls which focused on one aspect of the Torah, writing guidelines for how to live a good life.

Question: What language is The Torah written in?



## Year 5

Year 5 have had an excellent final week of this half term. We have now completed our letters regarding extinction and a sample of them will be sent to Angela Rayner in due course.

Additionally, we have thoroughly enjoyed continuing with our space unit and produced some highly effective artwork depicting the Earth and Moon. This week has also been a particularly special week as both classes have taken part in an RE retreat and we have also been studying the importance of the Passover for Jewish people.

Finally, we have concluded our week with 'break the rules day' and completed a 'Black History day'. Throughout the day we have explored the Windrush generation and created our own Notting Hill Carnival masks. Have a wonderful and safe half term Year 5.

## Year 6

This week has been an extra special week in Year 6 because we have met our special friends from Reception. We are looking forward to spending time with our Reception buddy and helping them on their learning journey. Yesterday, some of us went to Church with our special friend and some of us stayed in school. All the Reception and Year 6 staff were impressed with the Year 6 children's care and kindness towards their Reception friends. Year 6 we are so proud of you!

In bHG this week, the children have had a day of learning about Ancient Greece and how democracy has changed since this time period. bDF have began their computing lessons and handed over their ukuleles to bHG ready for next term.

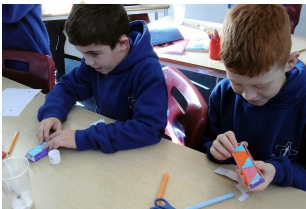
Enjoy a well earned week off Year 6! Mrs Gibson, Mr Fitch and Miss Allcock can't wait to see you after the holidays!

**Question: Why is it important to be a good role model to our special friend?**



## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES

It's been another remarkable week!  
Here's some photographs to show  
some of the wonderful learning  
experiences...



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