




St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter


'Every child, every chance, every day!'


Friday 1st May 2026


BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... We hope everyone has had a wonderful week and that the children are heading into the weekend feeling happy and proud of their work

 **Class Assembly** - A huge well done to Year 4HB for delivering such a thoughtful and engaging class assembly this week. The children spoke with confidence and shared their learning beautifully, making it a truly special occasion for all who attended.

 **Football Success** - Well done to our boys' football team, who represented the school with great enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship at the Tameside Catholic Schools football competition last night. They showed fantastic determination and were a real credit to the school. A special thank you goes to Mr Grantham for the time, effort and commitment he has put into training and supporting the team.

 **Whole School Mass & Crowning of Our Lady** - This morning, we gathered together for a beautiful whole school Mass, which was a lovely opportunity for reflection and prayer as a school community. During the mass, children took part in the crowning of Our Lady, presenting the stunning flowers they had carefully made in class. Next Friday, children will take part in a special assembly dedicated to Our Lady. We kindly ask that children bring a small donation of flowers to contribute towards crowning our hall statue. These collective contributions always create a truly meaningful and visually beautiful display. Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support.

 **Staff Updates** - We say a fond farewell to Mr Pownall, who has been teaching in Year 5 this year. He has shown great commitment and care in his role. We thank him for all of his hard work and wish him every success in the future. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome back Miss Scaife from maternity leave.


Key Dates for Next Week

Saturday 2nd May -Y3 Holy Communion – 10:00am

Sunday 3rd May - PTA Car Boot Sale  – we hope to see many of you there

Monday 4th May - School Closed – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 5th May - Year 1LB Stay and Pray 

Wednesday 6th May - Year 1AL Stay and Pray 

Wednesday 6th May - 3MD Class Assembly – 9:05am, school hall

Thursday 7th May - 3LH Class Assembly – 9:05am, school hall

Thursday 7th May - Nursery closed for Polling Day

Friday 8th May - Crowning of Mary in School 

Sunday 10th May - Classic Car Show 11am to 3pm

Thank you for your continued support of our school. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable long weekend and look forward to welcoming everyone back next week. 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.stsrpc.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**





MULTI-SPORTS ADVENTURE CAMP

 **St Stephen's RC Primary School**

Tuesday 26th May – Friday 29th May 2026

KEY ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Multi-Sports
- ✓ Inflatables
- ✓ Forest School

Age
5-11



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☀️ 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



admin@stsrcp.co.uk



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter
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Dates for your calendar - Summer 1

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
06/05/26	Year 3 Miss Dover's Class Assembly 9:05am Hall
07/05/26	Year 3 Mrs Herbert's Class Assembly 9:05am Hall
07/05/26	Nursery closed for Polling Day
08/05/26	Year 4 Mass 10am
10/05/26	Classic Car Show

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

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



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Habriel & Daniel
RNE	Caleb
RAB	Rudy
Y1AL	Aryel
Y1LB	Alani
Y2JL	Oreofeoluwa
Y2LW	Iremide
Y3MD	Louie
Y3LH	Sayo
Y4HG	Linen
Y4HB	Aurora
Y5CP	Whole Class
Y5LS	Lillie-Mae
Y6GB	Layla W
Y6DF	Hanna

Readers of the Week



Nursery	Aria & Ohemaa
RNE	Luca
RAB	Roman
Y1AL	Lilianna
Y1LB	Pippa
Y2JL	Brume
Y2LW	Vinnie
Y3MD	Poppy
Y3LH	Leo
Y4HG	Bella
Y4HB	Lano
Y5CP	Samuel
Y5LS	Adora
Y6GB	Isla
Y6DF	Cleo





Maths Star



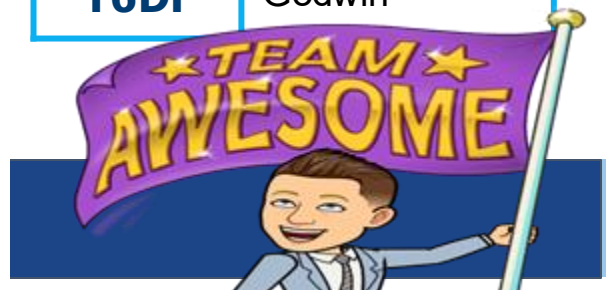
Nurser y	Pearl
RNE	Jack
RAB	Noah
Y1AL	Nova
Y1LB	Julianna
Y2JL	Harmony
Y2LW	Leon
Y3MD	India
Y3LH	Poppy-Kay
Y4HG	Lexie
Y4HB	Grace
Y5CP	Evelyn
Y5LS	Muwaffaq
Y6GB	Lola
Y6DF	Harrison

Writing Star



Nurser y	Aryan
RNE	Caitlyn
RAB	Alba
Y1AL	Lily-Mae
Y1LB	Vivian
Y2JL	Noah
Y2LW	Noah
Y3MD	Lin Xi
Y3LH	Myla
Y4HG	Valerie
Y4HB	Sam
Y5CP	Ruby
Y5LS	Tegan
Y6GB	Fiyinfoluwa
Y6DF	Godwin

1% BETTER





St Stephen's RCP

Attendance League

NAM	70.8%	Y3LH	97%
NPM	88.9%	Y3MD	91.4%
RNE	89.8%	Y4HG	94.5%
RAB	91.7%	Y4HB	97.5%
Y1AL	92.9%	Y5LS	97.2%
Y1LB	98.6%	Y5CP	97.4%
Y2JL	93.8%	Y6GB	88.4%
Y2LW	94.8%	Y6DF	94.4%

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 6DF	42	6th: 5LS	10
2nd: 4HG	37	7th: 3MD	9
3rd: 5CP	30	8th: 3LH	7
4th: 6GB	10		
5th: 4HB	11		

St Stephen's Attendance League EY and KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 1LB	35	5th: 2LW	16
2nd: 1AL	27	6th: NAM	11
2nd: NFD	27	7th: RAB	6
3rd: RNE	19		
4th: 2JL	17		

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus begins to prepare his disciples for his departure from the world. Jesus is returning to his Father and will make a place ready for each of them in heaven.

Jesus tells the disciples to trust in him. No amount of worrying will increase their safety or comfort; it's through trusting in Jesus that they will find security and hope. We too are called to trust in Jesus. Through the Holy Spirit we carry on his work and are empowered to do even greater works.

Wednesday 29th April 2026

This does not mean performing a series of great, flashy miracles. It means being Christ in the world around us, generously sharing the love he brings into our own lives with those we meet. This isn't easy - it never was - but trust in Jesus and see what happens!

Enjoy hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **TRUST**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough**A Word from the Saints***"Those who trust in God can do all things." St Alphonsus Liguori***THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH**
Sunday 3rd May 2026

On the night before he died, Jesus spoke to his friends, the disciples. "Do not let your hearts be troubled," he said. "Trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going now to prepare a place for you. I will come again and take you with me so that where I am, you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going." Then Thomas, a disciple, said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself; they will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father."

Adapted from John 14:1-12
The 5th Sunday of Easter, Year A

Come and learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church and say a prayer for your family & friends: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf**Good News for Everyone**

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells his followers not to be troubled, but to trust in him. Jesus also wants us to place all our trust in him. There can be many things that trouble our hearts, but following and trusting in Jesus frees us from worrying in this life, and is the way to the joys of everlasting life too.



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!

On the night before he died, Jesus spoke to his friends, the disciples. "Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not be worried. Trust in God and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going now to prepare a place for you. I will come back to take you with me and we will be together again. You know the way to the place where I am going." Then Thomas, a disciple, said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going: how can we know the way?" Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Who did Jesus say we should trust in?

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...

"Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love and the future to God's care." *St Augustine of Hippo*

Ask your child what the word 'trust' means to them. Knowing who to trust is really important. A friend who can be trusted is a gift from God! Who does your child really trust and why do they trust them? Ask your child if they can think of a time when they were trusted. Perhaps you can tell your child about those people in your life whom you trust the most, and say why you trust them.



Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life and he asks us to place our trust in him. Each of you say how, in the days ahead, you can show your trust in God. Perhaps, rather than worry, pray and offer any concerns to Jesus. How can we show God, and others, that we are people who they can trust? Perhaps we can always try to: tell the truth; choose to do the right thing; be generous with our God-given gifts of time, talent and money; keep our promises.

TRUST



3 Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for teaching us the truth and showing us the way to everlasting life. Please help us always to place our trust in you. Amen.

FINDING THREE

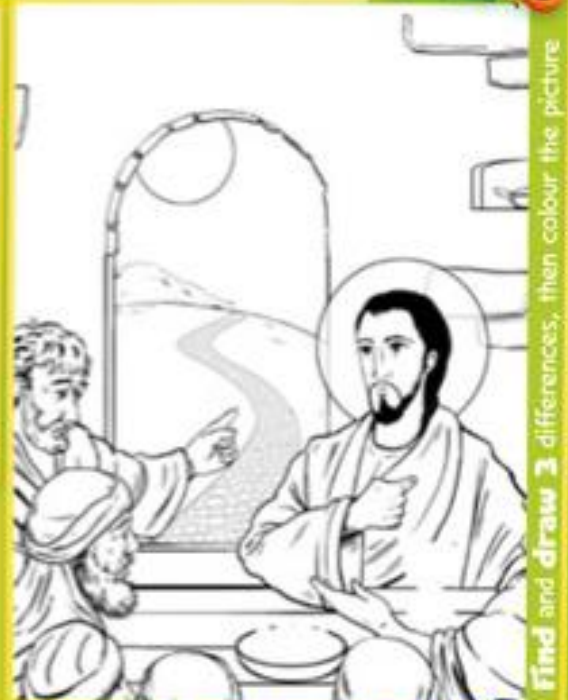
WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

Y	C	S	L	H	T	S	U	S	E	J	H
N	H	R	E	P	R	O	H	U	S	E	P
Y	T	E	L	R	R	O	O	M	S	R	
A	O	H	O	U	S	E	T	C	U	E	
M	H	T	R	U	S	T	P	Y	N	S	P
P	L	A	C	E	S	L	R	A	N	L	E
W	L	F	D	N	M	L	E	N	R	E	T
O	M	A	N	Y	O	H	P	T	O	E	R
M	T	L	C	R	O	P	A	H	O	N	U
F	A	T	H	E	R	S	R	E	M	H	S
O	O	N	W	T	H	J	E	Z	S	S	R
H	H	L	Y	N	A	N	T	S	U	R	T

PREPARE PLACE
MANY ROOMS
FATHER'S HOUSE
TRUST JESUS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **m i c** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

fromucbleid trumstic miheartcs Gimocd

"Do not let your _____ be _____

Trust in _____ and _____ in me."

In this Sunday's Gospel, the disciples were probably worried because Jesus would be leaving them. So Jesus comforts them by promising to prepare a place of everlasting happiness for them in his Father's house - that is in heaven.

This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Religious Education

Crowning of Mary

Today, we crowned Mary in church. All the children made beautiful flowers in school and proudly presented them to Mary to honour her.

Catholics honour Mary during the month of May because it is a special time of new life, colourful flowers, and growing beauty in nature. This reminds us of Mary's goodness and purity. May is also a time when the world is blooming, so Catholics celebrate Mary as the mother of Jesus.

Next Friday, 8th May, we will be crowning Mary in school. We kindly ask for donations of flowers so that the children can present them to Mary on this special day. Thank you for your support.

First Holy Communion

Tomorrow, 25 of our pupils will be receiving Jesus in the form of Eucharist for the first time. Please keep these children in your prayers.



Prayer of the Week

Prayer for a Child's First Communion

Lord Jesus,

Bless the children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the first time. May this day be an initial step into a life-long love of the Eucharist. Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to You for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship. Thank you for their innocence and goodness. May their eagerness to receive Your Body and Blood inspire all of us to cherish this Sacred Sacrament.

Amen.



Caritas Award

This week our Caritas award has been awarded to our Year 1 children for their beautiful work during their special retreat day.



/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /



Nursery

What a lovely week we have had in Nursery, we have enjoyed lots of learning in our Nursery outdoor area.

The Water area has been one of our favourite areas this week, we have loved using different measuring jugs to fill up with water and empty and pour into different buckets and drainpipes. In Phonics, we have recapped the Nursery rhyme 'Jack and Jill', identified rhyming words, listened to new sounds from the rhyme and listened to initial sounds in words.

Our sound focus has been 'V' we know that 'Van', 'Vet', 'Volcano' and 'Vegetable' begin with this sound.

In Maths, our focus has been positional language. We thoroughly enjoyed our activities based on the learning of key words such as 'Under', 'On', 'In front' and 'Behind'.

We have been busy looking after our Nursery Chicks, they are growing each day. They have also enjoyed the sunshine like we have in the Nursery outdoor area, and we have loved observing them—they have lots of feathers now and like to use their wings to move around.

This week, we have started to learn about the Lifecycle of a Butterfly.

We have our very own Caterpillars in class that we have loved observing throughout the week.

We are really looking forward to follow the next stages in the Lifecycle of a Butterfly.

Question: Which words rhyme? Crown, Jill, Brown, Jack, down?

Reception

What a great and busy week we've had in Reception!

In Literacy, we have been retelling our innovated version of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, with our changed parts. The children did a fantastic job thinking of new actions to match the changes to the story. They really got involved and loved using their creativity to add their own twists!

In Maths, we looked at building numbers up to 30! This was a big step for us, but we took our time, and the children did well. We also had a bit of fun with fishing and counted fish all the way up to 30 again. The children enjoyed this hands-on approach to learning numbers.

In RE, we looked at some of our favourite stories about Jesus, such as the Feeding of the 5,000 and the Nativity. The children then drew their favourite story straight into their RE books.

We have been watching our caterpillars slowly turn into chrysalides, and our tadpoles have started to grow eyes—but no legs just yet! The children are always checking on their progress and are so excited to see how they change.

How many tens and ones are in the number 23?



Year One

This week in Year 1, the children have been working hard across all areas of learning. In English, they completed an independent piece of writing using a range of "being" verbs and carefully chosen adjectives to make their sentences more interesting.

In Maths, the children have been learning about division through grouping and sharing, developing their understanding through practical activities and problem-solving.

In Science, we have been focusing on plants, exploring what plants need to grow and identifying the different parts of a plant.

In History, the children have been learning about children's education in the Victorian era, comparing schools from the past with schools today.

In R.E., we have been learning about Holy Days of Obligation and exploring how Christians celebrate Pentecost around the world. On Thursday, we had a lovely R.E. retreat with Mrs Farmer, which gave the children a special opportunity for prayer and reflection.

We ended the week beautifully by taking part in a lovely Mass for the Crowning of Mary, which was a very special celebration for the whole school community.

Question: Can you name a Holyday of obligation?

Year Two

Year 2 have had a highly productive and enjoyable week. The children have benefited from the favourable weather, making effective use of opportunities for outdoor learning.

In English, the pupils completed an independent writing task. They successfully recounted events using prepositions and contractions, while also applying the grammatical knowledge acquired in previous units. Next week, the class will begin a new unit based on the sinking of the Titanic, with a focus on extending sentences through the use of prepositional phrases of time, place and movement

The focus in Maths has been on the measurement of length, height and mass. The children have applied their understanding to a range of problem-solving activities and have used balance scales to compare mass, using appropriate comparative language such as lighter and heavier.

In RE, pupils sequenced the events across the 50 days from the Last Supper to Pentecost. They also created symbols to represent each event and analysed artworks of the conversion of Saul.

In Geography, the children have continued to use anemometers, wind vanes and rain gauges to collect weather data. They will now begin to analyse their findings and identify any emerging trends.

Question: Why are the events leading to Pentecost so important to Christians?

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Year Three

This week has been a busy and creative one across the curriculum, with the children showing great pride in their work.

In English, the children have begun their independent writing pieces. They have been focusing carefully on improving their handwriting joins and are working hard to present their writing clearly. Alongside this, they have been developing their understanding of compound sentences, using conjunctions to extend their ideas. The class particularly enjoyed writing about Claude the cat and his journey through Paris, producing some imaginative and engaging sentences.

In Art, the children explored the process of planning using visual notes, helping them to map out their ideas for an animated picture. They then brought their designs to life by creating moving animal models. The children used watercolours to decorate their work beautifully and incorporated split pins to join different parts, allowing their animals to move.

We ended the week with a reflective occasion, attending Mass for the Crowning of Mary. The children thoughtfully prepared flowers for this celebration.

Question: Is 12 a multiple of 4 and 8?

Year 4

It has been an eventful week for Year 4.

Today we took part in a whole school mass to honour Our Lady. Each child had made a flower and placed it at Mary's feet in church. Year 4 also had the job of doing the readings in mass. On Thursday, Mrs Bilic's class presented their assembly. The children acted, sang and read very well.

On Thursday, Year 4 had a Forest Schools session with the theme of 'rules.' It included den-building and making characters from clay. The children did a great job of working collaboratively. In Maths we have been working on plotting points on the first quadrant of a coordinates grid. In English, we began to put our work on expanded noun phrases into practice by describing a forest scene.

The children used carefully chosen adjectives and prepositional phrases to great effect

Question: What do we call the 2 axes on a grid?



Year Five

Year 5 have had another wonderful and productive week in school.

In English, we completed our independent writing based on *Owl Moon*. The children produced some excellent descriptive narratives, carefully incorporating fronted adverbials and direct speech. It has been fantastic to see their creativity and growing confidence as writers.

In Maths, we have been learning about decimal fractions. The children have applied their understanding of dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000 to help them multiply by 0.1, 0.01 and 0.001. They have shown great perseverance and mathematical reasoning throughout these lessons.

Our History learning has focused on the Tudor period. We began by placing the Tudors on a timeline alongside other historical periods we have previously studied. We then explored key events of the Tudor era, particularly the succession of monarchs, before taking a closer look at the Battle of Bosworth and its significance.

In PE, we have continued our Yoga sessions. The children are becoming increasingly confident with their balance and are learning the names of a range of different poses. It has been wonderful to see their focus and determination.

As we enter the month of May, we made beautiful paper flowers to crown Mary. On Friday, we took part in a lovely Mass to honour Mary. The children were respectful throughout and joined in beautifully, making it a very special celebration.

Finally, as today is Mr Pownall's last day with us, we would like to thank him for all his hard work, dedication and support for 5CP. We wish him every success and happiness for the future.

Question: What is 3×0.01 ?

Year 6

Year 6 have been continuing to work extremely hard this week as we approach the busiest time of the school year.

In Maths, we have been looking at angles in quadrilaterals and then extending our understanding by looking for the patterns in internal angles in polygons with any number of sides. The children were quick to spot the pattern and were then able to apply it to their work effectively. We then looked at circles, labelling the properties and using this to work out missing information. We finished the week by using rulers and protractors to draw 2D shapes accurately, whilst also looking at nets of 3D shapes.

Our English work has moved on to look at our new text, *Cicada*. This is a short story about a bug who is mistreated by his colleagues and eventually flies to freedom. It is full of suspense and has some excellent messages within it. As the story is written from the perspective of a bug, we have been looking at how we can convert non-standard English into standard English. The story also has no direct speech within it, so we have had some fun by rewriting parts of the tale but inserting dialogue to enhance character and story development.

We also thoroughly enjoyed producing flowers for The Crowning of Our Lady. The children used colourful tissue paper and string to make some fantastic flowers, which we are sure will look brilliant when they are placed before Mary in church.

Question: What do we call the measurement from the circumference to the centre of a circle?