



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter

'Every child, every chance, every day!'

Friday 24th April 2026

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

What a joy it has been to see the sunshine brightening our school grounds this week. The children have made the most of the beautiful weather, spending time outdoors, playing, learning, and enjoying each other's company. It has been lovely to see such energy and happiness across the school.

Sunday Gospel Reflection – The Road to Emmaus

Last Sunday's Gospel told the story of the Road to Emmaus, where two disciples, feeling lost and disheartened, walked alongside Jesus without recognising Him. It was only later, in the breaking of the bread, that their eyes were opened, and they realised He had been with them all along.

This Gospel reminds us that even when we feel uncertain or alone, Jesus walks beside us in our daily lives. We may not always recognise His presence straight away, but He is there in moments of kindness, in our relationships, and in our faith. It encourages us to keep our hearts open and to trust that we are never truly alone on our journey.

SEND Review – Emmaus Trust

On Thursday, we welcomed representatives from the Emmaus Trust for our SEND Review. We were also pleased to host the Headteacher and SENCO from St Monica's and St Anne's Primary School, alongside members of the Central Team, as they joined us to review our provision. They were extremely impressed with the offer we have at St Stephen's and we could not be happier.

A special thank you goes to Miss Dempsey for all her hard work and dedication in striving for the absolute best for our SEND children. Her commitment makes a real difference to the lives of our children every day.

Year 4HG Class Assembly

Well done to Year 4HG for their wonderful class assembly this week. The children spoke and performed with confidence, sharing their learning so beautifully. Thank you to all the parents who attended and supported the children—it was a lovely occasion for everyone involved.

Looking Ahead to Next Week

Thursday 30th April

Year 4HB Assembly – 9:05am, School Hall (parents welcome)

Year 1 Retreat in school

Friday 1st May

Crowning of Mary – 10:00am in Church (Whole School). Children will make flowers in class to present to Our Lady. We will hold our school assembly to crown Our Lady later in May where donations of flowers will be welcomed. We will confirm a date soon.

Saturday 2nd May

Holy Communion (Year 3) – 10:00am in Church Mrs. Gibson will have sent out further information for those families involved. Please keep these children in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare to receive this important Sacrament.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.
We hope you enjoy the sunshine over the weekend!

Mr. Lavin, Headteacher

Our Values: St Stephen's CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

Mission Statement

'Love one another, as I have loved you.' John 13:34

WEBSITE: www.stsrcp.school TEL: 0161 370 2071

St Stephen's RC Primary School,
Chappell Road, Droylsden, M43 7NA

CAR BOOT SALE!



Sunday 3rd May 2026

11am til 3pm

£10 PER CAR

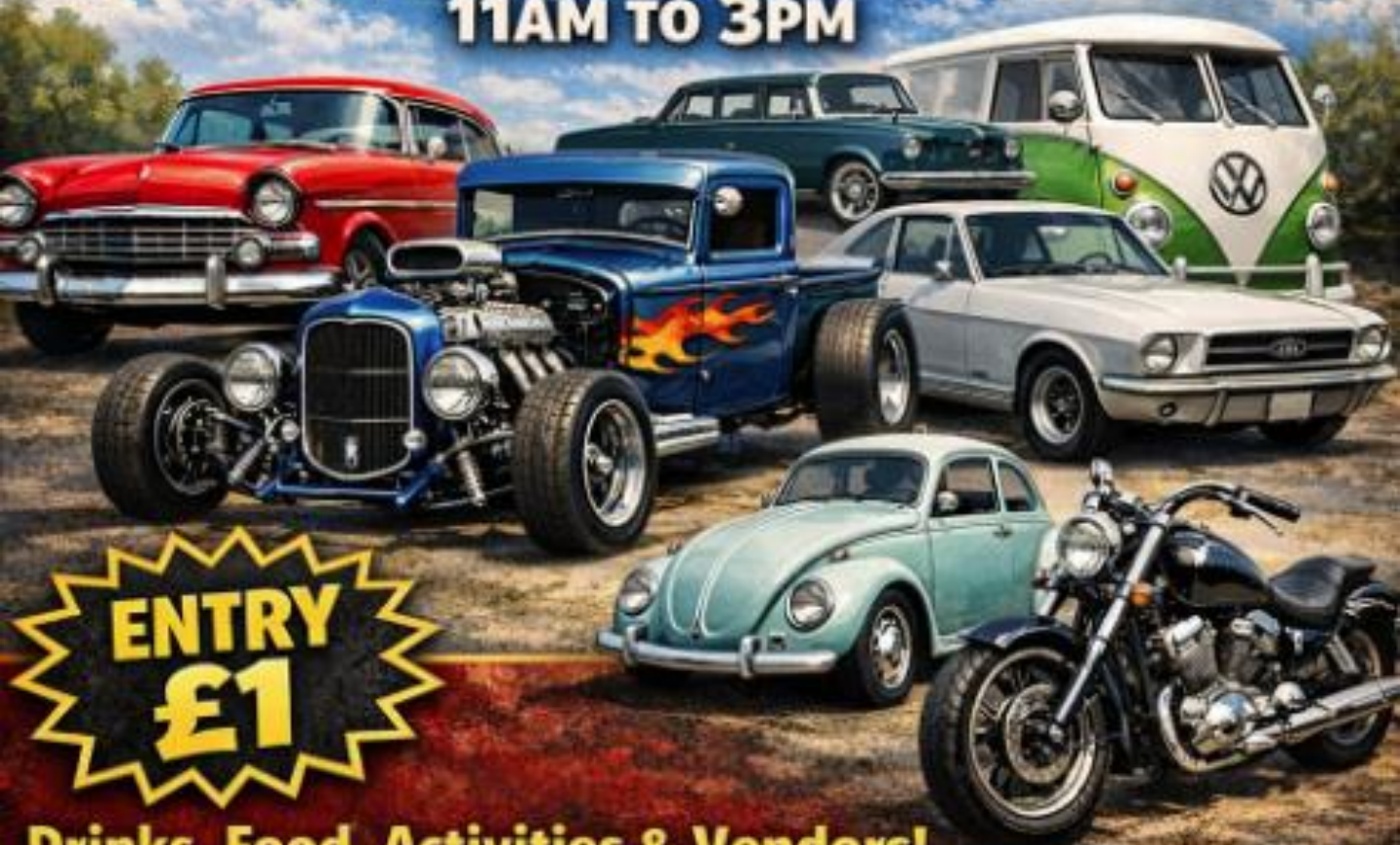
Book your spot:

StStephensPrimary01@gmail.com

St Stephen's **CAR SHOW**

SUNDAY 10th MAY

11AM TO 3PM



**ENTRY
£1**

Drinks, Food, Activities & Vendors!

**ALL CLASSIC / MODIFIED CARS, BIKES, VANS,
PICK UP TRUCKS OR ANYTHING ELSE
INTERESTING ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

**St Stephen's RC Primary School,
Chappell Rd, Droylsden,
Manchester M43 7NA**





ST STEPHEN'S RC PRIMARY



Call us for more info

0161 370 2071

☀️ Nursery September 2026 Intake ☀️

We're excited to share that we have places available in our Nursery Class for September 2026! 🎉

We would love to welcome you and your family to St Stephen's, show you around, and give you a feel for our happy and nurturing school community 😊

Please get in touch with the school office to arrange a visit—we can't wait to meet you! 📞 ✨



Chappell Road, Droylsden



www.stsrcp.school



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Dates for your calendar - Summer 1

Week Beginning 27th April 2026

Date	Event
30/04/26	Year 4HB Assembly
01/05/26	Crowning of Our Lady Mass at 10am
02/05/26	Holy Communion Year 3

Week Beginning 4th May 2026

Date	Event
04/05/26	Bank Holiday - School closed
05/05/26	Y1LB Stay and Pray 9am
06/05/26	Year 1AL Stay and Pray 9am
07/05/26	Year 3 Class Assembly (together)
07/05/26	Nursery closed for Polling Day
08/05/26	Year 4 and 5 Mass at 10am
10/05/26	Class Car Show

Week Beginning 11th May 2026

Date	Event
11/05/26	Y6 SAT Grammar Paper
12/05/26	Y6 SAT Reading Paper
13/05/26	Y6 SAT Maths Paper 1 and 2
14/05/26	Y6 SAT Maths Paper 3
14/05/26	Whole School Mass for Ascension 2pm in Church

Week Beginning 18th May 2026

Date	Event
18/05/26	PTA Bounce-a-thon
20/05/26	Y6 PGL
21/05/26	Y6 PGL
22/05/26	Y6 PGL
22/05/26	Whole School Mass for Pentecost @ 10am
22/05/26	Road Safety Day
22/05/26	Half Term



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Henry & Palmer
RNE	Penelope
RAB	Ruben
Y1AL	Nehneh
Y1LB	Mila-Mae
Y2JL	Chester & William
Y2LW	Louie
Y3MD	Jessica
Y3LH	Thomas
Y4HG	Panagiotis
Y4HB	Thomas H
Y5CP	Jensen
Y5LS	Rocco
Y6GB	Avaya
Y6DF	Leraya

Readers of the Week



Nursery	Toby
RNE	Layla-Mai
RAB	Neil
Y1AL	Nova
Y1LB	Afia
Y2JL	Oreofeoluwa
Y2LW	Jake
Y3MD	Octavia
Y3LH	Jessica
Y4HG	Felix
Y4HB	Coby
Y5CP	Boma
Y5LS	Emily
Y6GB	Poppy
Y6DF	Noah R





Maths Star



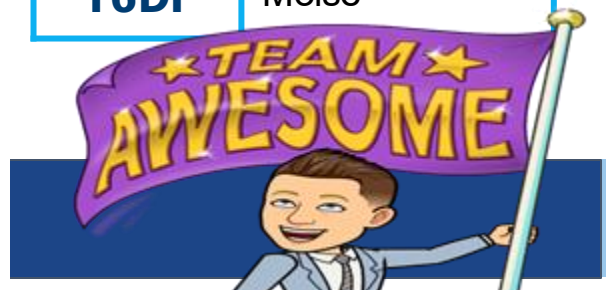
Nurser y	Ella & Esme
RNE	Inaayah
RAB	Arla
Y1AL	Mazeedah
Y1LB	Romie
Y2JL	Harriet
Y2LW	Peyton
Y3MD	Poppy
Y3LH	Kinggreat
Y4HG	Parker
Y4HB	Oscar
Y5CP	Evelyn
Y5LS	Hollie
Y6GB	Layla B
Y6DF	George

Writing Star



Nurser y	Rory
RNE	Sardar
RAB	Thomas
Y1AL	Lucas
Y1LB	Jasper
Y2JL	Sienna
Y2LW	Bella
Y3MD	Tissy
Y3LH	Rahilla
Y4HG	Adriel
Y4HB	Ava
Y5CP	Thomas
Y5LS	Elliott
Y6GB	Isaac
Y6DF	Moise

1% BETTER





St Stephen's RCP

Attendance League

NAM	95.7%	Y3LH	97.4%
NPM	100%	Y3MD	92.3%
RNE	94.3%	Y4HG	94.5%
RAB	89.8%	Y4HB	96%
Y1AL	97.3%	Y5LS	98%
Y1LB	99.1%	Y5CP	97.4%
Y2JL	96.4%	Y6GB	89.8%
Y2LW	94.2%	Y6DF	100%

St Stephen's Attendance League EY and KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: ILB	32	5th: 2LW	14
2nd: 1AL	27	6th: NAM	11
2nd: NFD	27	7th: RAB	6
3rd: RNE	19		
4th: 2JL	18		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 6DF	42	5th: 5LS	9
2nd: 4HG	37	6th: 4HB	8
3rd: 5CP	28	7th: 3LH	7
4th: 6GB	10		
5th: 3MD	9		



Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday is traditionally known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who leads us into the joys of eternal life.

Part of a shepherd's job is to look after the sheep and help them to stay safe. When we let Jesus lead us, just as a shepherd leads his sheep, he helps us to make the right choices and fills our lives with goodness and holiness. All we need to do is to follow him.

Today, Jesus can lead us and our children through the Church, through prayer and through the lives of people who show us how to live in a way that pleases God. He is the patient shepherd who never gives up on us.

Enjoy a very special time together exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **FOLLOW**.

Dom Henry Warsbrough



A Word from
the Saints

"It is for each of us to learn the path by which Jesus requires us to follow him, and to follow in that path." St Katharine Drexel

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 26th April 2026



Jesus said, "I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock. When the shepherd has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger, but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers." The disciples failed to understand what Jesus meant. So Jesus spoke to them again: "I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: they will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. But I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full."

*Adapted from John 10:1-10
The 4th Sunday of Easter, Year A*

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

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

**Good News
for Everyone**

When we really know Jesus and how much he loves us, it's natural to want to follow him. By following Jesus, we too can help others to know and love God - to experience the fullness of life, to live in God's love - here and now!



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



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?

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

Jesus told a parable to his disciples to help them understand that he was the Good Shepherd who they should follow, but they did not understand. So Jesus said, "I am the gate of the sheepfold. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: they will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. Whoever tries to climb into the sheepfold some other way is a thief and a robber who wants to steal and kill. But I have come so that everyone can have the fullness of life."

Who does Jesus want us to follow?

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.

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

"To follow Jesus means to share his merciful love for every human being." *Pope Francis (Pope from 2013-2025)*

FOLLOW



Ask your child if they know what 'to follow someone' means. Who impresses them? Who sets them a good example which they would like to follow? How has that person made life better for your child, for someone else or for the community? It may help your child if you can talk about a person whose example you follow, or have followed.

We can follow Jesus in the simple things we do in our lives every day, and make life better for all the family and everyone around us. How can we follow Jesus the Good Shepherd this week? Perhaps we can: be kind and contact a friend to see how they are doing at this time; go out of our way to help out at home; show others how to do the right thing and avoid what is wrong; listen carefully to wise and good people; show our gratitude to all those who teach and lead us through life.

3

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

FINDING THREE

B Y S E D H S G N I R B
D P D H R N J E S U S H
I S U S E J B R I G N S
L H T G H E Y C E F I L
L E M A P N P A S F B I
I E H T E J O F Y U N F
F P T E H E D R O L H D
E F J A S S E N L L U F
D O O G G U C L G N D N
O L H Y S H E P H E R D
O D P G O O D H N S P Y
E N H Y B R I N G S N H

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

- SHEEPFOLD
- GATE
- GOOD SHEPHERD
- JESUS BRINGS
- FULLNESS OF LIFE

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **ikf** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

hitakve Jeksutis futillnekss kevertyonie

_____ said, "I _____ come so that
_____ can have the _____ of life."

There may be times when we have to stop doing certain things to follow Jesus - rather than 'following the crowd' - if it feels wrong. Let's try to follow Jesus this week by leaving behind anything which we know is not right and then try to do all the good we can.



This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley





Religious Education

Sacramental Programme Notices

On Saturday 2nd May, our children will be receiving Jesus for the first time through the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I would like to share a few important notices with you ahead of the day:

- Mass will begin at 10:00am. Children should arrive at 9:45am so we can get them seated and ready to process into the church.
- Each family will be allocated a bench at random. Names will be drawn from a hat to determine bench allocations. These will be clearly labelled.
- Additional seating will be available upstairs if your allocated bench becomes full.
 - Girls should wear a white dress. Veils and gloves are optional.
 - Boys should wear smart trousers, a white shirt, and a red tie (these can be purchased on Amazon). Blazers and waistcoats are optional.
- The children will attend a practice on Friday, where they will be given a special role to take part in during the Mass.

Prayer of the Week

Prayer to Saint George

Dear Saint George,
in the name of God, extend
to me your shield and your
powerful arms, defend me
with your strength and your
greatness; so like you, with
God's help, I will win over evil.
Amen.



Caritas Award

This week our Caritas award has been awarded to Isla (4HB) for her fantastic work in forest school.
Well done Isla!





Nursery

This week in Nursery we have loved watching our Chicks grow!

They are getting bigger each day, love to drink water and eat their special food.

In Phonics this week, we have recapped the Nursery Rhyme- Humpty Dumpty.

Our sound focus has been 'j' for 'jellyfish', 'jam', 'jeep' and 'jet'.

In our literacy lessons this week we have enjoyed retelling the Lifecycle of the Hen using our Talk for Writing actions.

We have enjoyed the outdoors, especially riding the bikes, being explorers, mark making with chalks and writing in our notebooks as we explored the outdoor Nursery area around us.

The weather has been kind to us.

In RE , we have been learning about Pentecost- The Holy Spirit.

We have enjoyed singing some lovely songs in our Celebration of the Word sessions- 'Shine, Jesus, Shine!', 'Sing Hosanna', 'Jesus Loves me' and 'My Lighthouse'.

We loved our Stay and Play session on Tuesday; it was great to see so many of you in our learning environment, we hope you enjoyed meeting our chicks and seeing what we do in our classroom. Thank you for your support.

Question- What number is bigger two or four?

Reception

This week in Literacy, we retold the story *Jack and the Beanstalk* using the story maps we created together. The children added actions to each part of the story, which made the retelling lively and lots of fun. We also had a very special experience visiting the chicks in Nursery. Each group helped to create a class diary, commenting on what they saw each day and describing how the chicks looked and changed over time.

In RE, we learned that after Pentecost, the disciples shared Jesus' message with others. We talked about how Jesus' friends cared for him and how we can show care for the people around us. The children enjoyed making friendship bracelets for their friends as a way of showing kindness and appreciation.

In Maths, we began exploring the numbers beyond 10. We played a counting game in a circle, counting up to 13—whichever landed on 13 was out, and we kept going until we had a winner. This helped us practise careful counting and recognise the numbers after 10. What a fun and busy week it has been!

Question - Which number comes after 13?



Year One

It has been another great week in Year 1!

In English, we have continued to use state of being verbs followed by an adjective. The children have been writing descriptive sentences about Big Bad Owl, and they independently applied it to Owl Babies.

In Maths, we have been using grouping as a method for counting in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. We have explored equal and unequal groups and developed this into using arrays to help us organise our groups. We have also been looking at the relationship between doubles and counting in 2s. In R.E, we learnt about Jesus' ascension and the children created some beautiful artwork about this.

We also retold the story of Pentecost through an action poem.

We have now started our new History topic about Victorian children. The children sorted artefacts of toys into whether they are Victorian or present day.

We ended our week with a beautiful Mass and learning about the Holy Trinity in PSHE.

Question: What did the Holy Spirit come down as on Pentecost day?

Year Two

We have had another lovely week in Year Two and have been enjoying the sunshine!

In English, we have been focussing on the use of prepositions in sentences, to show position and time. They wrote fantastic sentences about the Witch and the Troll from our book, 'Pretty'. In Maths, we have concluded our unit on length and height. The children have used centimetre rulers and metre sticks to order length and height and complete word problems including the four operations. We have enjoyed writing a letter in RE, imagining we were an Apostle at the time between the Last Supper and the Resurrection. The children used emotive language to think about how they might have felt at this time. We have also been measuring the wind and the rain this week as part of our Geography unit.

We ended our week with a lovely Mass with Year 1.

Question – Why would we measure a pencil with a ruler instead of a metre stick?



Year Three

This week in Maths, the children have been focusing on their 8 times tables. It has been wonderful to see their growing confidence in recalling key facts.

In English, the children have worked extremely hard on constructing compound sentences using coordinating conjunctions. They are developing a secure understanding of sentence structure and are beginning to apply these skills more independently in their writing.

In Art, the children have begun an exciting new unit titled *Making Animated Pictures*. In their first lesson, they sketched animals based on a video stimulus, paying close attention to detail. They used a variety of lines to effectively represent texture, such as fur, bringing their drawings to life with creativity.

Year 3 finished their busy week with a forest school session in the lovely sunshine, which they all thoroughly enjoyed. The children took part in a range of outdoor activities, including exploring the natural environment and building simple structures using natural materials.

Question: Is 96 a multiple of 4 and 8?

Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic week of learning!

In Maths, we have been translating polygons on a grid. The children followed directions carefully and accurately plotted vertices to help them draw each shape.

In English, we explored how noun phrases can be expanded using adjectives and prepositional phrases. The children have impressed us with their excellent vocabulary choices and creative writing.

In RE, we continued our learning about the Road to Emmaus. The children analysed the text thoughtfully, considering it both as a reader and as a believer.

A huge well done to 4HG for their fantastic assembly this week. We look forward to welcoming families and friends to 4HB's assembly on Thursday 30th April at 9:05am.

Question: What is a polygon?



Year Five

Year 5 have had a fantastic and productive week.

In English, the children have been working hard on *Owl Moon*, using a variety of fronted adverbials and carefully considering their vocabulary choices to create impact in their writing. They produced some beautiful and atmospheric setting descriptions.

In Maths, we continued our work on measure, using bar models to help solve a range of comparison and change word problems.

In Art, we explored the work of Vanessa Gardiner, discussing her unique artistic approach, learning about drawing *plein air*, and analysing some of her pieces.

In PE, the children have really enjoyed trying yoga, learning that it offers a moment of calm and focus—and that it isn't always as easy as it looks!

Question: Which yoga poses can you name and demonstrate?

Year 6

A busy week here in Year 6; we have been working extremely hard this week across all subjects!

In English, we have continued developing our setting description through sentence-building lessons, giving the children opportunities to use and experiment with fronted adverbials, prepositions, expanded noun phrases and semicolons. We have also completed a shared plan in preparation for both modelled and independent writing. The children have worked hard on these and they should be extremely proud! Next week, we will continue to revise key grammar skills alongside introducing our new unit on *Cicada*.

In Maths, we have been focusing on our shape unit, with particular attention on measuring and classifying angles before progressing to calculating angles using known facts. The children were then challenged further by exploring vertically opposite angles and angles within a triangle, showing great determination as concepts became more complex. We look forward to building on this learning next week.

In RE, we have been recognising and understanding how the words of Saint Paul the Apostle can guide people to follow Jesus' path to heaven, using supporting scripture from 1 Corinthians 15: 1–8, 20–25, 54–58, and making links to Adam to deepen our understanding.

Question: What happened on the road to Damascus?