



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter
'A world class school for children that want to make the world a better place as God intended.'

Friday 2nd December 2022

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... I hope you have had a great week and are looking forward to a well deserved weekend.

Advent - This week started by our Chaplains leading a whole school assembly. They shared with us the meaning of Advent and launched a 'Bee There' campaign which supports CARITAS. We discussed how we can 'Bee There' for others this Advent. Children have spent time in class talking about what they hope to achieve this Advent. We discussed in assembly how Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ. I asked children to think of it like preparing for a visitor at home. We have to clean up, tidy and get ready. Advent is just like that too - a time to reflect, think of others, and prepare for the wonderful celebration of Christmas. Our Year 4 children have also taken part in a beautiful Advent Treat. Our preparations for Christmas are well and truly underway!

Assessment Week - This week has also been Assessment Week at school. Children have had the opportunity to demonstrate all of their amazing progress this term in their Reading, Writing and Mathematics.. A big well done to all children.

Year 2 Class Assembly - A big well done to Year 2LS for their wonderful class assembly this week. Their singing was fantastic! Thank you for coming along and supporting.

Performances EYFS/ KSI - Children have been practising hard for their Christmas plays next week - we are all very excited to watch them! Keep up the hard work children! Dates are on the calendar and class teachers will be issuing tickets for their classes performance directly to you. All performances will be in the school hall - please enter via the hall door. As usual, the Nursery, Reception and Y2 productions will be filmed and you will have the opportunity to purchase a copy - the perfect Christmas present!

Prime - Please do not send bottles of Prime into school with children to drink. Children will not be allowed to drink them and will be provided with water instead. Thank you for your support with this.

Y4 Mrs Bilic - You will have received an email from Mrs Bilic to book in a time slot for her rearranged Parent's Evening. This will be on 8th December.
Enjoy your weekend, Mr Lavin, Headteacher

Our Values:
St Stephen's
CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

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****Reception Places 2023/24****

Come and join #teamststephens in September 2023. Applications for Reception places can be made through the Local Authority via:
https://admission.tameside.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

You have until 15th January 2023 to apply! Don't miss out on joining our fantastic school!

If you'd like to find out more about our school, please contact the school office to book in a tour with one of our Senior Leadership Team.

We will be holding an open evening on Monday 12th December 4pm till 5:30pm.

If you would like to attend, please enter the school via the school office and you will be directed to the EYFS Unit. Come and meet the staff and have a look at the amazing things on offer here at St Stephen's.



We also have places in our current Reception and Year 1 classes!

Share far and wide - St Stephen's is the place to be!

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Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
06/12/22	Nursery Play at 10AM
07/12/22	Reception Nativity at 9:30AM - Rec Mrs Finn's Parents
08/12/22	Christmas Jumper Day
08/12/22	Year 3/5 Mass
08/12/22	Reception Nativity at 9:30AM - Rec Mrs Ellison's Parents
08/12/22	Year 1 Carol Concert at 2:30PM
09/12/22	Year 2 Play at 9:30AM for Y2LS parents
09/12/22	Year 2 Play at 2:00PM for Y2AL parents
12/12/22	EYFS Open Evening 4-5:30pm

Dates for YOUR calendar

Date	Event
13/12/22	KS2 Carol Service at 2PM in Church
14/12/22	Party Day & Christmas Dinner
15/12/22	Year 1/2 Mass
20/12/22	Whole School Christmas Mass at 10AM
20/12/22	Finish for Christmas at 1:30PM
04/01/23	School Reopens

Assemblies will take place in the school hall at 9:05am. Please note masses take place in Church at 10am and parents/carers/families are most welcome to join us.

Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas events will take place in the school hall

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Hot Chocolate Friday Winners



Nursery	Lilly Tommy
RKF	Berrie-Mae
RNE	Luke
Y1SH	Elijah
Y1LB	Linen
Y2LS	Eliza
Y2AL	Tegan
Y3DM	Serenity
Y3CSLH	Joe
Y4DS	Hannah F
Y4HB	Corey
Y5LW	Reggie
Y5DW	Brock
Y6HG	Alfie
Y6DF	Louis

Readers of the Week



Nursery	Nick
RKF	Scarlett
RNE	Kendrick
Y1SH	Thomas
Y1LB	Deanah
Y2LS	Hudson
Y2AL	Kingston
Y3DM	Great
Y3CSLH	Poppy
Y4DS	Lexi J
Y4HB	Bobby
Y5LW	Eddie T
Y5DW	Hollie
Y6HG	Ivan
Y6DF	Eve

Handwriters of the week



Nursery	Nancy
RKF	Cornelia
RNE	Deedee
Y1SH	Esme
Y1LB	Lexie
Y2LS	Olivia
Y2AL	Emily
Y3DM	Tarandeep
Y3CSLH	Tallulah
Y4DS	Sara W
Y4HB	Darcy
Y5LW	Louie
Y5DW	Mason
Y6HG	Leni-Rey
Y6DF	Racheal

Hot Chocolate Friday will take place on Monday, 5th December (the shops had no cream or marshmallows!!).





Mathematicians of the Week

Nursery	Michael S
RKF	Octavia
RNE	Jessica E
Y1SH	Sophie
Y1LB	Kalani
Y2LS	Grace
Y2AL	Harrison
Y3DM	Joshua S
Y3CS/LH	Yanis
Y4DS	Evelyn L
Y4HB	Lucie
Y5LW	India
Y5DW	Xhaceriah
Y6HG	Fletcher
Y6DF	Jude

Sports Superstars

Nursery	Chester
RKF	Louie
RNE	Ivy
Y1SH	Niall
Y1LB	Linen
Y2LS	Grace
Y2AL	Adora
Y3DM	George
Y3CS/LH	Elise
Y4DS	Rosie
Y4HB	Darcie
Y5LW	Ethan
Y5DW	Amelia
Y6HG	Noah
Y6DF	Ashley

House Points

Blue
11, 020 

 Red
10, 957

Yellow
15, 764 

 Green
9600

Totals So Far!

Blue 81, 387
Green 75, 050
Red 69, 546
Yellow 79, 862



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Attendance

Whole School	92.1%
Nursery AM	86.1%
Nursery Full Day	100%
RKF	82.5%
RNE	85.6%
Y1SH	95.8%
Y1LB	100%
Y2LS	98.3%
Y2AL	87.5%
Y3DM	95.4%
Y3CS/LH	94.6%
Y4DS	97.5%
Y4HB	96.1%
Y5LW	86.7%
Y5DW	90%
Y6HG	94.2%
Y6DF	83.8%



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Attendance Challenge!

If you are in school everyday this Half term then your name will be entered into a draw for a **100%** very special prize!

100%

Good Luck!



St Stephen's Attendance League

St Stephen's Attendance League EYFS & KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: ILB	22	5th: RKF	4
2nd: NurFD	19	6th: RNE	4
3rd: 1SH	15	7th: 2AL	3
3rd: 2LS	15		
4th: NurAM	8		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: Y4DS	20	6th: Y3DM	6
2nd: Y4HB	18	7th: Y5DW	4
3rd: 5LW	15	8th: Y3LH/CS	3
4th: Y6DF	10		
5th: Y6HG	9		

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Religious Education

Hope

"To all young people, I repeat: Do not let yourselves be robbed of hope! Let us become bearers of hope!" Pope Francis

During the first week of Advent we reflect upon the prophecies of the coming of Jesus. Our faith teaches us that having hope in God does not mean sitting back and doing nothing, This week, be thought about how we could #beethere for others during this Advent time.

Travelling Nativity

Our travelling nativities are well on their way through our school community.

Thank you to those families who have shared pictures and reflections.

If you have a picture of the travelling nativity you would like to share, please send these to:

hannah.gibson@stsrcp.co.uk



Mass Times

Our Parish Priest is Father B. Wilson.

For information regarding Baptism, please contact Father Wilson directly.

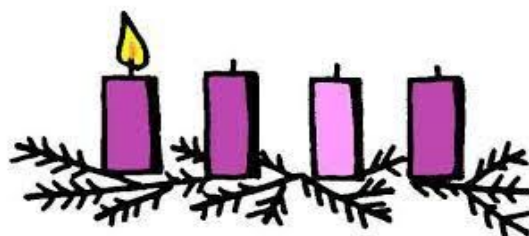
For information regarding Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, please contact Mrs Gibson:

hannah.gibson@stsrcp.co.uk

Mass Times:
Saturday Vigil : 5.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am

Prayer of the Week

Lord Jesus,
we wait in joyful hope for you.
Come into our hearts so that when
the time comes we will be prepared
to join you in everlasting joy.
Amen



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Nursery

It has been a busy and extra exciting week this week as we have been preparing for Nursery's big performance. The children have been putting in a lot of effort and have really had their listening skills tested as we have been up on the stage, singing and telling the Christmas story. We have also had the pleasure of putting our class Christmas tree up. It was a class effort to decorate the tree and generates many conversations about traditions at home.

In Mathematics this week, we have been looking at matching numicon, which represent numbers. The children have been printing and using it in dough to count the number of holes in each number shape. We have also been matching shapes and drawing around them.

Reception

Another very busy week in Reception. We have been working super duper hard preparing for our class nativity. We really hope you enjoy it!

In Literacy, and to link with the special time of advent and RE, we have been thinking about the nativity story. We have drawn and labelled the significant people, we have created nativity scenes and we have also used our phonic knowledge to write a Christmas list to Father Christmas - Mrs Finn and Mrs Ellison were very impressed!

In Maths we have been thinking about 1 more and 1 less/fewer. We use the word less when we are thinking about numbers and we use the word fewer when thinking about quantities.

We are really looking forward to seeing you all in school next week. Just a gentle reminder that if you have not yet done so, nativity costumes need to be in school ASAP. Please ask if you are unsure what your child needs to bring. Thank you.

Question - Is 1 more than 3 the same as 1 less than 5?

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Year 1

Our Year One children continue to work hard and stay focussed on their learning as we enter the festive season. This week, the children have completed maths assessments to show their understanding of what they have learnt so far this academic year. They have shown great confidence and resilience- well done! We have now completed the addition and subtraction unit of our maths scheme. We have covered many different concepts including missing number equations and word problems. Please continue to support your child by practising the weekly mental maths tests and using games such as 'Hit the Button' to increase fluency. In English this week, children wrote sentences dictated by the teacher, which included the common exception words we have been learning to read and spell. Children worked hard to include finger spaces, capital letters, and full stops in their writing. In R.E this week, we completed our topic on 'belonging' and began to think about Advent and how we prepare for Christmas. The children attended a special assembly led by our school chaplains and described how they could 'Bee There' for someone this Advent. Everyday during Advent, we are using a Jesse Tree to listen to a daily Bible story about someone in Jesus' family tree to help us prepare spiritually as we move towards Christmas.

Question: What is Advent?

Year 2

Year 2 have had yet another busy week this.

We have been working hard in Maths to improve our arithmetic skills and have been finding more efficient ways to add 3 single digit numbers.

In Religion, we have been considering the signs and symbols of Baptism and considered their significance.

On Wednesday, 2LS performed their class assembly. We are extremely proud of what they achieved. The reading, acting, singing and signing were fantastic! Well done children.

As we have now entered the time of Advent, the children have been completing their bees and thought carefully about how they can '#BeeThere' for someone during this time of waiting.

Amongst all of this, the children have been working hard on their Nativity play. They are becoming much more confident with the script, singing and dancing. We can't wait to share it with you all.

Question: Who are you going to be there for this Advent?

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Year 3

This week in year 3 we have moved on to start our new English book called 'The Truth Pixie'. We have spent this week reading the text and creating character descriptions of the main character. In Math we have been working on multiplying and dividing by 3. We have looked at inverse and used this skill to check our answers for accuracy.

In RE we have looked at the role that godparents play in our lives. The children have created newspaper adverts for what they would require for a godparent for themselves.

In Science we have looked at balanced diets and the importance of the different food groups. The children have created daily meal plans that cater for all of the food groups and analysed diet plans to see which ones are more fitting to a complete 'balanced diet'.

In Art we have begun our new unit of work called 'Waves' which focus on the famous art work by Hokusai. The children have learnt to sketch waves in different styles this week.

In Geography we have researched and learnt about earthquakes. The children have looked at different scales and how they measure the damage of an earthquake.

Question- what food groups should our diet consist mostly of?

Year 4

Since this week marks the beginning of Advent, we have enjoyed opening the doors of a very special advent calendar. Every day, we have listened to a bible story including the stories of The Creation, Adam and Eve and Noah's Ark. These stories were accompanied by a set of questions which led to some rich classroom discussions, making the children think about their own lives.

On Thursday and Friday, both classes enjoyed a full day's retreat with Mrs Farmer. It was a wonderful day based on the theme of Advent. The children painted, prayed, sang and listened to stories which got them to think about the true meaning of preparing for Christmas.

This week was assessment week in school and saw the children working very hard to complete maths and reading tests.

In Maths we began our unit on Multiplication and Division, working with a range of questions involving arithmetic and reasoning. In English we are still reading 'A Christmas Carol' as Scrooge meets the three ghosts and begins to have a change of heart.

Question: What do the five candles on the Advent Wreath represent?

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Year 5

In year 5 this week we began our Advent journey. Using the Jesse Tree, we listened to daily bible stories from the Old Testament, explored the meaning of the scripture and read special prayers. We also analysed the Marriage vows in RE and discussed how the promises can be lived out in everyday life.

In English, we planned and started to write the missing chapter from Room 13. We are using a range of suspenseful techniques to engage the reader, including short sentences for effect, similes, metaphors and personification. We will continue this work next week.

We have been finding and recognising equivalent fractions in Maths this week, both unit and non-unit fractions. Using bar models, number lines and fraction walls, we identified equivalent fractions, progressing to using multiplication and division to find further fractions.

As part of our Changing Materials unit of work in Science, we investigated soluble and insoluble materials. We conducted a fair investigation to test a range of materials, recording whether it was soluble or insoluble, the time it took to dissolve and our observations of the solutions. We will now use the results of this investigation to observe whether the changes are reversible or irreversible.

Finally, the children completed assessments this week in Maths and Reading. The children all tried their best and we are very proud of the progress they have made so far this year.

Question: What scientific word do we use for two materials which are mixed together?

Year 6

We have been enjoying celebrating the season of Advent in Year 6 this week. We began the week by think about how we could #beethere for others during Advent. Some of our ideas were: smiling at people; praying more; supporting food banks and ensuring no one is ever left out. Each day, we have been participating in a short Jesse Tree reflection. We have spent time after discussing the reflection and deepening our understanding of the Old Testament.

In Maths this week we have completed our Autumn term assessments and began our new unit of work on fractions. The children have been very keen to develop their understanding of fractions and have been enjoying the topic!

We have continued with our text, 'Letters from the Lighthouse', in English. This week our focus has been on sentence structure, particularly using semi-colons to join clauses.

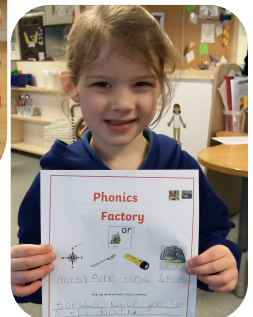
Question: What are the main jobs of a lighthouse keeper?

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THIS WEEK IN PICTURES

It's been another remarkable week!
Here are some photographs to show some wonderful learning experiences...



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