



# ST STEPHEN'S WEEKLY

OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026

## Our Vision

Every child,  
every chance, every day.



## Our Mission

Love one another,  
as I have loved you.



Belonging



Inclusion



Flourishing



TOGETHER



## Our Values – St Stephen's CARES



Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE



#teamststephens

Together  
we learn  
We belong  
We flourish  
♥

# A Message from **Mr Lavin** Headteacher



What a fantastic second week back we have had at St Stephen's!

The school is well and truly back into the swing of things, and it has been wonderful to see our children settling into their new classes, embracing their learning and living out our CARES values each day.

You may notice that our weekly newsletter has had a bit of a refresh! We've given it a new look, but don't worry – all of the information you are used to receiving will still be here. In fact, we hope the new format will make it even easier to keep up with everything happening across our school.

Each week, you'll find important dates for the term ahead, our Wednesday Word to help families reflect together on Sunday's Gospel, our Attendance League Table, our wonderful Star Children, as well as a round-up from every year group so you can see just some of the brilliant learning and experiences taking place across St Stephen's.

There is always so much happening in school, and I hope the newsletter gives families a real flavour of school life and an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of children right across our community.

## 👋 **Meet the Teacher – Next Week**

Next week, we will be holding our Meet the Teacher sessions.

These are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher, hear about what is planned for the year ahead and ask any questions you may have. We have deliberately spaced the sessions out this year to make it easier for parents and carers who have children in more than one year group to attend. Please see the next page for times and locations.

Please don't worry if you are unable to attend. All of the relevant information from the sessions will also be shared with you via email and ClassDojo, so nobody will miss out.

***Continued on the next page...***

**BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE**

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# A Message from **Mr Lavin** Headteacher



## **A Few Important Reminders**

As we settle back into school routines, please can all parents/carers make sure they are keeping up to date with the systems we use.

### **Arbor App**

Please ensure that you are able to log in to Arbor and take a few minutes to check that all of the personal and contact information we hold for your child is correct and up to date. Arbor is also used for school payments, so it is important that you have access.

### **School Grid**

Please remember to use School Grid to order your child's school meals in advance. Ordering ahead really helps the kitchen and school ensure that children receive the meal they would like.

We know there are quite a few different apps and systems to get used to! We have information about the different apps we use and what they are for on our website.

## **School Uniform**

Our uniform is an important part of belonging to St Stephen's and we want our children to wear it with pride.

Just a few reminders:

- Earrings must be studs only – no hoops or dangling earrings.
- Hair below shoulder length should be tied back.
- School ties should be worn by all pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 on none PE days.
- Smart watches with access to data/Wi-Fi are not permitted in school.
- Please ensure children are wearing the correct school uniform and footwear each day.

Full details of our uniform expectations can be found on the school website.

Thank you for helping us to maintain high standards from the very beginning of the year. These seemingly small things make a real difference to our shared expectations and to the sense of pride and belonging we want every child to feel at St Stephen's.

*Continued on the next page...*

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# A Message from **Mr Lavin** Headteacher



## ♥ **Our PTA Needs You – A Personal Plea**

I want to make a personal plea to our parents, carers and wider school community this week.

### **Our PTA is at real risk of coming to an end.**

For many years, our PTA has worked incredibly hard behind the scenes to make St Stephen's an even more special place for our children. At the moment, however, the team has just two full-time members and two part-time members, with some of our current members coming to the end of their time with us this academic year. Put simply, we desperately need some new people to get involved if our PTA is going to continue.

The PTA isn't just about raising money. It is responsible for so many of the experiences our children look forward to and remember: our fairs, tuck shops, Donuts for Dads, Break the Rules Days, car shows, Bounce-a-thons and many other brilliant events throughout the year. Without a PTA, these events simply won't be able to continue.

Just as importantly, the money raised through these events provides additional equipment, resources and opportunities for our children that the school budget alone simply could not provide. Over the years, the PTA has made a significant contribution to school life, and we would be incredibly sad to lose it. I completely understand that everyone is busy, and joining the PTA does not have to mean giving up huge amounts of your time. If you can volunteer for an event, give us a couple of hours occasionally or help out on a particular day, that would be hugely appreciated.

But we also urgently need new members who are willing to join the PTA team and help organise and lead these events going forward. You don't need any previous experience. You just need a willingness to get involved, share ideas and help us continue creating those fantastic experiences and memories for our children. I would hate to be writing later this year to tell our families that the PTA has had to close and that these events can no longer take place.

If you have ever thought about getting involved, please make this the year you do it. Even a small amount of your time could make a huge difference. Our children absolutely love these events. Please help us make sure they continue. Thank you, as always, for supporting St Stephen's. ♥ Please email the school office if you are able to help.

All the dates for the term ahead on further on in the newsletter. We will continually add to these so please do take note each week.

Have a lovely weekend.  
**Mr Lavin, Headteacher**

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♥  
#teamststephens



Working together  
for our children

St. Stephen's R.C Primary School



Every child, Every chance,  
Every day

Come along,  
meet your child's  
teacher and  
find out more  
about the year  
ahead!

# Meet the Teacher

Let's work together for a fantastic year!



**Tuesday**  
15<sup>th</sup> September



3.30 – 3.50pm



**Nursery**

In the  
Nursery classroom



**Reception**

In Mrs Ellison's  
classroom

This is a great opportunity  
to meet your child's teacher,  
ask any questions and find out  
what's planned for the year ahead.



**Wednesday**  
16<sup>th</sup> September



3.30 – 3.50pm



**TLC Foundations**

In the TLC Foundations  
classroom



**TLC Thrive**

In the TLC Thrive  
classroom



**Year 1**

In Miss Bacigalupo's  
classroom



**Year 2**

In Miss Scaife's  
classroom



**Year 3**

In Mrs Herbert's  
classroom



**Wednesday**  
16<sup>th</sup> September



4.00 – 4.20pm



**Year 4**

In Miss Birtles'  
classroom



**Year 5**

In Miss Tracey's  
classroom



**Year 6**

In Mrs Gibson's  
classroom

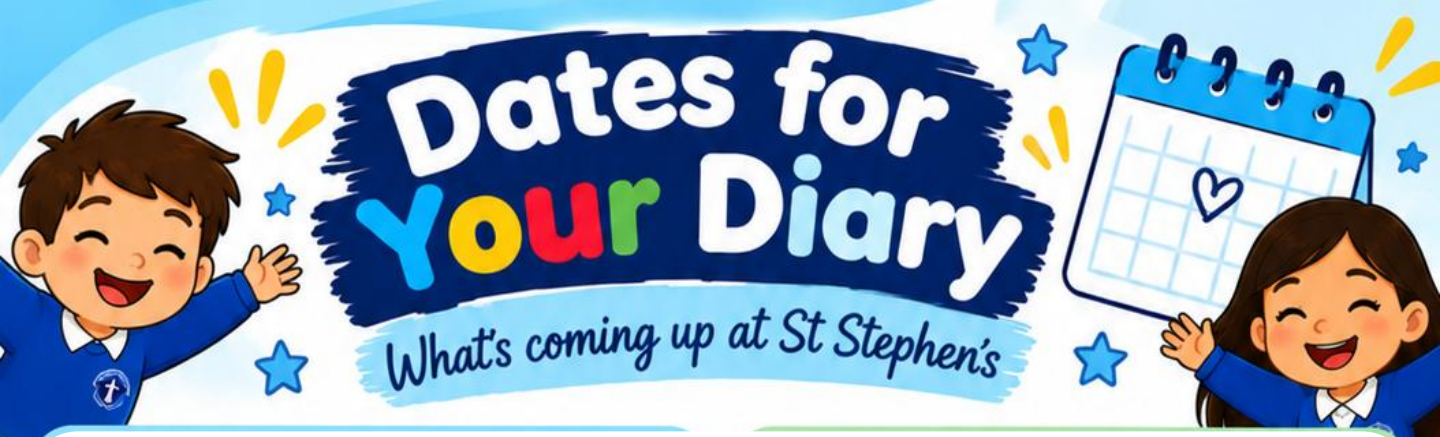
We look forward  
to seeing you!



Compassion Ambition Rejoice Excellence Service

Every child, Every chance, Every day





| Week Beginning 14th September 2026 |                       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Date                               | Event                 |
| 18.09.26                           | Years 1, 2 and 3 Mass |

| Week Beginning 21st September 2026 |                                                       |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Date                               | Event                                                 |
| 21.09.26                           | Reception Phonics Workshop for Parents (3.30pm - 4pm) |
| 24.09.26                           | Individual Photographs                                |
| 25.09.26                           | Macmillan Coffee Morning                              |
| 25.09.26                           | European Languages Day (26.9.26) Spanish Theme Day    |

| Week Beginning 28th September 2026 |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Date                               | Event                               |
| 28.09.26                           | EYFS Open Evening (3.30pm - 4.30pm) |
| 30.09.26                           | Bikeability - 6DF                   |
| 01.10.26                           | Bikeability - 6DF                   |
| 01.10.26                           | 6HG Class Assembly                  |
| 02.10.26                           | Reception and Year 6 Mass           |

| Week Beginning 5th October 2026 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Date                            | Event              |
| 07.10.26                        | Bikeability – 6HG  |
| 08.10.26                        | Bikeability – 6HG  |
| 08.10.26                        | 5AL Class Assembly |
| 09.10.26                        | Hello Yellow Day   |
| 09.10.26                        | Years 4 and 5 Mass |

| Week Beginning 12th October 2026 |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Date                             | Event                       |
| 13.10.26                         | Stay and Pray – 6HG         |
| 14.10.26                         | Stay and pray – 6DF         |
| 15.10.26                         | Parents Evening             |
| 16.10.26                         | Whole School Mass           |
| 16.10.26                         | Years 3 Poetry Trip (AM)    |
| 16.10.26                         | Break the Rules Day         |
| 16.10.26                         | School closes for half term |

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St. Stephen's R.C Primary School



Every child, Every chance,  
Every day



WE ARE  
**MACMILLAN.**  
CANCER SUPPORT

Together  
we can make  
a difference



# Calling All Bakers! WE NEED YOUR CAKES!

We're getting ready for our Macmillan Coffee Morning  
and we need your help! ♥

## CAKE DONATIONS NEEDED

Homemade or shop-bought – every donation is welcome! ♥

Big  
cakes...



Cakes



Cupcakes



Biscuits



Traybakes

...Small  
cakes...  
all cakes  
make a big  
difference!



PLEASE BRING CAKE DONATIONS INTO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS.

Thank you for your support! ♥



## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September



From 9am



School Hall

Come along for coffee, cake and a catch-up – all while supporting a fantastic cause. ♥

Every cake helps us raise money  
for Macmillan Cancer Support. ♥

Bake it ♥ Buy it ♥ Bring it!







# St Stephens

— RC Primary —

PLEASE HELP OUR  
**CAMPAIGN**

FOR A NEW ZEBRA CROSSING  
**ON MEDLOCK STREET**



PLEASE EMAIL OUR PTA AT  
**[ststephensptacommunity@gmail.com](mailto:ststephensptacommunity@gmail.com)**  
AND STATE



- Your name



- Your relationship with the school.



- Why you believe we are in need of a zebra crossing,  
maybe you have witnessed some danger?  
If so please explain

**WE NEED YOUR VOICES!**





**EMMAUS**  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

# 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](http://www.stsrcp.school)



[admin@stsrcp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stsrcp.co.uk)





# Celebrating Our Stars

We are so proud of you!



## Readers of the Week

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Nursery         | Remmie   |
| RNE             | Alessi   |
| RAB             | Georgie  |
| Y1CP            | Elsie    |
| Y1LB            | Rudy     |
| Y2DS            | Vivian   |
| Y2MW            | Cole     |
| Y3OR            | Fabian   |
| Y3LH            | Bill     |
| Y4GB            | Shannel  |
| Y4LS            | Deedee   |
| Y5LT            | Isabelle |
| Y5AL            | Parker   |
| Y6HG            | Evelyn   |
| Y6DF            | Noah     |
| TLC Foundations | Arthur   |
| TLC Thrive      | Isla     |



## Hot Chocolate Friday Winner

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Nursery         | Jayden B & Elsie |
| RNE             | Salima           |
| RAB             | Alaragh          |
| Y1CP            | Caleb            |
| Y1LB            | Marnie           |
| Y2DS            | Romie            |
| Y2MW            | Olivia           |
| Y3OR            | Dominion         |
| Y3LH            | Hugo             |
| Y4GB            | Arthur           |
| Y4LS            | Berrie-Mae       |
| Y5LT            | Bruke            |
| Y5AL            | Annie            |
| Y6HG            | James            |
| Y6DF            | Bella            |
| TLC Foundations | Evie             |
| TLC Thrive      | India            |

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# More of Our Stars

Celebrating brilliant learning



## Writing Star



|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Nursery         | Olly      |
| RNE             | Isla      |
| RAB             | Leo       |
| Y1CP            | Lennie    |
| Y1LB            | Noah      |
| Y2DS            | Natalia   |
| Y2MW            | Nehneh    |
| Y3OR            | Betti-Rae |
| Y3LH            | Nancy     |
| Y4GB            | Valentina |
| Y4LS            | Alise     |
| Y5LT            | Samiat    |
| Y5AL            | Valerie   |
| Y6HG            | Adam      |
| Y6DF            | Caoimhe   |
| TLC Foundations |           |
| TLC Thrive      | Kinggreat |



## Maths Star



|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Nursery         | Cian      |
| RNE             | Maria     |
| RAB             | Minnie    |
| Y1CP            | Bobby     |
| Y1LB            | Cameron   |
| Y2DS            | Erin      |
| Y2MW            | Theodore  |
| Y3OR            | Evie      |
| Y3LH            | Harper    |
| Y4GB            | Evie-Rose |
| Y4LS            | Frankie   |
| Y5LT            | Thomas F  |
| Y5AL            | Evelyn    |
| Y6HG            | Jeremiah  |
| Y6DF            | Grace     |
| TLC Foundations | Lucius    |
| TLC Thrive      | Levi      |

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# Attendance Matters

Every day counts!

## Class Attendance

|         |        |                 |        |
|---------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| Nursery | 93.2 % | Y4GB            | 94.6 % |
| RNE     | 93.6 % | Y4LS            | 89.3 % |
| RAB     | 100 %  | Y5LT            | 95.5 % |
| Y1CP    | 95.3 % | Y5AL            | 95.6 % |
| Y1LB    | 95.7 % | Y6HG            | 97.9 % |
| Y2DS    | 95.9 % | Y6DF            | 93.3 % |
| Y2MA    | 91.8 % | TLC Foundations | 98.9 % |
| Y3OR    | 98.3 % | TLC Thrive      | 97.7 % |
| Y3LH    | 97.7 % |                 |        |



BE READY

• BE RESPECTFUL

• BE SAFE







# Attendance League



## St Stephen's Attendance League Lower School & EYFS

| Position | Total Points    |   | Position | Total Points |   |
|----------|-----------------|---|----------|--------------|---|
| 1st:     | RAB             | 3 | 6th:     | 1LB          | 0 |
| 2nd:     | TLC Foundations | 2 | 7th:     | 1CP          | 0 |
| 3rd:     | 3OR             | 1 | 8th:     | RNE          | 0 |
| 4th:     | 3LH             | 0 | 9th:     | Nursery      | 0 |
| 5th:     | 2DS             | 0 | 10th:    | 2MA          | 0 |

## St Stephen's Attendance League Upper School

| Position | Total Points |   |
|----------|--------------|---|
| 1st:     | 6HG          | 3 |
| 2nd:     | TLC Thrive   | 2 |
| 3rd:     | 5AL          | 1 |
| 4th:     | 5LT          | 0 |
| 5th:     | 4GB          | 0 |
| 6th:     | 6DF          | 0 |
| 7th:     | 4LS          | 0 |

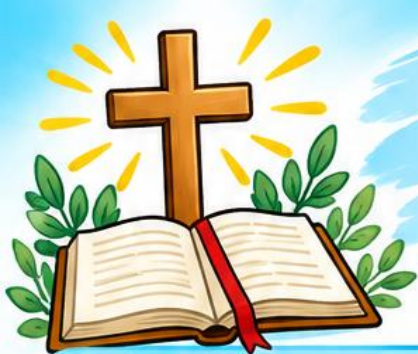
★ BE READY

● BE RESPECTFUL

● BE SAFE







# Religious Education

Faith ♥ Friendship ♥ Service

Love one another ♥



## Heart to Heart with Fr Callistus: The Power of Encouragement

Sometimes, we don't realise how much our words can mean to a child. A simple "Well done", "I'm proud of you", "Keep trying", "I know you can do it" etc. These may sound like little things, but they can stay with a child for a very long time. As parents and teachers, we naturally notice the things that need correcting, but we should also remember to notice the good things.

I think this is something Jesus did very well. He saw people with all their weaknesses and mistakes, but He also saw what they could become. So, perhaps this, let us try to encourage our children a little more. Notice their effort, thank them when they help, tell them when they have done something well and when they get something wrong, help them understand that one mistake does not define them. You never know; a few encouraging words from you today might be something they remember many years from now. God bless our children, our families and all our teachers.

Fr Callistus.



♥  
A brighter world together

## ♥ Caritas Award

Our first CARITAS Award goes to Max Roberts in Reception for being a wonderful friend today. Well done, Max.



## Prayer of the Week ♥

Dear God,  
Help us to live out our school values each day.  
Help us to show compassion by caring for others,  
service by helping those in need,  
rejoice by sharing joy and gratitude,  
ambition by using our talents to do our best,  
and leadership by guiding others with kindness and courage.  
Help us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and the saints,  
and to always be the best version of ourselves.  
Amen.



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### Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to you and to your family as we begin this new school year.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Peter asks Jesus the question about how many times we should forgive. Jesus' answer shows that we must forgive one another just as God forgives us: again and again, without limit.

God is our loving Father and we can always count on his loving forgiveness and on the freedom that his forgiveness brings. Jesus instructs us to be just as forgiving toward others.

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026

Forgiveness is the lifeblood of any family or community. St John Paul II reminds us, "Forgiveness does not come naturally. Forgiving from the heart can sometimes be actually heroic."

See overleaf to enjoy a special time together this evening exploring your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **FORGIVENESS**.

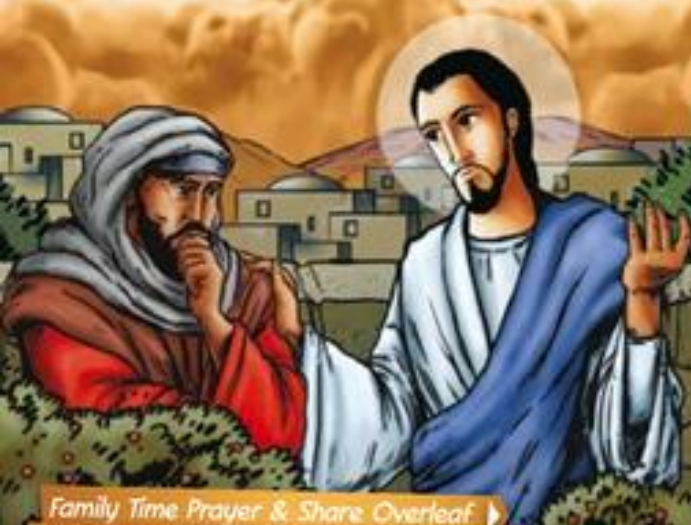
Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"It is by forgiving that one is forgiven." St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

Peter asked Jesus, "Lord, how often must I forgive my brother?"



## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2026



Peter went up to Jesus and said, "Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?" Jesus answered, "Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times." Then Jesus told them this story: "There was a king with many servants. One of them owed the king an enormous amount of money. The servant could not pay so he begged for more time to pay his debt. The king felt so sorry for him that he let him go and even cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him a very small amount of money; but he would not give him time to pay and instead had him thrown into prison. When the news reached the king, he sent for the unforgiving servant. 'You wicked servant,' the king said, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?' Then the king sent the unforgiving servant to prison to be punished."

Adapted from Matthew 18:21-35  
The 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, 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

The King, who Jesus speaks about in this Sunday's Gospel, gives us a glimpse of God's compassionate and forgiving nature. We are all part of God's family and, even knowing our faults, God is always ready to forgive us and to help us make a fresh start with him and with each other.





# Good News for Families

## TOGETHER TIME



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

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, how often must I forgive someone who does me wrong? Should it be as often as seven times?" Jesus answered, "Not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!" Then Jesus told them this story: "There was a king with many servants. One of the servants owed the king an enormous amount of money. The servant could not pay so he begged for more time to pay his debt. The king felt so sorry for him that he even cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him a very small amount of money; but he would not cancel the debt but instead had the poor servant arrested. When the news reached the king, he sent the unforgiving servant to prison to be punished."

How many times does Jesus say we should forgive someone?

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...

"Pray and forgive."

St Teresa of Calcutta

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that we must try to forgive others in the same way that we want God (and others) to forgive us. Ask your child what the word 'forgiveness' means to them. Has your child ever asked for and received forgiveness? How did it feel to be forgiven? It may help your child if you tell them about a time when you forgave someone, especially when it wasn't easy to do, or when you were forgiven.



Forgiveness is one of God's greatest gifts to us. Each of you say how it feels to forgive someone and make friends again. As we start this new school year, ask your child if there is anyone whose forgiveness they would like. Is anyone they need to forgive? If so, share ideas about how to do this. Perhaps they can: talk gently and lovingly to that person if there is a problem; try to recognise some good qualities in that person; pray and ask God to help them forgive. You might like to end tonight by slowly saying the Lord's Prayer together (please see below).

## FORGIVENESS



### 3 Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

## FINDING THREE

S S E V I G R O F W S  
G O N E N O E M O S N  
F M M S U S E J F E G  
J E P E T E R G T W N  
F O R G I V E F E V P  
G N O R W T O G N E N  
N E N D F V J D N G H  
O H W R O N G O P W O  
S S O F R E T E P V W  
R G J W R O S S E J F  
W F J E S U S G F E N

## WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN



PETER  
JESUS



HOW  
OFTEN



FORGIVE  
SOMEONE



DOES  
WRONG

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **a u s** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

soaftuen Pestaura warosnug fosurgivae

\_\_\_\_\_ said to Jesus, "Lord, how \_\_\_\_\_ must I

\_\_\_\_\_ someone who does me \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Giving or asking for forgiveness is a powerful way to build stronger relationships with others and with God. We can be certain that no matter how many times we need to forgive or to ask for forgiveness, God will always help us.



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley





ST STEPHEN'S  
CATHOLIC CHURCH • DROYLSDEN

# PRAISE

Night



FRIDAY  
**16<sup>TH</sup>**  
OCTOBER 2026



7:00PM - 8:30PM



RECEPTION FOLLOWS  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER  
IN DROYLSDEN  
CATHOLIC CLUB

FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY



ST STEPHEN'S  
CHOIR



ANGELIC  
VOICES CHOIR



BORN TO  
WORSHIP CHOIR



INSTRUMENTAL  
MEDLEY

EVERYONE IS INVITED



*"Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord." – Psalm 150:6*

ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Droylsden,  
Manchester M43 7NA  
0161 370 1505



St. Steph  
Bienvenije  
Keabo  
Benvenuto  
Welkom





# Nursery



We have had a wonderful first full week in Nursery!

The children have enjoyed exploring all the exciting areas of our classroom, both indoors and outdoors, as they settle into their new routines. We have had lots of fun singing, dancing, taking part in Dough Disco and enjoying a relaxing yoga session. During carpet time, the children have loved singing and joining in with familiar nursery rhymes and listening to a variety of lovely stories. We have also been exploring colours and expressing our creativity through different activities.

In RE, we have begun learning our daily prayers, practising how to make the Sign of the Cross and listening to some beautiful songs during our RE focus sessions.

What a fantastic start to our Nursery journey!



# Reception



What a fantastic first week we have had in Reception! The children have settled into their new routines brilliantly and have made us all incredibly proud. We started our very first phonics lessons, and the children absolutely smashed it! They showed fantastic listening skills and enthusiasm as they began learning their first sounds.

In Literacy, we introduced our new story *Monkey Puzzle* and the children enjoyed exploring the characters and events, practising how to remember and summarise key parts of the story. In Maths, we explored *Pete the Cat* through counting rhymes and activities focused on counting and recognising numbers, with the children showing some fantastic early mathematical skills. In RE, we thought about all the wonderful things God has created that make us say "WOW!" We also explored the Creation story and talked about the amazing world around us.

It has been such a brilliant start to the year, and we cannot wait to see the children continue to grow, learn and flourish together!

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE

  
#teamststephens





# Year 1

Learn ♥ Grow ♥ Belong



It has been a fantastic first full week back in Year 1, and the children have been working incredibly hard! In Maths, we have been practising counting forwards and backwards to 10, as well as comparing and ordering numbers. In English, we have been writing 'I can see...' sentences, sorting examples and non-examples, practising dictation and unscrambling sentences to make sure they make sense.

In Science, we went on a plant hunt around our school grounds to identify and compare common plants, looking carefully at how they are similar and different. In RE, we have been learning about God's creation and thinking about the wonderful things God has created. In History, we have started our new topic, *Kings, Queens & Leaders of England*, learning what a monarch is and identifying some of the royal symbols associated with kings and queens.

The children have also been working very hard to complete their independent Rainbow Challenges, showing fantastic effort and independence. We are so proud of how well they have settled back into Year 1!

Question: What is a Monarch?



# Year 2

Be Positive ♥ Be Respectful ♥ Be Your Best



What a wonderful start to Year 2 the children have made this week! They have settled in brilliantly and spent lots of time thinking about our school expectations and values, as well as revisiting the Zones of Regulation.

In RE, we explored the value of service, thinking about how Jesus served his disciples in the story of the washing of the feet, and how Saint Martin de Porres dedicated his life to serving others. We reflected on how we can follow their example in our own daily lives. We also began our new unit on Creation and Covenant, discussing how the Bible is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament.

In maths, we have been counting in groups of 10, writing this as an expression, and adding and subtracting multiples of 10.

In English, we started our new book, *I Want My Hat Back*, and revisited Year 1 learning by consolidating our understanding of what makes a complete sentence, with a focus on capital letters and full stops.

Finally, we began our new history unit on the Great Fire of London, learning where and when it happened and plotting the date on a timeline.

Question: Can you count forwards and backwards in 10s?

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE

♥  
#teamststephens





# Year 3

Curious



Confident



Capable



Kind  
Brave  
Inquisitive  
Ready



It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school and we have had a fantastic first full week back in Year 3. The children have been very busy and produced some brilliant pieces of work.

In English we have been reading *Stone Age Boy* and we have been identifying different sentence types, such as statements, questions and commands. In Maths we have been adopting different strategies for adding three single digit numbers, such as using doubles, near doubles and bonds to 10. In RE, we have started a unit of work on Creation and re-told the Creation story in our words. The children enjoyed their first forest school session of the term and worked hard with Mrs Artingstall to spot patterns in nature and then make a snail with a spiral out of clay. Finally, we started our first History unit on the Stone Age and explored the three periods of the Stone Age.



# Year 4

Challenge



Persevere



Achieve



Resilient  
Thoughtful  
Determined  
Proud



Year 4 have had an excellent week and the children have settled back into school life brilliantly, working hard across all areas of the curriculum. In English, they have been studying *Pigeon Impossible*, recapping the use of basic punctuation before using coordinating conjunctions to create compound sentences. In Maths, the children have been revisiting their knowledge of column addition with 2- and 3-digit numbers. In History, they have started their exciting new topic on Ancient Egypt, locating Egypt on a map, exploring important places within the country and creating a timeline of events from this fascinating civilisation. During Indoor PE, the children have begun exploring dance and creating different movements to represent symbols of Ancient Egypt. In PSHE, Year 4 have been considering individuality and exploring their own experiences, beliefs and traditions, as well as family, community, qualities and interests. On Friday, the children also attended Mass, providing a lovely opportunity to come together as a school community.

Question: What does FANBOYS represent?

BE READY



BE RESPECTFUL



BE SAFE



#teamststephens





# Year 5

Inspire ♥ Challenge ♥ Succeed



Brighter  
Bolder  
Kinder  
Stronger  
Together  
♥

It has been fantastic welcoming the children into their new year group and they have settled into Year 5 extremely well! Lots of learning has been taking place over the last couple of weeks, and we have enjoyed starting all our new topics.

In English, we have been revising compound and complex sentences in preparation for our final outcome of blurb writing for one of the images in 'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick'.

In Maths, we have completed our first unit of recognizing tenths in decimal numbers, and we have started looking at additive relationships in these numbers.

In R.E, we have started our 'Creation and Covenant' unit, and we discussed the importance of rules. The children designed their own happy place and wrote rules to make it a safe environment. We have re-capped Abraham's covenant with God, and learnt about how Joseph kept this promise.

In Science, we classified materials in different ways based on their properties.

We ended the week with a lovely Mass. Well done to the children for reading so clearly and confidently.

**Question: How can we partition the number 3.6?**



# Year 6

Believe ♥ Achieve ♥ Flourish



Ready  
Respectful  
Responsible  
Role Models  
♥

The children have settled into Year 6 wonderfully, and we are incredibly proud of how positively they have approached the start of the year.

In Maths, we have been exploring bar models and learning how they can be used to represent mathematical stories and help us solve problems. The children have enjoyed developing their reasoning skills and explaining how the models support their thinking.

During our Writing lessons, we have been creating multi-clause sentences to recount the story of *Lava*. The children have worked hard to develop their sentence structure and vocabulary, and have really enjoyed bringing the story to life through their writing.

In History, the children have loved learning about the causes of World War II. They were particularly interested to discover more about the Treaty of Versailles and what life was like in Germany during the rise of Adolf Hitler.

The children have asked some thoughtful questions and have shown great curiosity throughout our lessons. In RE, we have been learning about leaders of the Catholic Church, with a particular focus on Pope Leo and Bishop John. The children researched Bishop John and created informative fact files about him. We are very excited to be sending these to Bishop John — we hope he enjoys reading them!

It has been a fantastic start to Year 6, and we are looking forward to all the exciting learning still to come!

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE

♥  
#teamststephens





# TLC Foundations



Small Steps ♥ Bright Futures



Nurture  
Support  
Develop  
Thrive  
♥

What a lovely week we have had! It has been wonderful to see the children beginning to settle into the TLC and build new, trusting relationships with the staff. We are so proud of how well they are beginning to follow our daily routine and become more confident within the classroom. We have had lots of fun exploring messy and sensory play, including shaving foam, sensory rice and experimenting with lots of different colours through painting.

The children have also enjoyed exploring outdoors, discovering their surroundings and enjoying plenty of fresh air and active play. We have loved coming together at circle time, where the children have enjoyed singing and joining in with familiar nursery rhymes, songs and actions.

It has been lovely watching the children explore, play, laugh and grow in confidence together, and we are so excited to see what next week brings!



# TLC Thrive



Believe ♥ Progress ♥ Thrive



Inclusive  
Confident  
Independent  
Successful  
♥

We are beginning to settle into a familiar routine in class, and the children have engaged well with regular circle time to share our feelings and talk about the day. It has been really lovely to get to know everybody and hear about their home lives, interests and activities.

This week, we have been looking at Pattern and Shape in Maths and retelling The Very Hungry Caterpillar in our writing - we have some beautiful work!

During sensory sessions, we have enjoyed pasta, rice, water, playdough and shaving foam play and have been experimenting with food dyes and essences to change the colour and smell of each material.

All in all, a fantastic week! Myself, Ms Watkin and Ms Omijie are incredibly proud of how well our brand new Thrive Class are settling in!

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE



#teamststephens