



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter

'Every child, every chance, every day!'

Friday 19th September 2025

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... I hope you've had a great week despite this terrible weather!!

Meet the Teacher - Thank you to everyone who attended our 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Wednesday. If you were unable to join us, you should by now have received a copy of the presentation slides along with this term's Curriculum Newsletter. We encourage you to take a moment to read through these, as they outline key information about both the term ahead and the year as a whole.

Stay and Pray Sessions - You may have noticed the dates for our 'Stay and Pray' sessions on the school calendar. These are special opportunities to join your child in their classroom for a short, reflective prayer session of around 15 minutes. It's a calm and meaningful way to worship alongside your child. Year 6 will begin in a few weeks time, and parents are warmly invited (please check the calendar for exact dates). Simply wait outside your child's classroom door at drop-off, and you will be welcomed in once the register has been completed.

European Languages Day - On Friday 26th September, we will be celebrating European Languages Day. Children are invited to dress in the colours of the Spanish flag, and all classes will spend time exploring Spanish culture. We're looking forward to what promises to be a vibrant and enjoyable day.

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Also on Friday 26th September, we will be supporting Macmillan by hosting our annual Coffee Morning. Your generosity in previous years has been outstanding, and we would be very grateful for donations of cakes to be brought into school on Thursday 25th September. On the Friday, children will have the chance to purchase a cake for a £1.00 donation, with all proceeds going directly to the charity. Parents are warmly invited to join us in the school hall between 9:00 and 9:45am for coffee and cake — always a highlight of the year. Children will then have a chance to enjoy a cake after families have left the hall.

A few reminders:

- Earrings should be studs only, not hoops — children wearing hoops will be asked to remove them. This is for health and safety reasons.
- Playtime snacks - these should only be a healthy snack, e.g. fruit - bags of crisps, chocolate bars and sweets are not permitted.
- School ties are part of the uniform for Years 1–6 and can be purchased from the school office.

Wishing you all a fantastic weekend.

Mr Lavin, Headteacher

Our Values:
St Stephen's
CARES

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service



#TEAMSTSTEPHENS

Mission Statement

'Love one another, as I have loved you.' John 13:34

WEBSITE: www.stsrcp.school TEL: 0161 370 2071

St Stephen's RC Primary School Calendar 2025-2026

Autumn 1 Term (38 days)		
Staff INSET (1)	Monday 1st September 2025	School Closed
Staff INSET (2)	Tuesday 2nd September 2025	School Closed
School reopens	Wednesday 3rd September 2025	School Opens
School closes for mid-term break	Friday 24th October 2025	Half term begins at 3:15pm

Autumn 2 Term (35 days)		
School reopens	Monday 3rd November 2025	School Opens
School closes for Christmas	Friday 19th December 2025	School closes at 1:30pm

Spring 1 Term (28 days)		
Staff INSET (3)	Monday 5th January 2026	School Closed
School reopens	Tuesday 6th January 2026	School Opens
Emmaus CAT Wide INSET (4)	Friday 6th February 2026	School Closed
School closes for mid-term break	Friday 13th February 2026	Half term begins at 3:15pm

Spring 2 Term (29 days)		
School reopens	Monday 23rd February 2026	
School closes for Easter	Thursday 2nd April 2026	School closes at 1:30pm

Summer 1 Term (29 days)		
School reopens	Monday 13th April 2026	School Opens
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026	School Closed
School closes for mid-term break	Friday 22nd May 2026	Half term begins at 3:15pm

Summer 2 Term (30 days)		
School reopens	Monday 8th June 2026	School Opens
School closes for Summer	Friday 17th July 2026	School closes at 1:30pm
Staff INSET (5)	Monday 20th July 2026	School Closed
Staff INSET (6)	Tuesday 21st July 2026	School Closed

189 School days + 6 INSET = 195 days

Staff INSET - School closed for pupils

Monday 1st September 2025	School Closed for INSET
Tuesday 2nd September 2025	School Closed for INSET
Monday 5th January 2026	School Closed for INSET
Friday 6th February 2026	School Closed for INSET
Monday 20th July 2026	School Closed for INSET
Tuesday 21st July 2026	School Closed for INSET

Bank Holidays

Thursday 25th December 2025	Bank Holiday for Christmas Day
Friday 26th December 2025	Bank Holiday for Boxing Day
Thursday 1st January 2026	Bank Holiday for New Year's Day
Friday 3rd April 2026	Good Friday
Monday 6th April 2026	Easter Monday
Monday 4th May 2026	Early May Bank Holiday
Monday 25th May 2026	Spring Bank Holiday
Monday 31st August 2026	Summer Bank Holiday

The table above shows 190 pupil school days and 5 INSET days. Any application for leave of absence during term time will only be considered by the headteacher if there are exceptional circumstances that warrant granting leave. Please note: Family holidays should not be taken during term time.



There is no PTA without **PARENTS/CARERS**

St Stephen's Parent Teacher Association works to support staff in providing the best school experience for our children. By hosting events from tuck shops to fairs, raising funds which are used to provide additional resources to enhance school life, the PTA plays a vital role.

The more parents we have onboard the more events we can look to do, and the bigger the scale. We really need more parents and carers to join us in order to continue this vital service

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

The opportunity to influence decisions regarding fundraising and allocation of funds.

Meet others keen to create the best environment for our children and make new friends along the way.

2024/2025 PTA ACHIEVEMENTS



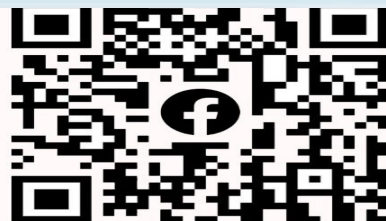
HOW TO SIGN UP

Contact Vikki 07864 645808 or Gill 07768 720505

If you can spare ANY time to support the PTA in any capacity it would be greatly appreciated



Scan the QR code and join St Stephen's PTA on Facebook! Keep up to date with events, meetings, raffles, and more!





Dates for your calendar - Autumn 1

Week Beginning 22nd September 2025

Date	Event
22.09.25	Year 2 - Great Fire of London Workshop
25.09.25	6GB Class Assembly 9:05am
26.09.25	Macmillan Coffee Morning 9am School Hall Reception and Year 6 Mass European Languages Day - Spanish Theme Dress Up

Week Beginning 13th October 2025

Date	Event
13.10.25	6GB Stay and Pray
14.10.25	6DF Stay and Pray
16.10.25	5CP Class Assembly 9:05am
17.10.25	Reception and Year 6 Mass

Week Beginning 29th September 2025

Date	Event
30.09.25	Y5LS Retreat in school
01.10.25	Y5CP Retreat in school
02.10.25	Y6DF Class Assembly 9:05am
03.10.25	Year 4 and 5 Mass at 10am

Week Beginning 20th October 2025

Date	Event
20.10.25	Y4HG Stay and Pray
22.10.25	Y4HB Stay and Pray
23.10.25	Parents Evening
24.10.25	Whole School Mass 10am Fire Safety Day/Afternoon Half Term Begins

Week Beginning 6th October 2025

Date	Event
09.10.25	5LS Class Assembly 9:05am
10.10.25	Year 1, 2 and 3 Mass 10am



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Faheemah & Aryan
RNE	Jayden
RAB	Imoleoluwa
Y1AL	Coby-Ray
Y1LB	Elliott
Y2JL	William
Y2LW	Evie
Y3MD	Zainab
Y3LH	Jessica
Y4HG	Runo
Y4HB	Elijah
Y5CP	Anaya
Y5LS	Muwaffaq
Y6GB	Charlie
Y6DF	Daisy

Readers of the Week



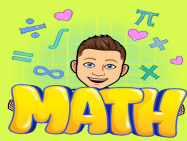
Nursery	Ella
RNE	Caleb
RAB	Maddox
Y1AL	Eddison
Y1LB	Mila
Y2JL	Darcie
Y2LW	Betti-Rae
Y3MD	Louie
Y3LH	Freddie
Y4HG	Michelle
Y4HB	Coby
Y5CP	Jensen
Y5LS	Jacob
Y6GB	Layla W
Y6DF	Leraya

1% BETTER





Maths Star



Nursery	Tobenna
RNE	Inaaya
RAB	Matilda
Y1AL	Ayrah
Y1LB	Lincoln
Y2JL	Harmony
Y2LW	Leo
Y3MD	Amelia
Y3LH	Luke
Y4HG	Bella
Y4HB	Hudson
Y5CP	Elvis
Y5LS	Bella
Y6GB	Joe
Y6DF	Donaao

Writing Star



Nursery	Ohemaa
RNE	Ella
RAB	Eleanor
Y1AL	Buddy
Y1LB	Alani
Y2JL	Tommy
Y2LW	Leighlah
Y3MD	Finley
Y3LH	Seon
Y4HG	Jacob
Y4HB	Aurora
Y5CP	Evelyn
Y5LS	Grace
Y6GB	Laicee
Y6DF	Joshua

1%
BETTER





Attendance League

NAM	96%	Y3LH	92.3%
NPM	94.5%	Y3MD	94.8%
RNE	91.4%	Y4HG	98.2%
RAB	96.5%	Y4HB	95.8%
Y1AL	97%	Y5LS	93.1%
Y1LB	97%	Y5CP	94.4%
Y2JL	94.4%	Y6GB	96.7%
Y2LW	92%	Y6DF	98.5%

St Stephen's Attendance League EY and KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: NAM	4	4th: RNE	0
1st: 1LB	4	5th: 2LW	0
2nd: RAB	3	6th: 2JL	0
2nd: 1AL	3		
3rd: NPM	0		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 5CP	3	3rd: 6GB	1
1st: 6DF	3	4th: 4HB	0
2nd: 3MD	2	5th: 5LS	0
2nd: 4HG	2		
3rd: 3LH	1		



Dear Parents and Carers,

While on earth, we are given 'free will' and God our Father trusts us to use it wisely. There may be times when we make a wrong choice, but we can trust that God is always there to help us start again.

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us about the value of being trustworthy people. We can show this by making good choices - especially when it comes to the use of money.

Wednesday 17th September 2025

When we give God first place in our lives - using our talents, our time and our money to serve God - we are blessed here and now, and can be certain that we will be rewarded in the life to come too.

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

Dom Henry Wansbrough



**A Word from
the Saints**

*"Trust the present to God's love and the
future to God's care." St Augustine of Hippo*



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH **Sunday 21st September 2025**



Jesus said, "The one who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the one who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money."

*Adapted from Luke 16:1-13
The 25th 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!

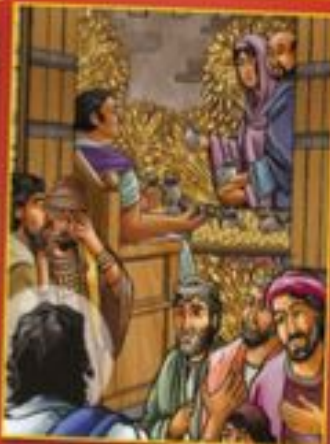
**Having Hope
in our
Families**

God wants us to place our trust in him, so that he can guide our lives. Following God's ways shows God that we are trustworthy and provides a secure foundation for our lives and for the lives of our children too.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



1

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

One day Jesus was talking to his disciples about choosing to put God first in their lives – about not becoming a 'slave' to the love of money, but rather using money in a way that is pleasing to God. Jesus said: "If you can be trusted with little things, then you can be trusted with big things. To God, money is a little thing. If you can't be trusted with that, how can you be trusted with real riches? The choice is yours, but you cannot be the slave both of God and of money."

How does Jesus want us to use our money?

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...

"Those who trust in God can do all things."

St Alphonsus Liguori

Being a trustworthy person and also knowing who to trust is really important. Ask your child what the word 'trustworthy' means to them. A friend who can be trusted is a gift from God! Who are the most trustworthy friends in your child's life and why do they trust them? What do their friends do which shows they are trustworthy? Perhaps you can tell your child about those people in your life whom you trust the most, and say why they are trustworthy.

We can show God and others that we are trustworthy by making the most of our gifts – to make the world a better place. In this coming week, what can each one of us do to show that we are trustworthy people? Perhaps we can: be generous with our God-given gifts of time, talent and money; always try to tell the truth; say our daily prayers asking God to guide us to do the right thing; keep our promises.

TRUSTWORTHY



3

Dear Lord Jesus, help us use our gifts well – to be your trustworthy sons and daughters who always put you first in our lives. Amen.

FINDING THREE

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

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN



JESUS
WARNS



SLAVE
MONEY



TRUST
GOD



REAL
RICHES

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

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

bomicg trumstoced tchimnogs othcenm

"If you can be _____ with little _____
_____ you can be trusted with _____ things."

Jesus is trustworthy! We can always trust Jesus to help us make the most of our lives—enjoying them and using them to love and care for others. Jesus leads us to live our best life—full of peace, joy, and kindness.



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



Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have enjoyed listening to the story of the 3 Little Pigs.

We have loved meeting the characters especially the 'Big, Bad Wolf!'

Nursery have enjoyed lots of activities based on the story especially our class Tuff tray which was full of sticks, straw and bricks to explore and we used our imagination to retell the story.

In our Little Wandle phonics session, we have been singing the nursery rhyme 'Incy, Wincy Spider'. We can sing the rhyme with actions and recognise different sounds heard in the rhyme.

We have loved taking part in our class 'Yoga' session this week and have continued to enjoy lots of singing and dancing.

In our class Celebration of the Word this week, we listened to Miss Taylor's prayer, we watched carefully as Miss Taylor made the sign of the cross and began to do this ourselves.

Question: What were the 3 Little Pigs houses made of?

Reception

What another great and busy week we've had in Reception! The children are really settling into our routines and are growing in confidence day by day.

In Literacy, we began our imitation week of our class story Monkey Puzzle. The children enjoyed following our story map with simple phrases and actions to help them remember the story. They then retold it using puppets and even had a go at ordering the events in more detail, using their new knowledge of sequencing.

In Maths, we have been sorting and comparing. You might like to have a go at this at home – do you have anything that is the same? Buttons, toy cars, Lego pieces? Can you sort them by size, colour, or even shape?

In RE, we continued learning about God's Wonderful World. We listened again to the Story of Creation from Genesis 1 and were able to sequence the order in which God made everything.

This week was also very special as we buddied up with our Year 6 friends. Mrs Artingstall planned a wonderful forest school session for us all to enjoy together – we are so excited for the year ahead with them!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Question:

Why did the butterfly think the monkey's mum didn't look like the monkey?

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Year One

Another week has flown by in Year One and the children are settling really well.

In English, we continue our work on 'I can see' sentences, fixing errors such as capital letters and full stops and rewriting them correctly in our books.

In Maths, we have been counting backwards from 10 and finding and representing one less within 10.

In History, we started our topic on Monarchy and discussed what makes a good king or queen, as well as deciding what we would do if we were a Monarch.

In R.E, we looked at a Kennings Poem about God's creation and the children created their own artwork based on The Creation Story.

In Science, we labelled parts of the body and began to talk about our senses, focusing on sight.

We finished the week with a lovely Mass about friendship.

Question: What is a Monarch?

Year Two

We have had another fantastic week in Year 2. The children are continuing to impress us each day.

In English this week, we have continued to consolidate our grammar knowledge. We have been focusing on action and being verbs, and used these to write sentences about the story 'The Gruffalo's Child'.

In Maths, we have continued to make two digit numbers up to 100 using concrete resources. We have also begun to flexibly partition numbers to 100.

We have been sequencing the events of the Great Fire of London in History, and exploring some artefacts and significant people alive during the time of the fire.

In RE, we have further explored stories from the Holy Bible. We learnt the Annunciation story of John the Baptist. The children worked hard to retell the story.

We ended the week with a beautiful friendship Mass where the children sang wonderfully.

Task - Think about which action verbs you carry out this weekend.

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Year Three

We have had another busy week in Year 3. In Maths this week we have been focusing on place value to 1,000. We have been using number lines to help us order numbers and using apparatus such as place value counters and base 10 to visually represent 3 digit numbers. Finally, we used place value counters to help us add and subtract 1, 10 and 100 from 3 digit numbers. In Science, we are continuing our lessons on the skeleton by looking at different types of skeletons, such as the skeletons of animals and fish, to compare and contrast them to our own. In English we have been continuing to investigate different types of nouns, such as common nouns, proper nouns and collective nouns. Year 3 were also very excited to start our singing lessons this week with Miss Dalledone, our new singing teacher.

Is '**a prickle of hedgehogs**' a common, proper or collective noun?

Year Four

The end of a very busy week in Year 4. The children have really enjoyed learning about Ancient Egyptian society and the hierarchy which existed at that time. They wrote an advert asking for tomb builders, scribes or craftsmen to apply for jobs. In English we have worked on simple and compound sentences based on our knowledge of the Egyptians. In Maths we have continued to look at Place Value, partitioning 4 digit numbers in different ways and placing numbers on a numberline. The children have been working hard to recall their 3 times table. In Science we have begun our first unit on Living Things, distinguishing between vertebrates and invertebrates.

Question: Which people were at the bottom of Egyptian society?



Year Five

The Year 5 children have had a fantastic week of learning! In Maths, we have continued our place value unit, focusing on finding 10, 100, and 1,000 more or less than five-digit numbers, as well as exploring different ways to partition numbers. In English, the children have been practising the key skills needed to build strong sentences and have been working hard to write accurately when sentences are dictated. In Religion, we have been learning about covenants, exploring Old Testament stories and the special promises made between God and His people. Our History lessons have taken us deeper into the world of the Maya, where the children have been investigating their writing system and examining different logograms. Finally, it was wonderful to see so many of you at the Meet the Teacher presentation—we hope you found it informative.

Question

Which promises were made between Abraham and God?

Year Six

We have had a brilliant week here in Year 6 getting stuck into the curriculum! This week, we concluded our Place Value unit with a focus on negative numbers, using a bridging method to deepen our understanding. We have also begun our new unit on Addition and Subtraction, where we are developing confidence with formal written methods.

In English, our learning has centred around different types of nouns — common, proper, collective, partitive, and abstract — which we then applied in a short burst writing piece to strengthen our grammar and writing skills. The children have worked extremely hard with this and have begun to access challenge questions in a SATS format to support their understanding.

In RE, we explored key Bible stories, including those of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Joseph, and Moses, comparing their journeys and reflecting on how God fulfilled His Covenant to each of them.

A highlight of the week was meeting our special friends and enjoying a fantastic Forest School session with Mrs Artingstall. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and are excited to reunite for Mass next week.

Question: What does the word 'Covenant' mean?

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe