



**St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter**  
**'A world class school for children that want to make the world a better place as God intended.'**

**Friday 9th September 2022**

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

**A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...**

Firstly, a huge welcome back to everyone. I hope the summer holidays were enjoyable and that you had a great time with your families. A big welcome to all our new Reception and Nursery children who have joined us this week. It has been wonderful to see you in school exploring your new learning environment and even enjoying a meal together! I am sure you are going to achieve great things here at St Stephen's.

We welcome Mrs Ellison to the Reception Teaching team and Mr Swinnen who is now teaching in Year 5 until October Half Term. Mrs Herbert has also returned from maternity leave and will be teaching in Year 3, as well as returning as our SENDCo.

**Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

I am sure you will have been deeply saddened by the news yesterday evening of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen. She dedicated her life to the throne and her sense of service was remarkable.

Today at school, during our Good News Assembly, we spent some time looking at the life of the Queen and shared some of the happy moments - who can forget that Paddington Scene at the Jubilee Celebrations?

We will join the nation in observing the National 10 days of mourning and await further guidance from the Department for Education and Local Authority.

We are all extremely saddened by the news of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen. Our sincerest condolences go to her family and to the whole Nation.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace, Amen.



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

**Compassion**



**Ambition**



**Rejoice**



**Excellence**



**Service**



**| Be Ready | Be Respectful | Be Safe |**

**#TEAMSTSTEPHENS**

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## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

### Back to school Attendance Challenges:

We are going to be running two attendance challenges this half term.

**Challenge One:** If your child is in school every day from **Monday 5th September to Friday 16th September** then their name will be entered into a draw for an Amazon Voucher. There will be one prize per year group.

**Challenge Two:** If your child is in everyday for the whole half term, they will be entered into a draw for a special prize. Every day in school counts so let's see how many of us can make it to 100%!

### School Uniform

It has been great to see the children so smart in their new school uniforms and school PE kit. I know some of the deliveries of the new PE kit have been slightly delayed, we will get them to you as soon as we have them. In the meantime, wearing the old kit or general sportswear is okay for now.

A polite reminder the PE hoodies should not be worn on school uniform days in place of a school jumper. This hoodie is just for PE days and does not replace our traditional V Neck school jumper.

Also, a reminder that you can purchase our School Tie from the School Office.

### PE Days are as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 1 Year 2 Year 6	Year 1 Year 2 Year 5	Nursery Reception Year 4	Year 3CS/LH Year 4 Year 6	Year 3 Year 5

Parents of children in **Year 3 Mr Muschamp**, please note that your child will attend swimming lessons this year, so they only need PE kit on a Friday. Swimming lessons alternate for each Year 3 class each term.

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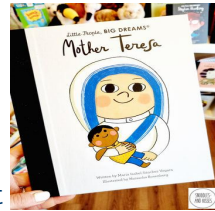
## A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

This week we launched our new School Values with children in Assembly. They have also taken part in difference activities throughout the week to fully embrace them.

### St Stephen's CARES

<b>C</b> ompassion	Be compassionate in all of our actions
<b>A</b> mbition	Be ambitious - better ourselves and others
<b>R</b> ejoice	Be rejoiceful - celebrate the Good News
<b>E</b> xcellence	Be excellent in everything we do - work hard
<b>S</b> ervice	Be a steward of the Lord - a service to others

This week's focus was on our first value - **compassion**. We spoke to children about what it means to have **compassion** and how they can demonstrate this value in everyday life. Spend some time this weekend asking them how they have showed **compassion** this week in school and at home. We read a book about the life of Mother Teresa and how she demonstrated **compassion** to all she met.



Next week we will focus on our second value: **Ambition**. It would be great if you could have a chat with your child about what it means to be ambitious. What do they want to be when they grow up? What skills do we need to be ambitious? We will explore all of this in our Monday assembly.

#### World Class Behaviours and Basics

We have also spent a lot of time reminding the children about our **World Class Behaviours: Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe** - essentially, our School Rules. Children were able to reflect on what these mean and how they can show them each and every day here at St Stephen's.

All of the above is connected to **'The St Stephen's Way'** - this is how we do it here. The children are fully aware of what it means to be apart of #teamststephens and we are very excited about the year ahead!

## Our Values: St Stephen's CARES

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A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

**Meet the Teacher**

On Wednesday 14th September shortly after pickup, there will be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher. As in previous years, this is an opportunity for teachers to provide you with some key information about the year ahead, including what the children will be learning and experiencing. It will only be a short meeting so please do not worry if you cannot attend. All the information given will be provided via email and you will receive the usual Curriculum Newsletter shortly. Some of the meetings will be held as a year group, rather than individual classes. The details are outlined below:

Year Group	Venue
Nursery	Nursery Building
Reception	Reception Classes
Year 1	Year 1 Building
Year 2	Miss Seville's classroom
Year 3	Mr Muschamp's classroom
Year 4	Miss Bilic's classroom
Year 5	Mrs Williams classroom
Year 6	Mrs Gibson's classroom

**Homework**

We are currently reviewing our Homework Policy at the moment. We need to make sure it is purposeful, and something which helps children with school life. What I do not want is it to impact greatly on family life.

Whilst we finalise Homework plans, please continue to read daily with children, practise spellings and make use of Times Tables Rockstars. This will really help your child.

On the next page you will find some information from Mr Fitch, our Maths lead, regarding the Arithmetic activities being sent home weekly.

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A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN CONTINUED...

**Message from Mr Fitch, our Mathematics Lead**

I hope that you are all well.

This year, we are changing the way that Maths is integrated into the school day here at St. Stephen's. Mathematics is the number one priority on our School Development Plan this academic year.

In order to develop the fluency skills of our children, we will be introducing regular arithmetic activities throughout school. Each year group (Years 1 to 6) will be given a quick arithmetic activity on a Monday, which will be marked and returned to the children. They will then bring this home in a Maths file so that they can look at the questions they found tricky and look at how to improve – they may pick just one to two to focus on. They should bring the folder back into school on a Friday. The same activity will be completed again on a Friday, with children recording their improvement.

This will give you a greater insight into the Maths objectives for your child's year group, as well as an indication of your child's strengths and areas for improvement. It is worth noting that we expect scores to improve throughout the year as some questions will be around units of work which will be covered later in the year.

If you have any questions regarding the arithmetic activities, please speak to your class teacher.

Thank you,  
Mr. Fitch

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**Communication** - We always want to make sure that we have the best methods of communication with parents/carers and I understand that sometimes communication can cause frustration. We always try to do our very best here at school!

Email through our Arbor system is our main method of communication. Please do make sure you have access to the Arbor App on your phone - you can see live attendance figures on the app, you can also update your personal records too. Please contact the office if you need support in gaining access to it.

You may have, or will be soon, receiving an invitation to set up 'Class Dojo' where you can communicate with your child's class teacher. This is for everyday notices and messages. Please do be mindful of sending messages in the evening and at the weekend. We will continue to send messages/show updates via our school website and Facebook page - I know you love seeing all of the wonderful things happening at school so please do follow the Facebook group if you can.

As always, we are here to help and support you in any way we can. Talking to the right person in school is important. If you have any general questions or concerns, your first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher. Key points of contact/roles are as follows:

<b>Mrs Healey</b>	Assistant Headteacher responsible for Year 1 and 2
<b>Mrs Williams</b>	Assistant Headteacher responsible for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6
<b>Mrs Dempsey</b>	Act Assistant Head responsible for Safeguarding/Behaviour
<b>Mrs Finn</b>	EYFS leader responsible for Nursery and Reception
<b>Mrs Gibson</b>	Curriculum and Religious Education Leader
<b>Mrs Herbert</b>	School Special Needs Coordinator
<b>Mrs Khan</b>	School Business Manager

*Have a brilliant weekend everyone - see you on Monday!*  
**Mr Lavin, Headteacher**

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## Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
07/09/22	Y2 Great Fire of London Workshop
08/09/22	Whole School Mass 10AM
14/09/22	Meet the Teacher
14/09/22	Y6 Football Match
15/09/22	Y3 & Y5 Mass
21/09/22	Y6DF Class Assembly
22/09/22	Y4 & Y6 Mass
28/09/22	Y6HG Class Assembly
29/09/22	Y1 & Y2 Mass
30/09/22	Macmillan Coffee Morning
03/10/22	Judaism Week in RE
05/10/22	Y5LW Class Assembly
06/10/22	Y3, Y4 & Y5 Mass
12/10/22	Y3DM Class Assembly
13/10/22	Y1 & Y2 Mass

Date	Event
13/10/22	Y4-Y6 Reconciliation 6PM
18/10/22	Y5 Retreat
19/10/22	Y4DS Class Assembly
19/10/22	Y5 Retreat
19/10/22	Parents Evening (TBC)
20/10/22	Parents Evening (TBC)
20/10/22	Reception & Y6 Special Friends Mass
21/10/22	Break Up for Half-Term
31/10/22	School Reopens

**Please note that all Class Assemblies will take place in the school hall at 9:05am.**

**Please note masses take place in Church at 10am and parents/carers/families are most welcome to join us.**

**Please note we have reserved two dates for Parent's Evening. Once this is officially confirmed we will let you know times etc.**

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## Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Nursery	N/A
RKF	Keziah
RNE	Ivy
YISH	Esme
YILB	Kingsley
Y2LS	Bruce
Y2AL	Poppy
Y3DM	Jacob Y
Y3CSLH	Hamilton
Y4DS	Rocco
Y4HB	Freddie
Y5LW	Oscar
Y5ES	Mason
Y6HG	Kate
Y6DF	Lola

## Readers of the Week



Nursery	N/A
RKF	Valentina
RNE	Luke
YISH	Gabrielle
YILB	Linen
Y2LS	Millie
Y2AL	Freya
Y3DM	Harrison Y
Y3CSLH	Charles B
Y4DS	Macy
Y4HB	Ellenore
Y5LW	Yong
Y5ES	Vincent
Y6HG	Noah
Y6DF	Johnathan

## Handwriters of the week



Nursery	N/A
RKF	Sienna
RNE	Sofia
YISH	Harrison
YILB	Jake
Y2LS	Pippa
Y2AL	Elisha
Y3DM	Vanellope
Y3CSLH	Elise
Y4DS	Emily
Y4HB	Emelia R
Y5LW	Toby HH
Y5ES	Desta
Y6HG	Carlos
Y6DF	Harley



**\*\*Children will receive their Hot Chocolate on Monday\*\***







## Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	N/A
RKF	Abigail
RNE	Hazel
Y1SH	Sophie
Y1LB	Anastazja
Y2LS	Alexandra
Y2AL	Elliot
Y3DM	George
Y3CS/LH	Isaac
Y4DS	Lleyton
Y4HB	Leila
Y5LW	Dexter
Y5ES	Leah
Y6HG	Mia
Y6DF	Evie

## Sports Star of the Week

Nursery	N/A
RKF	Poppy
RNE	Ivy
Y1SH	Kalani
Y1SH	Samuel
Y2LS	Lydia
Y2AL	Trinity Rose
Y3DM	Daniel
Y3CS/LH	Mia Bella
Y4DS	Emily
Y4HB	Lily-Grace
Y5LW	Olivia
Y5ES	Payton
Y6HG	Ivan
Y6DF	Thomas

## House Points

Blue  
295



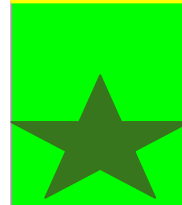
Red  
900



Yellow  
735



Green  
250



### Totals So Far!

Blue  
Green  
Red  
Yellow





## Attendance

Whole School	96.5%
Nursery AM	100%
Nursery Full Day	100%
RKF	100%
RNE	100%
Y1SH	93.8%
Y1LB	85%
Y2LS	94.8%
Y2AL	93.1%
Y3DM	98.2%
Y3CS/LH	94%
Y4DS	96.7%
Y4HB	99.6%
Y5LW	98.7%
Y5ES	95.3%
Y6HG	98.3%
Y6DF	100%

## Attendance Challenge!

If you are in school everyday this Half term then your name will be entered into a draw for a **100%** very special prize!

**100%**

Good Luck!



## St Stephen's Attendance League

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

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: NurFD	3	3rd: 1SH	1
1st: NurAM	3	4th: 1LB	0
1st: RNE	3	4th: 2AL	0
1st: RKF	3		
2nd: 2LS	2		

### St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y6DF	3	4th: Y4DS	0
2nd: Y4HB	2	4th: Y5ES	0
3rd: Y5LW	1	4th: Y6HG	0
4th: Y3DM	0		
4th: Y3LH/cs	0		



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

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## Nursery

What an exciting week it has been for everybody in nursery. We have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming all of the children into school and are so pleased with how incredibly well they have settled. We have spent our week getting to know your children and enjoying playing with them, encouraging them to get to know each other a little bit too. Our focus has been to enable the children to explore our indoor and outdoor classroom environment safely and begin to learn the the rules and routines of our day.

A huge well done to all of the nursery children for a great first week.

## Reception

We have had a wonderful week getting to know our Reception children. The children are gaining confidence and independence as they adapt to the setting and engage in learning. It has been fantastic to see the children making new friends and sharing news and ideas with each other. The children have enjoyed listening to stories, engaging in role play and working in the construction area. The transition from nursery to reception has been very smooth. We are excited about the weeks to come and look forward to seeing the children flourish in their learning.

Question - What did you enjoy most at school this week?



## Year 1

Welcome back! Year 1 have settled so well in their new environment and are eager to learn. This week we have had some great discussions around how they can live out our new values. We have also been busy learning our new rules and routines.

Our english work this week has been focussed around the story of "The Bumblebear" by Nadia Shireen. The children received a letter from the main character, Norman, asking for help in find more honey. The children came up with many helpful suggestions and Norman rewarded them with a taste of his honey on bread. Around our classroom, in our areas of provision, they have done lots of follow up tasks to develop their writing, reading, maths and creativity. We have been so pleased with how they have applied themselves.

Next week we are looking forward to exploring new learning in our topics of Monarchy in history and families in RE. Well done to all the children in Year 1 for making such a great start to the year!

## Year 2

What a fantastic week we have had this week and we have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming the children to Year 2!

Throughout the week, we have been particularly impressed by the way the children have settled in and adapted to the new routines. Well done Year 2.

Within our Maths work this week, the children have demonstrated their previous knowledge of place value. This is something that we will continue to build on over the coming weeks. The children have also been introduced to our daily 'fluent in 8' activities.

Also, we have been lucky enough to begin our History topic (The Great Fire of London) with an exciting workshop. During this time, the children gained a great understanding of the events that happened on Pudding Lane and took part in a range of drama activities to immerse themselves in what life was really like during the time. The children were fantastic representatives for the school and threw themselves into all the activities.

Finally this week, the children have been working hard to unpick our new school values as St Stephen's 'CARES'. The children have linked each value to an aspect of their life and current events within our country.

Question: Which year did The Great Fire of London happen?

**/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /**



## Year 3

It has been a fantastic week back in year 3. The children have returned ready and eager to learn. The behaviour from both classes has been amazing!

In English, the children have already written a narrative focused on a UFO landing on the school field. There was lots of creative thoughts and interesting vocabulary used. We have also introduced our new class book for this half term named 'The Stone Age Boy'.

In Maths, we have started our unit on place value and have looked at visuals to represent numbers upto 100.

In our afternoon sessions each day, we have focused on one of the new school values : CARES. Children have written about their own ambitions for the future, have done a session on how iconic individuals have excelled in their field and also how different people serve us in our communities.

Lastly, 3DM made their first visit to the swimming pool and had a brilliant first session.

## Year 4

This week, we have been so excited to welcome the children back to school. Everyone has come back ready for a new year, with fresh enthusiasm and an eagerness to get started. The children have already settled in so well and have been a credit to themselves.

From our first day back, we have been busy working hard. In English, we wrote a blog detailing our expedition to the weird and wonderful plant of Pandora. The children described their experiences and used some excellent vocabulary to help take their readers on the journey with them. In Maths, we have started our Place Value unit, learning about partitioning numbers and placing numbers on a number line.

This week, we have spent the afternoons exploring our new school values. Each day, we focused on a different value, learning about inspirational people who have given us ideas about how to be the best we can be. We created some watercolour artwork, wrote a letter to our future selves and wrote poems about what compassion means to us.

**/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /**



## Year 5

All of the children have made a wonderful start to year 5. We are extremely proud of them! This week, we have been exploring our new values of compassion, ambition, rejoice, excellence and service through drama, prayer and collective worship.

In Maths, we practised using roman numerals in a variety of contexts, as well as beginning our learning of place value in numbers up to 1,000,000. The children have also completed a 'Fluent in 12' activity each morning, which has questions from the Year 4, 5 and 6 curriculum. These are aimed at increasing the speed and fluency of children's recall and calculation and will continue throughout the year.

We used the animation 'The Piano' to write a recount in English, analysing the action, sequencing the events and using descriptive language to engage the reader. Finally, we explored Mindset, identifying the characteristics of both fixed and growth mindsets and the importance of resilience, perseverance and challenge in our learning

Question: How can having a growth mindset help us to learn?

## Year 6

We've had a fantastic start to the year in Year 6! It has been wonderful seeing the children coming to school with smiles on their faces and eager to learn!

This week in maths we have been exploring numbers up to 1,000,000. We have represented these numbers in a number of different ways which has included place value charts and part whole models.

In English, we have twisted the tale of Snow White! We imagined we were the apple and rewrote the story. We thought about if the apple wanted to become poisonous and how it felt becoming poisonous. We were extremely impressed by the children's extensive and imaginative vocabulary!

Finally, in our afternoon sessions we have been thinking our school values. We spent time thinking about inspirational people who embody each value. In this sessions, we reflected upon Pope Francis and discussed how is a role model for us all. We researched his life and we have presented this in the form of a double page spread.

Well done for a fantastic first week year 6!

**Question: Why is Pope Francis inspired by St Francis of Assisi?**

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## THIS WEEK IN PICTURES

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

