



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter

'Every child, every chance, every day!'

Friday 17th January 2025

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

Happy Friday! I hope this week has been a great one! It's been another busy one here at St Stephen's! This morning in Assembly we talked about the importance of believing in Jesus' messages and how we can use these to help us lead a happier life. We also talked about setting goals for ourselves. We challenged ourselves again to be 1% better!

This week Mr Fitch, our Maths Lead, launched a Key Stage 2 class v class battle on TimesTable Rockstars. Children have been so excited and their competitive sides have really come out over the last few days (including some teachers too!!). The results are:

3HB (292) beat 3LH (271)

4DS (315) beat 4SM (121)

5LW (2,936) beat 5LS (2,826)

6DF (6,026) drew with 6GB (6,026)

Football - Well done to our Boys' Football team who travelled to the former United training ground 'The Cliff' to take part in a football competition. They represented the school so well, and even though they did not win, they did themselves proud and came runners up! Well done boys!

Masses - I have removed the class masses from the calendar over the next two weeks - Father C is currently away. Class Masses will return on Friday 7th February for Year 2 and 3.

A few gentle reminders:

- Please put your child's name in their uniform to avoid lost items
- Hair below shoulder length must be tied back
- School shirts and ties are to be worn for Y1 to 6. School ties are part of the school uniform - these can be purchased on ParentPay and collected at the school office.
- Nail Polish/make up is not permitted.
- Bracelets, rings, hoop earrings should not be worn.
- A watch can be worn but this **should not be a smart watch**.
- Footwear - should be black shoes.
- As the weather is changing, please ensure your child comes into school with a waterproof coat - they can also bring in a pair of spare trainers to change into for lunch and playtimes if they wish.
- PE kits should be royal blue polo shirt, navy pants if you have not purchased the school branded kit.
- We are seeing an increased number of children being dropped off to school late, and being picked up early. Please make every effort to arrange appointments outside of school hours if possible - I know it can be difficult.

Have a fantastic weekend, *Mr Lavin, Headteacher*

Our Values: St Stephen's CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



| Be Ready | Be Respectful | Be Safe |

#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

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Dates for your calendar - Spring 1

Week Beginning 20th January 2025

Date	Event
21/1/25	Y5 Racism Workshops
23/1/25	Year 1 Class Assembly 9:05am School Hall

Week Beginning 27th January 2025

Date	Event
30/1/25	RNE Class Assembly 9:05am School Hall
2/2/25	Y3 Sacramental Mass @ 10:30am

Week Beginning 3rd February 2025

Date	Event
3/2/25	Y2 RE Retreat Day
6/2/25	RLS Class Assembly @ 9:05am School Hall
7/2/25	Numbers Day - Dress up in anything connected to maths
7/2/25	Year 2 and 3 Mass @ 10am

Week Beginning 10th February 2025

Date	Event
10/2/25	Children's Mental Health Week
11/2/25	Safer Internet Day
13/2/25	Nursery Class Assembly @ 9.:05am
14/2/25	Reception/Y6 Mass @10am
14/2/25	Half Term begins 3:15pm

New dates will be added as the term continues, I will highlight these in a different colour.



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	
RLS	Ayrah
RNE	Nehneh
Y1SH	Isabella
Y1LB	Cole
Y2JL	Berrie-Mae
Y2AL	Luke
Y3HB	Deanah
Y3LH	Ava
Y4DS	Luna
Y4SM	Elliott
Y5LW	Harrison
Y5LS	Poppy
Y6GB	Farren
Y6DF	Harrison R

Readers of the Week

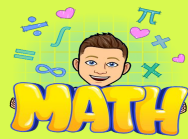


Nursery	
RLS	Eddison
RNE	Wyatt
Y1SH	Victoria
Y1LB	Fabian
Y2JL	Odin
Y2AL	Bobby
Y3HB	Lexie
Y3LH	Emmanuel
Y4DS	Elvis
Y4SM	Adora
Y5LW	Freddie
Y5LS	Joseph
Y6GB	Darcy
Y6DF	Naomi





Maths Star



Nursery	
RLS	Ophelia
RNE	Erin
Y1SH	Nancy
Y1LB	Phoebe
Y2JL	Ylan
Y2AL	Jessica
Y3HB	Lyna
Y3LH	Lyne
Y4DS	Eliza
Y4SM	Rocco
Y5LW	Bobby
Y5LS	Riley-James
Y6GB	Reece
Y6DF	Harrison H

Writing Star



Nursery	
RLS	Harlow
RNE	Afia
Y1SH	Brume
Y1LB	Michael
Y2JL	Poppy
Y2AL	Maisie
Y3HB	Parker
Y3LH	Elijah
Y4DS	Samuel
Y4SM	Klayson
Y5LW	George
Y5LS	Samson
Y6GB	Erin
Y6DF	Rocco

1% BETTER





Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel below, we read from the Gospel of John. John does not record many of Jesus' miracles, so why is this miracle of changing water into wine given so much importance?

It is important for us to know that, although divine, Jesus was also human and enjoyed human happiness. In the Gospel, Jesus helps out the unfortunate bridegroom whose wedding celebrations are on the verge of disaster because they're about to run out of wine. Jesus' miracle brings joy to his own mother and gives a joyful celebration to the whole village.

Wednesday 15th January 2025

This miracle also reminds us about the joy of heaven, which is often described as a wedding-feast to which we are all invited. Jesus came to bring joy to everyone in every age. Happiness comes and goes, but the joy that comes from close friendship with Jesus stays forever.

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

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from
Pope Francis

"If we are close to Jesus, we will have joy in our hearts and a smile on our face."

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 19th January 2025



There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there with Jesus and his disciples. When they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus said, "Woman why turn to me? My hour has not come yet." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." There were six stone water jars standing there; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water," and they filled them to the brim. "Draw some out now," he told them, "and take it to the steward." They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into the best wine. This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

Adapted from John 2:1-11
The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

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

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

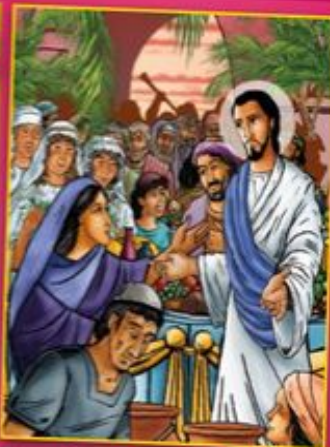
Having Hope
in our Families

God wants us to be filled with joy - Jesus came to make our joy complete. In the first of his many miracles, Jesus changed the water into wine and brought great joy to the wedding celebration. For us too, Jesus changes our lives when he enters into our hearts and homes; he makes the ordinary special and life more joyful.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



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

Jesus was celebrating at a wedding in Cana. Jesus' mother, Mary, noticed that the wine had run out. She told Jesus, knowing that he could help, and said to the servants, "Do whatever Jesus tells you". So Jesus told the servants to fill six stone jars with water. They did that, and when they tasted the water, they found the water had become the best wine.

What did Mary say to the servants?

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...

"Joy is very infectious; therefore, always be full of joy."

St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

JOY



Joy is something we all desire. We don't have to search around for joy; it comes from within. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us of the joy that Jesus brings when we put our faith and trust in him. Ask your child what the word 'joy' means to them. Each of you say who or what makes you feel joyful. When do you feel joyful? When was the last time you brought joy to others and what did you do? Who is the most joyful person that you know?

A joyful heart is a sign of God's Spirit within us. When we follow Jesus by loving God and others, we are filled with joy. What can we do to help bring joy to our home, school or community in this coming week? Perhaps we can: give lots of smiles; give someone a gift or a 'thank-you' card; remind someone that they are loved by God; cheerfully do what our parents or teachers ask us to do; try to be like Jesus by helping someone who may be struggling.

3 Dear Lord Jesus, please help our family to experience the joy that you bring, and to share that joy with all those that we meet. Amen.

FINDING THREE

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

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

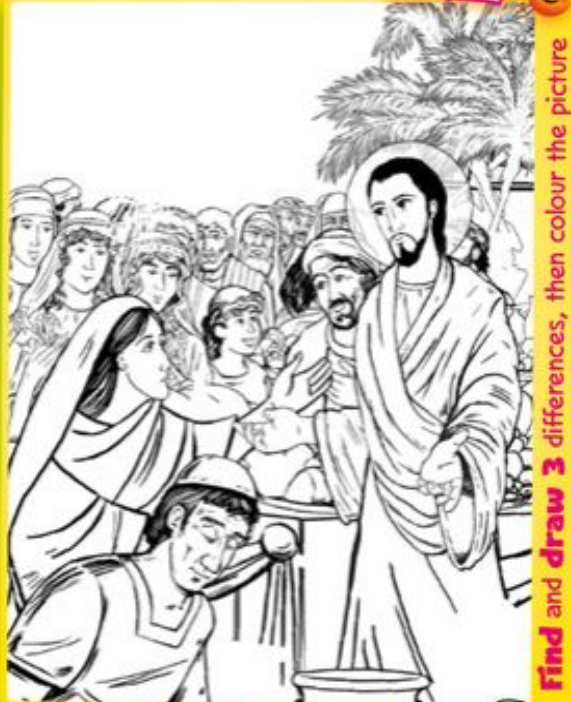
- WEDDING CANA
- JARS WATER
- JESUS MIRACLE
- BEST WINE

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **o c d** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

sedrovancfs tecdolls crudno owdinec

Mary noticed the _____ had _____ out and said to the _____, "Do whatever Jesus _____ you".



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

This week, we have celebrated the Feast of the joyful St Hilary of Poitiers. Even St Hilary's name comes from the Latin word for happy or cheerful.

This week I will try my best to...

Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Attendance

Whole School	93%	3HB	84%
Nursery	89%	3LH	94%
RLS	90%	4DS	94%
RNE	93%	4SM	95%
Y1SH	98%	5LW	98%
Y1LB	90%	5LS	94%
Y2JL	92%	6GB	96%
Y2AL	88%	6DF	95%

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 1SH	18	5th: RLS	4
2nd: RNE	10	6th: 2AL	2
3rd: Nursery	8		
4th: 2JL	8		
5th: 1LB	5		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5LW	18	6th: 5LS	4
2nd: 6DF	16	7th: 3LH	2
3rd: 4SM	7	8th: 3HB	0
4th: 6GB	7		
5th: 4DS	5		



Nursery

In Nursery this week we have been reading the story Naughty Bus. We have been responding to the story through pictures and talking about our favourite part of the journey.

The children have used cereal boxes and lots of red paint to create their own Naughty Bus. The children have also been painting familiar transport as we continue our theme.

In maths we have been learning about numeral 3, composition of 3 and counting. We have been learning the song 3 little kittens.

In phonics we continue to learn lots of initial sounds, our rhyme of the week has been the Grand Old Duke of York.

Outside the children have been having fun with lots of role play using our new traffic signs.

Questions: Can you count three objects at home? Look out for the number 3 when you are out and about this weekend!

Reception

Another great week in Reception, the weeks are flying by. The children are thoroughly enjoying retelling our class text, "The Train Ride" using talk for writing. The children are really getting used to the core actions that are used in most stories as well as coming up with new actions that are special to specific stories. Well done, Reception!

In maths we have been thinking what 2 numbers add up to make 5. In RE, we started our new unit on celebrations in church. We thought about the different events we celebrate and how we prepare for them with our families.

Question: If there are 2 people on the bus and 3 people waiting at the bus stop, how many people are there altogether?



Year 1

This week seems to have whizzed by! We have been very busy and productive in Y1. In English the children have been working hard to write sentences that include words that have suffixes. In handwriting we have been learning to form zig zag and smile family letters. Our place value work in maths means we now understand how many tens and ones make each number from 11 to 19. We have completed our seasonal changes work on Winter with a walk around the grounds and started our new topic of animals, by learning about mammals. In art we have studied the work of Emma Burleigh and Paul Klee to use watercolours to create our own paintings. In RE we continued to think about the presentation at the Temple. We looked at Luke's gospel and reflected on how we can be the light in someone's life.

TASK: Practice counting(forwards and backwards) and writing numbers to 20

Year 2

We have had another great week in Year 2 and the children are settling back into routine after the Christmas break.

In English this week, we have been starting to read our new book 'Lizzie and the birds'. We have been exploring adverbs and using these to write more detailed sentences about the story so far.

In Maths, we have been coming to the end of our shape unit and have been sorting 3D shapes based on their properties.

In RE, we have begun to understand the importance of the Holy Bible, and what the Gospel stories can teach us.

In Science, we have been thinking about what it means to be sustainable, and ways that we can reduce our plastic usage.

We have also started our new History topic all about the suffragettes, which the children are looking forward to learning more about.

Question: Can you name the four Gospel stories?



Year 3

We had a jam packed week in Year 3!

Both classes went on a trip to Droylsden Library and enjoyed a session with one of the librarians who explained how the books are organised and how to find a book on a specific subject. Then the children browsed the books. Many of them now have library cards so they took a book home.

In English we have continued with our book 'The Tin Forest.' We worked on the use of prepositional phrases and each child created their own poem based on the world of the book.

In History we began our work on the Ancient Greeks. The children completed a timeline of important events. We then compared events taking place in Britain at a similar time.

In Religion, we have been looking in more detail at the Liturgical Calendar, identifying which religious celebration and holy days take place at which time of the year.

In Maths we are still working hard on our times tables so the children become as fluent as possible in their recall.

Question: When were the first Olympic Games in Ancient Greece?

Year 4

Year Four have had a busy week!

We have been developing our sewing skills in Design and Technology in order to make a bag. The children have practised running and cross stitch and began to make their final product. We have been so impressed with the level of resilience and talent that we have in Year Four and can't wait to see them all finished.

In English, we started reading our new book, a novel called 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. We have had lots of really interesting discussions about the characters and explored the challenging vocabulary that we have come across so far.

In Science, we have been thinking about evaporation and the children thought of so many examples where evaporation takes place in everyday life without us even realising. We have set up an investigation to explore our theory that temperature speeds up the evaporation process.

In RE, we have been thinking about communities and the many communities that we are a part of. We then read Scripture from Mark's gospel in which Jesus selects His apostles, therefore creating a very special community. The children are working on some beautiful artwork to represent this Scripture.

Question: What impression do you get of Edward Tulane's personality?



Year 5

The children have worked incredibly hard this week in year 5.

Today, we held a Design Technology day in school, where the children sampled a range of vegetarian food, investigated Babette Davis (a vegetarian chef), conducted independent research on food preferences around school and designed a vegetarian eat well plate. Next week, we will be planning and making a vegetarian meal before evaluating our work.

Sentence structure has been a focus in English this week. The children created single-clause sentences before adding coordinating conjunctions to create compound sentences. Following this, the children wrote a setting description based on a documentary about Madagascar, in which they incorporated prepositional phrases.

This week, we have completed our units of work in Science and Geography. The children wrote explanations in Science to describe day and night in relation to the rotation and orbit of the Earth around the Sun. Finally they explored the movement of the Moon in relation to Earth and the different phases of the Moon. In Geography, the children researched Brazilian culture and identified the inequalities faced by those living in the Favelas.

Question: Can you name the seven coordinating conjunctions?

Year 6

Our week has been dominated by TTRS! Both classes worked extremely hard; the competition went all the way to the wire. Fittingly, the result at 08:55 was a draw - almost certainly the first in St. Stephen's history. We want to thank all of the children for their efforts as this was the highest scoring Battle of the Bands we have ever had!

Away from TTRS, we have spent the week looking into Baba Yaga, who is a character from Slavic folklore who features in The House with Chicken Legs. The children have conducted some research of their own, structured their findings and produced some excellent information pages.

In Maths, the children have continued to impress throughout our unit on Ratios. This started with looking at the symbol involved, investigating the relationship between ratios and fractions, and finished by looking at scale drawings and similar shapes.

In Science, we have also started our Electricity unit. Our first task was to identify and use the symbols used to represent elements in a circuit. As we move on with the unit, the children will have the opportunity to make their own circuits and explore the impact changes can make.

Question: Which symbol is used to represent a bulb in a circuit?

14th January - 17 January 2025

6GB

6026

6DF

6026

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe