



ST STEPHEN'S WEEKLY

OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd October 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



It has been another busy and exciting week at St Stephen's, with lots to celebrate across our school community!

A huge well done to Year 6HG for their wonderful class assembly this week. The children did themselves, their teachers and their families incredibly proud. Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us – it is always lovely to welcome you into school and share these special moments together.

Congratulations also to Year 6DF, who enjoyed two fantastic days of Bikeability this week. The children showed great enthusiasm, responsibility and determination as they developed their cycling skills and learned how to stay safe on the roads. Well done, Year 6!

We certainly started the week with a bang! On Monday, the children enjoyed a brilliant Mad Science Assembly, which created lots of excitement and curiosity across school. It was fantastic to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic about science.

And we ended the week on an equally energetic note! Today, the children took part in a Rocksteady Music Assembly – and it is fair to say that St Stephen's was rocking! The children had a fantastic time experiencing live music and finding out what it is like to be part of a band. Mrs Gibson has shared further information on ClassDojo for any children who would like to take this exciting opportunity further.

♥ HELLO YELLOW DAY ♥

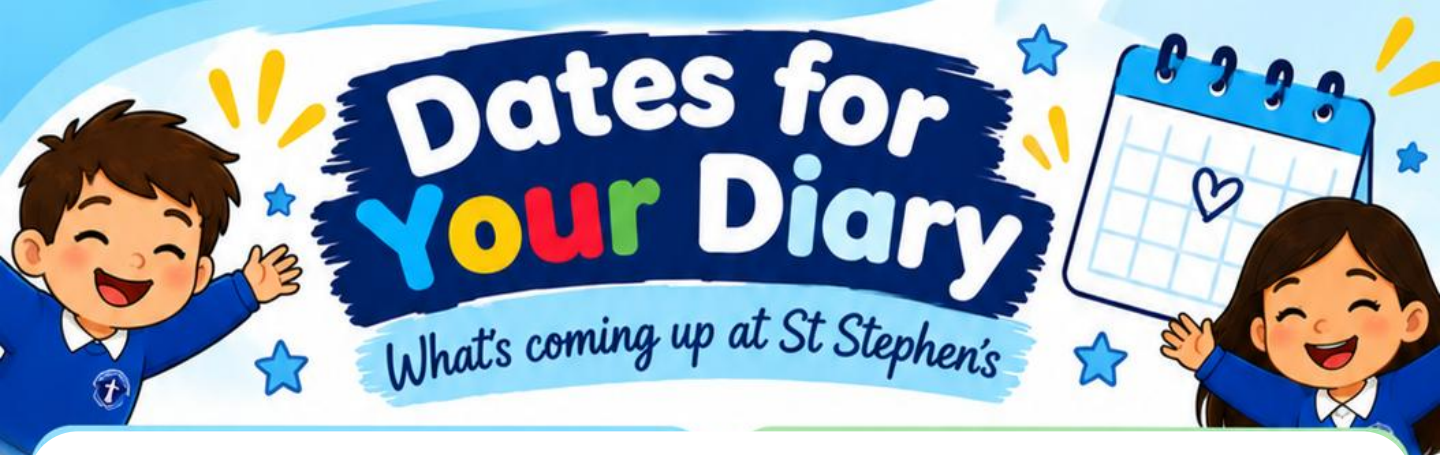
Next Friday, we will also be joining schools and communities across the country in marking Hello Yellow Day, raising awareness of children and young people's mental health. We would love our children to wear something yellow to school – this could be a yellow jumper, T-shirt, socks, hair accessory or even something small!

We are asking families who are able to do so to make a £1 donation, which will go towards supporting mental health charities.

We hope to see St Stephen's filled with yellow as we remind our children of an important message: it is okay to talk about how we feel, to look out for one another and to ask for help when we need it. ♥

Have a wonderful weekend, everyone, and we look forward to another great week at St Stephen's!

Mr Lavin, Headteacher



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 – wear something yellow - £1 donation to charity
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

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE


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Love
one another,
as I have
loved you.
♡



Every child,
Every chance,
Every day.
♡

WE ARE A **NUT-FREE** SCHOOL

Let's
keep everyone
safe!



No nuts
please!
♡

Please help us keep every child safe.

We have children in school with serious nut allergies.
Even a small amount of nuts can cause a severe allergic reaction.



Please **do not send**
nuts or products
containing nuts
into school.



This includes
packed lunches, snacks,
treats and food brought
in for special occasions.



Please check
food labels carefully
before sending items
into school.

Please avoid:



Peanuts



Tree nuts
(e.g. almonds, hazelnuts,
cashews, walnuts)



Nut bars



Nut spreads
(e.g. peanut butter,
Nutella)



Nut-containing
chocolates, cakes
and biscuits

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP EVERY CHILD SAFE



— Every child, Every chance, Every day. —

Cornerstone

Caritas Diocese of Salford



St Stephen's

COMPASSION • AMBITION • REJOICE
EXCELLENCE • SERVICE

Harvest Collection

During this Harvest season, we are asking
our school community to come together
to collect for Cornerstones.

Items collected will be donated to the Cornerstones Centre
where support is provided for those who are homeless.

Tea, Coffee, Sugar



Week beginning
21st September 2026

Tins, Pasta, Rice



Week beginning
28th September 2026

Toiletries



Week beginning
5th October 2026

Thank you for supporting our mission to
'love one another as I have loved you'

JOHN 15:12

**SMALL DONATIONS
MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE**



SUPPORTING
OUR COMMUNITY



HELPING
THOSE IN NEED



BUILDING A
BRIGHTER TOMORROW



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



admin@stsrcp.co.uk



Celebrating Our Stars

We are so proud of you!



Readers of the Week



Nursery	Jayden T
RNE	Callie
RAB	Luke
Y1CP	Favour
Y1LB	Alba
Y2DS	Pippa
Y2MW	Darcy
Y3OR	Ivy
Y3LH	Myles
Y4GB	Eli
Y4LS	Abigail
Y5LT	Isabelle
Y5AL	Jessica
Y6HG	Bruce
Y6DF	Adora
TLC Foundations	Merlin
TLC Thrive	Felicity



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Remmie
RNE	Tiago
RAB	Leah
Y1CP	Inaayah
Y1LB	Esmae
Y2DS	Mila
Y2MW	Nellie
Y3OR	Louie
Y3LH	Brume
Y4GB	Hazel
Y4LS	Hana
Y5LT	Aurora
Y5AL	Runo
Y6HG	Boma
Y6DF	Tegan
TLC Foundations	Lucius
TLC Thrive	Kinggreat

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE



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More of Our Stars

Celebrating brilliant learning



Writing Star

Nursery	Carlos
RNE	Habriel
RAB	Palmer
Y1CP	Olivia
Y1LB	Imoleoluwa
Y2DS	Afia
Y2MW	Buddy
Y3OR	Jaxon
Y3LH	Divine
Y4GB	Lin Xi
Y4LS	Ylan
Y5LT	Hudson
Y5AL	Kingsley
Y6HG	Pippa
Y6DF	Jacob
TLC Foundations	Daniyal
TLC Thrive	Isla

Maths Star

Nursery	Layla-Blue
RNE	Toby
RAB	Esme
Y1CP	Reeva
Y1LB	Neil
Y2DS	Peggie
Y2MW	Lucas
Y3OR	Nicholas
Y3LH	Kayson
Y4GB	Rose
Y4LS	Louie
Y5LT	Samuel
Y5AL	Gavriel
Y6HG	Samuel
Y6DF	Jeremiah
TLC Foundations	Evie
TLC Thrive	India

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Attendance Matters

Every day counts!

Class Attendance

Nursery	89.7 %	Y4GB	97.2 %
RNE	95.4 %	Y4LS	95.2 %
RAB	95.8 %	Y5LT	99.5 %
Y1CP	93.4 %	Y5AL	97.6 %
Y1LB	93.1 %	Y6HG	96.7 %
Y2DS	99 %	Y6DF	94.3 %
Y2MA	98.1 %	TLC Foundations	85.7 %
Y3OR	96.3 %	TLC Thrive	92.7 %
Y3LH	99 %		



BE READY

• BE RESPECTFUL

• BE SAFE





Attendance League



St Stephen's Attendance League Upper School

Position		Total Points
1st:	6HG	8
2nd:	5AL	7
3rd:	6DF	4
4th:	5LT	3
5th:	TLC Thrive	2
6th:	4GB	1
7th:	4LS	0



St Stephen's Attendance League Lower School & EYFS

Position		Total Points
1st:	2DS	7
2nd:	3LH	6
3rd:	2MA	5
4th:	RAB	4
5th:	Nursery	3
6th:	TLC Foundations	2
6th:	3OR	2

Position		Total Points
7th:	RNE	1
8th:	1LB	0
9th:	1CP	0

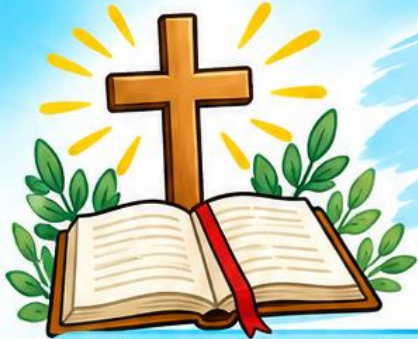


★ BE READY

● BE RESPECTFUL

● BE SAFE





Religious Education

Faith ♥ Friendship ♥ Service



Heart to Heart with Fr Callistus: The Power of Encouragement



RSHE MEETING NEXT WEEK

Next week, Mrs Gibson will be holding an RSHE meeting for parents via zoom. This will be on Friday 9th October at 9.15am. Please see Class Dojo for further details.



♥ Caritas Award

This week our Caritas Award has been awarded to 6HG who showed great compassion during their Special Friends Visit.

Compassion
in Action

🙏 Prayer of the Week ♥

✠ How to Say a Decade of the Rosary ✠

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Say the Our Father.
 | 2 Say 10 Hail Marys.
 | 3 Say the Glory Be.
 |
| 4 Say the Fatima Prayer.
 | 5 Think about the mystery.
 | 6 Repeat for the next decade!
 |

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE

♥
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Dear Parents and Carers,

It's easy to get caught up in the daily busyness of life and forget what life's really all about. However, to assist us on our path through life, God sends messengers to help us remember what is most important.

In this Sunday's Gospel, the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets) and the tenants of the vineyard represent the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus told this story because some of the leaders were not listening to God's messengers.

Wednesday 30th September 2026

In many ways we are like 'tenants' in this world. The messengers that God sends today remind us that God has a plan for our lives. We are created for everlasting life and, for now, we are here to share, enjoy and develop what God gives to us in this life.

Enjoy a very special time together hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **MESSANGER**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from the Saints

"Let the message of Christ live in you." St Paul



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 4th October 2026



Jesus said, "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, rented it to some tenant farmers and then went off far away. When the fruit-season came, he sent some of his servants to the farmers to collect his fruit. But the farmers seized his servants. He then sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But the farmers said to one another, 'Look - here's the heir: come on, let's take over his inheritance.' So they seized the son, threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?" "He'll bring those bad men to a bad end," was the reply. "Then he'll rent the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruit at harvest time."

Adapted from Matthew 21:33-43
The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel in your local Parish Church: all are very warmly invited.

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf

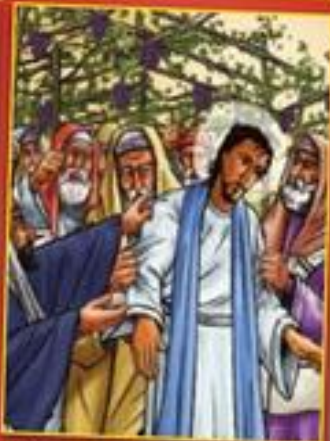
Good News for Everyone

Our schools and parishes continue to share Jesus' message today, so that all people can live in a right relationship with God. Through our words and especially through our actions we too can be God's messengers, sharing God's joy and love at home, at school and in the community.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



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

Jesus said, "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, rented it to some tenant farmers and then went off far away. When the fruit-season came, he sent servants to collect the fruit which he was owed. But the farmers seized his servants. Finally, the landowner sent his son, but they treated him like the other servants so that they could have the vineyard for themselves." Then Jesus said, "When the landowner returns to the vineyard he'll remove those tenants and give the vineyard to good tenants instead."

Did the tenant farmers listen to the servants sent by the landowner?

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...

"How wonderful it is to proclaim to everyone the love of God which gives meaning to our lives!"

Pope Francis (Pope from 2013-2025)

Ask your child what the word 'messenger' means to them. Who do they think are God's messengers today? Who brings the message of Jesus to them? Which of Jesus' messages does your child like best, and which is your favourite? You may want to tell your child which messengers brought the good news about Jesus to you when you were younger (e.g. a family member, a teacher, a priest, a friend), through what they said and how they lived.

What do we think are the best ways that we can be God's messengers in these coming weeks? Perhaps we can: demonstrate our faith in God through being peacemakers - showing God's love and kindness to those around us; remember to start our day with a quiet time of prayer, just listening to God in our hearts before moving into action; talk with others about why we believe in God. Let's help God's messengers throughout the world by offering this week's Family Time prayer below for priests, missionaries and for all those who share the message of God's love.

MESSENGER



3 Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for all your messengers who help us to know you. Help us to be your faithful messengers, so that others will come to know the joy of loving you. Amen.

FINDING THREE

S T R E N W O D N A L T
E R E J E C T E D R A M
R V M S E R T O S O N D
V I O E T D E V S N D E
A N V S S R E M N N O T
N E E T T S Z T O R W C
T Y D V N N E S D V N E
S A N T E N A N T S E J
D R A Y E N I V G T R E
V D V A T D N T R E T R
S E M E S S E N G E R S
T N S T N A N E T M S S

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

- ☒ LANDOWNER
- ☒ VINEYARD
- ☐ MESSENGERS
- ☐ SERVANTS
- ☐ SON
- ☐ REJECTED
- ☐ REMOVE
- ☐ TENANTS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **x k z** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

gikvexz goxkozd Wkhexzn krexturzn

the landowner to the vineyard

he'll the vineyard to tenants instead.

A MESSAGE FROM CAFOD! This Friday, 2nd October, is CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day. Find out how you can make a difference, and spread the message to others about this special day at: cafod.org.uk/primary



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
16TH
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
Bienvenje
Keabo
Benvenuto
Welkom



Nursery



This week in Nursery, we have loved singing our phonics nursery rhyme, 'Humpty Dumpty', and identifying sounds from the rhyme.

In Maths, we have continued exploring colours through matching activities, colour songs and a colour hunt in our outdoor area. We have also been busy developing our pencil control through lots of mark-making and Funky Fingers activities. Particular favourites have been moving scarves to music and taking part in 'Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle', making marks on large sheets of paper to our favourite songs.

In RE, we have continued to follow the story of Creation and have enjoyed singing 'Sing Hosanna', 'He's Got the Whole World in His Hands' and 'If I Were a Butterfly'.

During our Celebration of the Word, we learnt about Saint Francis of Assisi, his love for Jesus and how he thanked God for the animals. Together, we talked about ways to care for animals and why showing kindness to them is important, before making the sign of the cross and sharing a prayer. It has been another wonderful week of learning, exploring and enjoying our time together in Nursery!



Reception



This week in Reception, we have been exploring our new story My Grandpa. The children have enjoyed getting to know the characters and have worked together to identify and summarise some of the key parts of the story. We have been developing our speaking and listening skills by talking about what happened and sharing our ideas about the characters.

In maths, we have been exploring size, capacity and mass through practical activities, comparing objects that are big and small, heavy and light and containers that are full and empty. The children have enjoyed getting hands-on and using the new mathematical vocabulary when describing what they noticed. In RE, we have been learning about prayer and practised how to make the Sign of the Cross, discussing how this is an important part of our Catholic faith.

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE

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Year 1

Learn ♥ Grow ♥ Belong



We have had another busy and enjoyable week in Year 1. In English, we started our new book, *I Like It When...*, and practised our writing by writing a dictated sentence.

We then used our phonics knowledge to write a dictated sentence, focusing on applying our reading and spelling skills independently. In Phonics, we began Phase 5 learning and were introduced to the new digraphs **ay**, **ou**, **oy** and **ea**, practising reading and spelling words containing these new sounds. In Maths, we have been exploring numbers to 20 by making, representing and ordering them in different ways, helping to deepen our understanding of place value and number patterns. In Science, we continued to nurture and observe our plants, carefully monitoring their progress and discussing the changes we have noticed since planting our seeds. In RE, we learned about *Laudato Si'* and discussed how we can care for God's creation by looking after the world around us. In History, we learned about our current monarch and explored monarchs from throughout history, ordering them on a timeline. We also thoroughly enjoyed the Mad Science assembly this week, where we watched exciting experiments and had the opportunity to see science in action up close.

Question: Who is our current monarch?



Year 2

Be Positive ♥ Be Respectful ♥ Be Your Best



This week in Year 2, we have started an exciting new English unit all about the Great Fire of London, which links beautifully with our History learning. We have been learning about Samuel Pepys and exploring how he recorded what happened during the Great Fire, as well as developing our understanding of main clauses. In Maths, we have been practising addition and subtraction to 100, using our knowledge of tens and ones to help us solve calculations confidently. In RE, we have been thinking about our community and discussing the things we can do to make it a better place. We have also explored some of the things that may be harming our community and thought carefully about how we could help to resolve these problems. It has been a busy week of learning, thinking and sharing ideas, and we are very proud of the enthusiasm Year 2 have shown.

Question: What did Samuel Pepys say about the Great fire of London?

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE

♥
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Year 3



Curious ♥ Confident ♥ Capable



Kind
Brave
Inquisitive
Ready
♥

We have had another busy yet enjoyable week in Year 3. At the start of the week, in English, we started our new unit where the children will be writing non-chronological reports about what life was like in the Stone Age. Over the course of the week, we have looked at using different coordinating conjunctions in compound sentences about Stone Age life. This work also linked nicely with our History topic, where we investigated the impact of farming on the Stone Age way of life. In Maths, we have completed our second unit of work on place value. We used number facts to 20 and partitioning strategies to add and subtract multiples of 10. We also represented 3 digit multiples of 10 in different ways and used Base 10 to support our understanding. In Science, we enjoyed completing two fair tests, exploring the hardness and permeability of different rocks, including slate, marble, granite, sandstone and chalk. We made predictions and recorded our results carefully! Finally, in RE, we continued with our work on Creation by studying St. Francis' Canticle of Creation. We then wrote our own canticles, celebrating all the things in God's Creation we are most grateful for.

Question: Which rock would you use to build a castle and why?



Challenge ♥ Persevere ♥ Achieve

Year 4



Resilient
Thoughtful
Determined
Proud
♥

This week, Year 4 have worked extremely hard and should be very proud of their achievements.

In English, we concluded our learning on 'Pigeon: Impossible' by editing and publishing our independent writing from last week. We have now begun our new unit on Tutankhamun, where the children will be writing non-chronological reports about his life.

On Tuesday, we enjoyed a fantastic History Day, exploring the pyramids and analysing sources to discover why they were built, their significance, and what they can tell us about the lives and beliefs of Ancient Egyptians. We then investigated Tutankhamun, learning about the discovery of his tomb, the treasures found inside and what these artefacts can tell us about the young king.

In Maths, we completed our unit on addition and subtraction with exchanging and have begun exploring place value using practical resources and mathematical games.

In Guided Reading, we have been exploring Canticle of the Sun for St Francis Celebration Week and practising our recitation and intonation. Well done, Year 4!

Question: Can you list 3 items discovered in the tomb of Tutankhamun?

BE READY • BE RESPECTFUL • BE SAFE



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Year 5

Inspire ♥ Challenge ♥ Succeed



Brighter
Bolder
Kinder
Stronger
Together



We have had another busy week in Year 5!

In English, we have been reading Dogman and we have been focusing on direct speech in our writing. The children have been revising how to punctuate direct speech and we have been completing lots of activities to practise this.

In Maths, we have been ordering decimal numbers with hundredths. We have also started to solve problems involving these, while converting between centimetres and metres.

In R.E, we learnt Jesus' summary of God's commandments. The children identified God's Greatest commandments of loving God and loving your neighbour. The children have been looking at examples of these commandments being broken, and they have explained what they could do to show the common good in these situations.

Science has been a highlight of the week; we have been testing the conductivity of materials by using electrical circuits. We built on this at the end of the week by conducting a fair test.

Question: How many centimetres are in 1 metre?



Year 6

Believe ♥ Achieve ♥ Flourish



Ready
Respectful
Responsible
Role Models



What an exciting week it's been for both our classes this week! The highlight for 6DF has been our Bikeability course which we took part in on Wednesday and Thursday. The children have all developed their confidence in riding as well as their awareness and road safety.

6HG put on a fantastic Class Assembly, with all of the children demonstrating what they have learned so far this year. We are very proud of how brave and confident the children were, and it was lovely to see so many of you coming to support them.

In Maths, we have been concentrating on redistribution within additive problems. This then allowed us to calculate unknowns in equations by using these mental strategies.

In English, we have been editing and publishing our final pieces of writing from Lava. The children have demonstrated their critical eye for detail and their presentation skills throughout.

Our R.E. work centred on the consequences coming from The Fall. This involved analysing scripture and then considering how the relationship between God and humans changed from this point.

Question: How could redistribution be used to calculate the unknown in this equation:

$$26 + 39 = 30 + ?$$

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TLC Foundations

★ Small Steps ♥ Bright Futures



Nurture
Support
Develop
Thrive
♥

We have had another busy and fun-filled week in TLC Foundations! The children have enjoyed taking part in a variety of activities, including fine motor challenges, beautiful leaf printing and creating sensory bottles. We have also been developing our early maths skills through colour matching and numicon matching activities. It has been lovely to see the children exploring, learning and building their confidence through play.



TLC Thrive

★ Believe ♥ Progress ♥ Thrive



Inclusive
Confident
Independent
Successful
♥

This week Thrive have been very busy! We are improving our playdough making skills (adults included!) and have been using our Maths, Fine Motor Skills and Communication to build on our shortbread making skills. We are continuing with our recount of Whatever Next and some children even shared their work with Miss Dempsey!

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♥
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