



St Stephen's RCP Weekly Newsletter

'Every child, every chance, every day!'

Friday 3rd October 2025

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... This term seems to be flying by! I hope you have had a lovely week! It has been another busy one in school, full of learning!

October - The month of the Holy Rosary - October is known as the Month of the Holy Rosary, a special time when Catholics all over the world are encouraged to pray the Rosary. The Rosary is a beautiful prayer that helps us think about important moments in the lives of Jesus and Mary. During this month, we are reminded that taking a little time each day to pray can bring us closer to God and fill our hearts with peace. At school and at home, children and families are invited to pray the Rosary together, even if it is just one decade, as a way of showing love and trust in Mary, our Mother in Heaven.

This Sunday's Gospel - This weekend's Gospel reminds us that even the tiniest bit of faith can do wonderful things when we place our trust in God. Jesus tells His friends that faith as small as a mustard seed is enough – because nothing is impossible for God! He also reminds us that when we do good things, we shouldn't look for praise or rewards. Instead, we are simply living out the call God has given us.

Year 6DF - Thank you to Year 6DF for a wonderful class assembly this week. It is so lovely to see children showcasing their amazing work. Miss Seville's class assembly that was scheduled for next week has had to be rearranged - a new date will be out soon. Next up on the calendar is Mr Pownall's class on Thursday 16th October 9:05 am in the school hall. Please do join us if you can.

Poetry Week - This week we have been celebrating the joy of poetry across the school. The highlight came this morning, when we gathered for a fabulous assembly filled with rhythm, rhyme and expression. Children from across the classes had the opportunity to perform poems they had been learning, and they rose to the occasion beautifully. Each performance showcased the children's confidence, creativity and enthusiasm for the spoken word. It was a wonderful celebration of language and imagination—well done to all of our budding poets!

Harvest Collection - A reminder that we begin collecting for our Harvest Appeal next week. We are asking for donations of tea, coffee and sugar. Your support is always appreciated.

Parent's Evening - On Thursday 23rd October we will be holding our Autumn Term Parent's Evening. This meeting will provide you with the necessary information on how your child is doing in school so far, and important targets for the coming school year. Please do make every effort to attend. You will receive a booking form next week; I will confirm the locations of the meetings soon.

I've added a new date to the calendar -it is Hello Yellow Day on Friday 10th October - children can come in own clothes - something yellow! £1.00 charity donation. Enjoy your 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



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ST STEPHEN'S PTA

ALL WELCOME



MONDAY 6TH OCTOBER
7PM



THE KINGS HEAD,
169 MARKET ST,
DROYLSDEN,
M43 7AY

We would love to welcome more parents and teachers to our group to enable us to continue to run events and raise funds - please come along and find out more about what we do and how you can help!

STAY INFORMED & GET INVOLVED

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.

We are asking for donations of the following items on the following weeks:

Tea, Coffee, Sugar - Week beginning 6th October

Tins, Pasta, Rice - Week beginning 13th October

Toiletries - Week beginning 20th October

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

*Compassion - Ambition- Rejoice-
Excellence- Service*





Dates for your calendar - Autumn 1

Week Beginning 6th October 2025

Date	Event
10.10.25	Year 1, 2 and 3 Mass 10am
10.10.25	Hello Yellow Day - dress up in yellow and £1.00 charity donation

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 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



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Lyla & Arlo
RNE	Rinsola
RAB	Harvey
Y1AL	Darcy
Y1LB	Emily
Y2JL	Noah
Y2LW	Louie
Y3MD	Keziah
Y3LH	Aaliyah
Y4HG	Sajjad
Y4HB	Isabelle
Y5CP	Ivy
Y5LS	Zahraa
Y6GB	Samson
Y6DF	Freddie

Readers of the Week



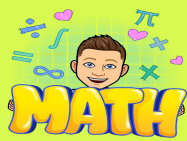
Nursery	Esme
RNE	Arthur
RAB	Roman
Y1AL	Lily-Mae
Y1LB	Pippa
Y2JL	Jeremy
Y2LW	Gadiel
Y3MD	Ronnie
Y3LH	Myla
Y4HG	Panagiotis
Y4HB	Grace
Y5CP	Alex
Y5LS	Noah
Y6GB	Alisha
Y6DF	Oscar

1% BETTER





Maths Star



Nursery	Henry
RNE	Lennie
RAB	Marnie
Y1AL	Phoebe
Y1LB	Afia
Y2JL	Bill
Y2LW	Jaxon
Y3MD	Harry
Y3LH	Bobby
Y4HG	Evelyn
Y4HB	Bruke
Y5CP	Luna
Y5LS	Adora
Y6GB	Tallulah
Y6DF	Vanellope

Writing Star



Nursery	Holly
RNE	Ivy
RAB	Rudy
Y1AL	Nehneh
Y1LB	Kofi
Y2JL	Sienna
Y2LW	Lula
Y3MD	Valentina
Y3LH	Deedee
Y4HG	Deanah
Y4HB	Thomas H
Y5CP	Adam
Y5LS	Anopa
Y6GB	Saul
Y6DF	Noah V

1%
BETTER





Attendance League

NAM	67.9%	Y3LH	96.6%
NPM	93.1%	Y3MD	97.8%
RNE	90.9%	Y4HG	97%
RAB	79.6%	Y4HB	96.4%
Y1AL	94.7%	Y5LS	94.6%
Y1LB	94.1%	Y5CP	96.7%
Y2JL	92.2%	Y6GB	94%
Y2LW	94%	Y6DF	99.1%

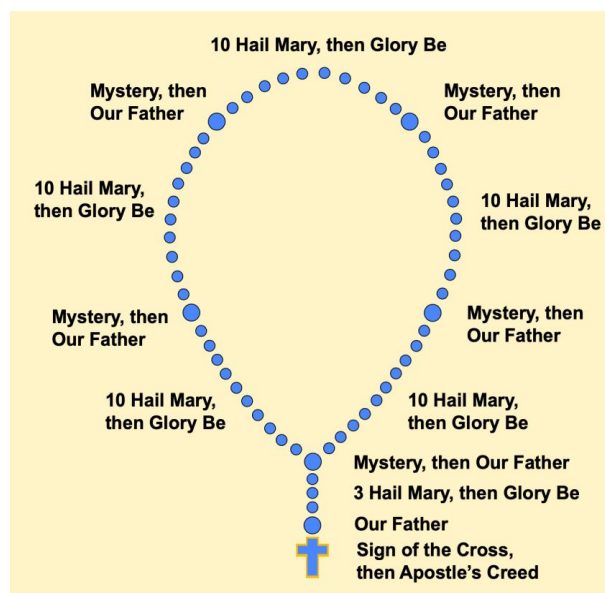
St Stephen's Attendance League KS2			
Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 4HG	6	5th: 6GB	1
1st: 6DF	6	5th: 4HB	1
2nd: 3MD	5	6th: 5LS	0
3rd: 5CP	3		
4th: 3LH	2		

St Stephen's Attendance League EY and KS1			
Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 1LB	6	5th: NPM	1
1st: 1AL	6	5th: 2LW	1
2nd: RAB	5	6th: 2JL	0
3rd: NAM	4		
4th: RNE	3		



Religious Education

Praying the Rosary



DIOCESE OF  SALFORD

A Statement from Bishop John

The local Catholic community stand united in our prayers for the Jewish community following the tragic attack on a synagogue in Manchester, especially on this sacred day of Yom Kippur.

We condemn such acts and pray for those who have died, the injured, emergency responders, and all affected.

Let us work together in hope to strengthen our community solidarity. We must remain united in our common beliefs against those who sow hatred and division.

We also pray for peace and tolerance around the UK and the world.

Rt. Rev. John Arnold,
Bishop of Salford

Caritas Award

This week, our Head Boy Joe and Head Girl Isla, were presented with the CARITAS award in recognition of their kindness and service, particularly for the help and support they gave during vaccination day.

Prayer of the Week

PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE



O LORD GOD, WE PRAY FOR PEACE & LOVE
IN ALL THE NATIONS, AMONG ALL THE PEOPLE
THAT ALL WARS AND HATRED WILL END.
WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM
WAR, INJUSTICE, & INTOLERANCE, FOR THE
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, THE POOR &
NEGLECTED ONES. WE PRAY FOR PEACE IN
OUR LIFE, LANDS, NATIONS, FAMILIES &
IN OUR HEARTS. LORD GIVE US WORLD PEACE.
WE ASK YOUR MERCY IN THE NAME OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is said that faith can 'move mountains'. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of the power and the responsibility that comes with having faith in God.

Faith and love go hand in hand. Helping our children to grow in faith, to know and love God, is one of the greatest gifts we can give them. Putting our faith in Jesus helps us to know God as our loving Father, and this changes how

Wednesday 1st October 2025

we see the world – it can free us from anxiety, give us confidence and inner strength, and help us keep growing in our love for one another.

A family full of faith is a family full of joy. Enjoy exploring this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **FAITH**.

Dom Henry Warebrough



A Word from
the Saints

"Faith is the union of God with the soul." St John of the Cross

"The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.'"

Luke 17:5



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 5th October 2025



The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "Were your faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, 'Come and have your meal immediately'? Would he not be more likely to say, 'Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards'? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, 'We are merely servants; we have done no more than our duty.'"

Adapted from Luke 17: 5-10
The 27th Sunday of 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!

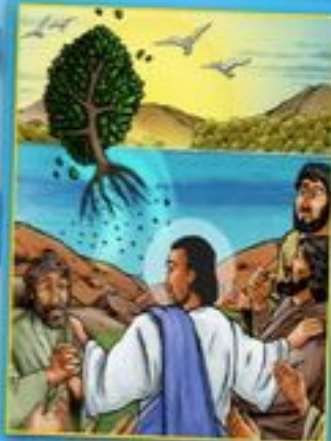
Having Hope
in our Families

Having faith is to believe and trust in God's love for us. Faith is one of life's greatest blessings – it is a gift to be shared. The Church exists to help people to grow in their faith. You can find out more at: cbcew.org.uk



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



1

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

One day Jesus' friends, the apostles, said to him, "Please increase our faith. Make our faith grow stronger." So to help them understand how small their faith really was, and how real faith helps us to do amazing things, Jesus said to them, "If your faith was the size of a tiny mustard seed, you could do astonishing things. You could even tell this mulberry tree to pull itself out of the ground, roots and all, and to plant itself in the sea, and the tree would obey you!"

What did the apostles ask Jesus to do for them?

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...

"Faith and love are everything, and nothing is more precious than these." *St Ignatius of Antioch*

FAITH



Faith greatly enriches our lives and helps happiness and love to grow in our families. Ask your child what the word 'faith' means to them. Ask your child who they turn to in times of trouble. Who do they have faith in to be there for them always (e.g. parents, carers, relatives, friends, Jesus)? You may want to tell your child about someone in the family, at school or in the parish who helped you grow in faith when you were young.

As a family, talk about the faith you have in God. What can we do, in these coming weeks, to help our family's faith to grow? Perhaps we can: regularly talk about God together; worship God together; pray together; read the Bible. Why not agree to pray for each other throughout this coming week, asking God to increase your family's faith? Decide which family member you will pray for. Can you think of any other ways to help your family's faith to grow?

3

Dear Lord Jesus, please increase our faith and move us to action - sharing God's love with everyone we meet. Amen.

FINDING THREE!

M M E S A E R C N I F
D U H T I A F H T M A
J S S C D R A T S U M
O T B I N C R E A S E
B A P M L I L J Y B D
E R H C Y T J E S U S
Y D E E S B R S M U J
S A P O S T L E S T A
D H P M B H D E E R H
F A I T H E J D J E M
J E U B E O Y S A E D

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

JESUS
APOSTLES
INCREASE
FAITH
MUSTARD
SEED
TREE
OBEY

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

Cross out the letters **l m d** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

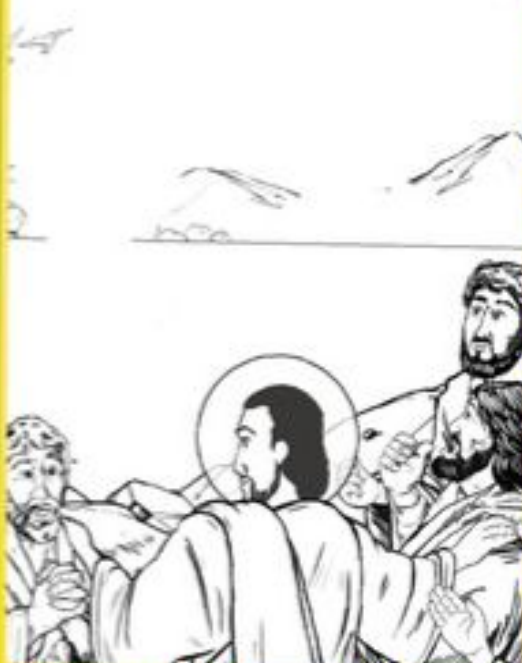
flamdith molurd glrodwm dincremasel

The apostles said to Jesus, "Please _____
our _____. Make _____ faith _____ stronger."

Jesus tells us that faith is a powerful thing and it can help us to do great things. Jesus wants us to have faith in God's help and faith in ourselves. Let's be thankful to God for the great gift of faith.

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 singing the Nursery Rhyme 1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a Fish alive! During our phonics sessions. We loved singing our new phonics song 'Bertha the Bus is going to the Zoo' this focuses on initial sounds in animal words as Bertha the Bus travels to the zoo.

For example: 's' for snake, 'j' for Jellyfish and 'z' for Zebra.

In our Maths focused work we have enjoyed our colour work looking at the colours 'green' and 'purple'. We have continued to sing maths songs to support our understanding of colours, shapes and numbers.

On Wednesday we enjoyed taking part in a 'Story Makers' session led by the Tameside Library service - we listened to a story and took part in a Dough Disco.

In our Celebration of the word sessions, we have continued to learn about the special items on our class altar- a candle, the Bible, a cross and a heart. Miss Taylor has helped us to begin to learn what these represent and how important they are to us.

We have loved singing our special songs- 'This little light of mine' and 'Magic Penny'.

In our RE session we have continued to listen to and learn the Story of Creation.

We have created actions to some of the key points of the story to help us remember what happened on each of the seven days.

Question- God said 'Let there be...!'

Reception

What a fantastic week we've had in Reception! The children are growing in confidence and knowledge every single day.

This week, we started our new topic all about looking back at when older members of our families were in Reception. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in interviews – we have loved watching them and finding out how things were different back then. In Literacy, we began our new class text *My Grandpa* – a beautiful story that shows the special bond between a grandparent and grandchild. We have summarised and sequenced the story, and even used emojis to think about how the characters were feeling. Next week, we will be retelling the story using a story map. In Maths, we have been thinking about appropriate size. For example: would a big bear eat the small sandwich at the teddy bear's picnic? We've also been introduced to lots of new mathematical vocabulary such as *big, small, large, tiny, medium, bigger, and smaller*. It has been wonderful hearing the children using their new learning confidently around the classroom. In RE, we continued to learn about the Story of Creation. We thought about how God gifted His creations to people and discussed how we can look after our own special gifts from God. In the outdoor area, Mrs Goldthorpe set up a Creation tuff tray where the children have been busy working through the story to make our world.

A big thank you again to everyone who came to the Phonics Workshop this week. It was lovely to have your support. The PowerPoint with key information from the session has now been emailed to all parents and carers.

We hope you have a lovely weekend – hopefully the weather doesn't stop you from having fun!

Question: What did God say after each day?

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Year One

This week was absolutely filled with exciting learning opportunities for our students! In maths, we introduced a new unit on addition and subtraction by exploring part-whole models. The children engaged enthusiastically, using these models to visualise and solve problems effectively. In English, we delved into our delightful 'I Like It When' book, where students thrived on completing various sentence activities, including filling in missing words, dictation, and unscrambling sentences. It was wonderful to see their creativity shine through! Our science lesson took us on a captivating listening walk, where we honed our sense of hearing and discovered the different sounds in our environment. In R.E., we focused on the importance of prayer, learning 'The Our Father' and discussing the significance of making the sign of the cross, which led to some thoughtful conversations. In history, we looked at the remarkable life of Queen Elizabeth II and created beautiful collages, combining art with history to celebrate her legacy. Lastly, the children truly made us proud as they recited their poem for Poetry Week with such passion and clarity.

Question: Can you make the sign of the cross correctly?

Year Two

We have had another busy week in Year 2! In Maths this week, we have been ordering and estimating 10s and 1s on a numberline up to 100. The children are working really hard with this. In English, our grammar focus has been on prepositions, and the children have been writing their own animal poems including these. On Wednesday, we enjoyed a fantastic History day, completing our Great Fire of London unit of work. The children particularly enjoyed learning about firefighting in 1666 vs today and redesigning their own map of London. In RE, we have been writing poetry keeping in mind the message from the Story of Noah, and discussing what it means to be Stewards of the Lord. We have also been embarking on our 'Rosary Challenge' and learning how to pray the Rosary. As the week came to a close, the children beautifully performed their poem 'Cats Sleep Anywhere'. The children continue to work hard in Phonics and Guided Reading - please continue to read your child's take home book with them at home.

Question - What prayer do we say when we pray the Rosary?

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Year Three

This week we have enjoyed practising the poem 'The Sound Collector' by Roger Gough as part of the activities for National Poetry Day. We have recited the poem together and thought of different actions we could do for each of the sounds taken away by the shadowy figure in the poem! The children performed the poem in assembly and did very well to remember the words and actions!

In Maths this week we have finished our work on place value by estimating numbers to 1,000 on a number line, and counting in 50s.

In English we have been looking at how to construct a simple sentence, and the children all made sure they punctuated their sentences correctly.

Question: Which sounds did the Sound Collector take away from the house?

Year Four

This week we have enjoyed preparing for National Poetry Day by learning to recite the poem, 'Autumn Gilt' by Valerie Bloom. The children have done a great job of pronouncing each word clearly and reciting the poem rhythmically. They performed the poem in assembly today.

In Maths this week we have worked on rounding numbers to 10, 100 and 1000 and consolidating our understanding of ordering 4 digit numbers.

In English we have begun to write compound and complex sentences independently, basing them on our History topic of Egyptians.

In History, we answered questions about how and why the pyramids were built and looked at evidence which proves they were not built by slaves.

As we are now in October, we have begun to say a decade of the rosary every day.

Question: What would the pyramids have looked like originally?



Year Five

We've had a wonderful week in Year 5, full of exciting learning and new experiences!

In English, the children have been building on their knowledge of compound sentences, while in Maths they successfully completed the place value unit, practising rounding numbers up to a million. Our four-week art project also began this week, with the children enjoying a special session led by a local artist, exploring road safety images and experimenting with different ideas and compositions. 5LS took part in a thoughtful Religion retreat with Mrs Farmer, reflecting on how to care for God's creation through the teachings of *Laudato Si*. 5CP will take part in this later in the year. In History, the children delved into the fascinating world of Mayan numbers, and they also had a lovely time at Forest School with Mrs Artingstall, where they created their own clay pots. It has certainly been a busy and rewarding week!

Question: What is 124,284 rounded to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and 10,000?

Year Six

What a fantastic week in Year 6! The children thoroughly enjoyed Poetry Week, particularly exploring *My Grandma's Bonsai Tree* by Ben Mayoh, where they analysed language choices, answered inference questions, and developed their performance skills before confidently showcasing their verses in a KS2 poetry assembly. In English, we focused on strengthening our GAPS knowledge by identifying subjects, verbs, and objects in single-clause sentences. We then moved on to exploring prepositions and how to use them effectively in our writing. The children showed great focus and creativity—we'll be revisiting prepositions next week before moving on to multi-clause sentences. In Maths, we worked on multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers using the formal written method, and the children showed fantastic determination and resilience—well done! A special highlight this week was 6DF's class assembly on Thursday, where they proudly shared their learning - a huge thank you to all who came to support!

Question: How do you know that this question is incorrect without working it out? $4,328 \times 6 = 25,820$

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe