



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter
'Every child, every chance, every day!'

Friday 7th February 2025

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN...

Happy Friday! I hope the week has been a great one for everyone! I've seen so much wonderful work this week - I am particularly proud of our Year 5 children who have completed some amazing Art work this week! I've also seen how hard our younger children have been working on their letter formation and sentence writing! A huge well done to everyone!

Sacramental Programme - Congratulations to our children who are taking part in the Sacramental Programme this year. On Sunday they were presented to the parish community; it was a wonderful celebration. The children read and sang wonderfully. Thank you to our families and parish for their prayers and support as our children move forward on their spiritual journey.

Class Assembly - Thank you to Miss Smith's Reception class for leading us in a great class assembly! We are very proud of you all. Next up is our youngest children - our Nursery class - Thursday 13th February at 9:05am in the school hall.

Number's Day - Today we celebrated 'Number's Day' and joined schools across the country in marking the day by wearing number themed clothes. It was a great day and children enjoyed taking part in many different themed activities. Mr Fitch (our Maths Lead) continues to challenge children to spend time on TimesTable Rockstars, or Numbots for our younger children. These basics will really help children in their Mathematics lessons!

Children's Mental Health Week - Although nationally it was Children's Mental Health week this week, St Stephen's will celebrate this next week. Children will take part in a variety of activities to support their mental health and well-being. We will also mark 'Safer Internet Day' on Tuesday.

On Thursday 13th February we will have our 'Dress to Express Day' where children are invited to wear their own clothes for a £1.00 donation for Children's Mental Health charity.

This Sunday's Gospel

This coming Sunday, we hear the Gospel account of Jesus calling his first followers, the fishermen of Galilee. Luke's version includes the miraculous moment when the fishermen catch so many fish that their nets are breaking. In assembly this morning we talked about the awe and wonder of this moment. We also prayed together so that we can hear Jesus calling us personally to follow him too. Consider how you will spread Jesus' messages this weekend.

A reminder that we break up for our mid-term break on Friday 14th February, 3:15pm and return to school on Monday 24th February 2025.

Have a great 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 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
13/2/25	Dress to express day
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	Ella and Lennie
RLS	Nova
RNE	Axel-James
Y1SH	Darcie
Y1LB	Peyton
Y2JL	Harry
Y2AL	Huckleberry
Y4DS	Samuel
Y4SM	Jacob
Y5LW	Harrison
Y5LS	Lola
Y6GB	Freddie
Y6DF	Rosie

Readers of the Week

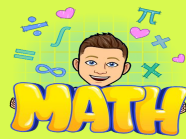


Nursery	Holly
RLS	Julianna
RNE	Romie
Y1SH	Victoria
Y1LB	Evie
Y2JL	Harper
Y2AL	Freddie
Y4DS	Hudson
Y4SM	Emmanuella
Y5LW	Noah V
Y5LS	Isla
Y6GB	Lacey
Y6DF	Lottie





Maths Star



Nursery	Betsy
RLS	Ayrah
RNE	Pippa
Y1SH	Oreofeoluwa
Y1LB	Bella
Y2JL	Louie
Y2AL	Keoni
Y4DS	Ebony
Y4SM	Charlie
Y5LW	Leraya
Y5LS	Fiyinfo luwa
Y6GB	Lucie
Y6DF	Lyla

Writing Star



Nursery	Ruben
RLS	Nellie
RNE	Alfie
Y1SH	Tommy
Y1LB	Iremide
Y2JL	Abigail
Y2AL	Ivy
Y4DS	Kiana
Y4SM	Hollie
Y5LW	Leah
Y5LS	Frances
Y6GB	Phoebe
Y6DF	Chen

1% BETTER





Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Peter (after a night of failed fishing) is finally successful and realises his true calling because he listens to and follows Jesus' instructions.

It's important to make the right choice about who or what we follow in life. Simply following our desires and feelings, which often change, can leave us feeling unsatisfied. Jesus invites each and every one of us to make following him our most important priority.

Wednesday 5th February 2025

We follow Jesus whenever we are kind, try to make peace, and make others feel welcome. Choosing to follow him is not always easy but it really does guide and help our families to keep growing in wisdom and love.

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 **FOLLOW**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



A Word from Pope Francis

"To follow Jesus means to share his love for every human being."

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 9th February 2025



When Jesus had finished teaching by the lakeside he said to Simon Peter, "Sail out into deep water and let down your nets." "Master," Simon Peter replied, "we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will let down the nets." And when he and his companions had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear and they filled their two boats to sinking point. When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, "Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man." For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made. But Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Do not be afraid; from now on it is people you will catch." Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

Adapted from Luke 5:1-11
The 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

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

2025: The Jubilee Year of Hope!

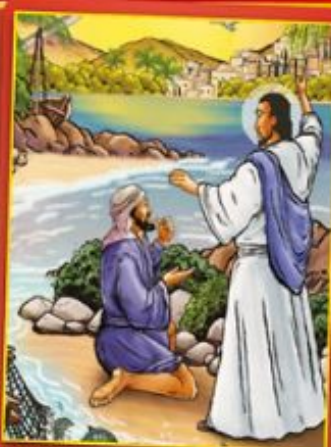
Having Hope
in our Families

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus promised the fishermen that, if they followed him, they would bring home more than fish: they would bring people back to God. By following Jesus, we too can help others to know and love God - to find the happiness which comes from knowing and following Jesus.



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!

After working all night the fishermen had caught nothing. So Jesus said to Peter and his friends, "Sail out into deep water and let down your nets." They did as Jesus said and caught so many fish that their nets began to burst. Peter and his friends were amazed by the catch. Then Jesus said, "From now on you will be fishers of people." So Peter and the fishermen left everything and followed him.

What did Peter and the fishermen leave everything to do?

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...

Through the miraculous catch, Peter saw Jesus in a new light. Peter's humility made him fit to be a follower of Jesus and he went on to discover his true purpose in life.

FOLLOW



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

The Church has always understood this Sunday's Gospel to be a sign of our own need to follow Jesus. We can follow Jesus even in the simple things we do in our lives every day, and make life better for everyone around us. In this coming week, how can we follow Jesus, even in little ways? Perhaps we can: be a good listener if someone is sad and wants to share their problems with you; find regular time to pray for others; be kind and include others in our games.

3 Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for calling us to follow you. Please help us to be your faithful followers - helping our world to become a better place. Amen.

FINDING THREE!

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

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

- CAUGHT NOTHING
- AMAZING CATCH
- LEFT EVERYTHING
- FOLLOWED JESUS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **u k m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

maufrakid knomuw fiksherusm samkidu

Jesus _____, "Do not be _____; from _____ on you will be _____ of people."

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



This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Attendance

Whole School	94%	3HB	97%
Nursery	91%	3LH	96%
RLS	97%	4DS	94%
RNE	97%	4SM	90%
Y1SH	95%	5LW	98%
Y1LB	90%	5LS	95%
Y2JL	93%	6GB	96%
Y2AL	97%	6DF	91%

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 1SH	21	5th: 1LB	5
2nd: RNE	16	6th: 2AL	5
3rd: Nursery	8		
4th: 2JL	8		
5th: RLS	7		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5LW	21	6th: 5LS	5
2nd: 6DF	16	7th: 3HB	5
3rd: 6GB	10	8th: 3LH	3
4th: 4SM	7		
5th: 4DS	5		



Nursery

This week in Nursery we have been busy preparing for our Class Assembly which will take place on Thursday 13th February in the School Hall at 9.05am- you are all very Welcome to attend.

In Phonics this week, we have been recognising pictures which have the 'c' sound, we have enjoyed our rhyme of the week 'Ring a Ring a roses'.

In Maths we have been learning about the Number 5, we have enjoyed lots of work on subitising, especially learning some great Subitising songs by Jack Hartman.

On Tuesday we enjoyed a lovely walk to our school allotment and forest with Mrs Artingstall.

We planted some beans in the allotment and we are excited to see them grow over the next few weeks. We also got to say Hello to the school chickens.

We have enjoyed lots of mark making this week, talking about different modes of transport and drawing some fantastic aeroplanes.

Question- Where can you board an aeroplane from?

Reception

We started our week by starting our new class book called "Handa's Surprise." The story is about a girl called Handa who takes a journey from her village to her friends village with a surprise basket of fruit. We have thought about how the different characters felt throughout the story and used our emojis to help.

In maths we have been thinking about the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We can now find them and know different ways to represent them.

In RE we are learning about friendships and what it means to be a good friend. We played some friendship games and read the story 'The Selfish Crocodile'.

A huge well done to Miss Smith's class for their class assembly!

Question: How was the goat feeling in our class story? Why do you think he was feeling like this?



Year 1

In English this week, our focus was on using adjectives to make writing more exciting. Children identified adjectives in sentences before writing their own sentences. Children then created their own alien to write a description of. In maths, we are working on addition and subtraction to 20. We looked at how knowledge of number bonds within 10 can help solve addition of teen numbers and started doubling numbers. In Science, we grouped animals into reptiles, fish, mammals, birds and amphibians. We then learnt about what a carnivore is. In R.E, we read two stories from Luke's Gospel; 'Jesus calls the fishermen' and 'Jesus meets the children'. We thought about what these stories teach us about what Jesus was like. We finished the week with an exciting number day and a trip to the library.

Question: What is a carnivore?

Year 2

This week, we have continued to read Lizzie and the Birds in English and the children wrote some fantastic apology letters from the perspective of Buster for trying to eat the birds!

We loved playing some Maths games and completing some exciting activities for Number Day! As well as this in Maths, we have completed our Money topic and we have been solving some worded problems including finding change and 2 step problems.

In R.E, we have started our 'Thanksgiving' unit and we read Luke's Gospel of The Last Supper and thought about its meaning in depth.

We have started a Science investigation where we will be finding out whether plants grow healthier in the light or dark. We planted our seeds and put one on the windowsill and one in a cupboard; we will continue to observe their growth each week.

In History, we used a timeline to order the key events of the Suffragettes.

We ended the week with a beautiful Mass and the children were very well behaved.

Question: What does The Last Supper teach us?



Year 4

The children have worked very hard this week - only one more to go until the half-term break!

We are continuing with our story of Edward Tulane in English, and the children have been researching and discovering information around the ship, the RMS Queen Mary and using their research to then begin putting together their own non-chronological report. The children have really enjoyed learning about the context of our story and how it ties into the plot alongside the characters.

In Maths, we are heading towards the end of our unit on multiplication and division and the children have been using the column method to multiply and the bus stop method to divide numbers carefully. We also celebrated Number Day today in school and learnt about the Fibonacci and his number sequence!

In science and humanities, we are still learning about sound and The Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, and the children are really engaged with this and have created some great work so far!

In RE, we have been discussing the different roles within the Catholic Church and the difference between the Pope, a priest, a deacon and a bishop and the children have been able to order the roles correctly into a hierarchy.

In art, we have been sketching different objects as part of our still life unit and have been using gestural drawing to create interesting shapes using felt tip pens.

[Question: What does hierarchy mean?](#)



Year 5

We have had a fantastic week in Year 5.

In English, we continued to develop our skills using colourful semantic sentence structures. The children have been creatively writing the opening of 'Monkey Symphony' from the perspective of the monkey.

During our Religion lessons, we delved into the concept of a diocese and took a closer look at the Salford Diocese. Following our discussions, the children designed their own unique coat of arms for our diocese, combining their creativity with their understanding of symbolic representation.

In Art, the pupils found inspiration in the work of Kittie Jones. We ventured into the forest to complete plein air sketches, followed by using charcoal, water, ink, and watercolours in the classroom to replicate their observations. They then created collages as new bases for their final artworks, incorporating digital photography and thoughtful composition into their creative processes.

In Science we have been investigating the properties of materials. The children have explored aspects such as hardness, transparency, and magnetism, allowing them to develop their observational skills and scientific reasoning.

Additionally, we were fortunate to have a guest teacher from Laurus Ryecroft, who introduced some intriguing, yet challenging, maths problems. The students rose to the occasion and tackled these problems with great enthusiasm.

Lastly, on Friday, the 5LS class visited Droylsden library and were brilliant representatives for the school.

Question: What is an abundant number?

Year 6

Another busy week here in Year 6! In Maths, the children have been working hard to utilise their understanding of multiplication and division and applying this to decimal numbers. We have used the short division method and formal written methods for multiplication to multiply decimals by integers. This week, we have also celebrated 'Number Day' whereby the children looked at cardioids and created some of their own using their knowledge and understanding of multiples. Well done Year 6!

In English, we have focused our learning this week on the application of dashes to separate two independent clauses. Following the death of Baba, the children imagined themselves in the role of Marinka and have planned, written and edited a Eulogy. Within this, we focused on applying our ideas in a respectful way, using fronted adverbials, parentheses and ambitious vocabulary.

In RE, we have continued our learning on our 'Sources' unit and the children have created some fantastic double page spreads which highlight their learning on The Old Testament. A fantastic effort Year 6, well done!

Question: What is the Torah?