



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

Friday 13th March 2026

BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

A MESSAGE FROM MR LAVIN... It has been another busy and positive week here at school, and I would like to thank everyone in our community for their continued support.

Nursery Class Assembly ✨ - A huge thank you to our Nursery children for a wonderful class assembly on Thursday. It was lovely to hear the story they have been learning in class and to enjoy their fantastic singing. The children spoke and performed beautifully and made us all very proud. Thank you also to the parents and family members who were able to join us - it was wonderful to see so many of you there supporting the children.

Our next class assembly will be on Thursday 19th March at 9:05am, led by Year 6GB. Parents and families are very welcome to attend.

Denary Mass at St Stephen's Church 🏛️ - Thank you to the children who were able to attend the Denary Mass at St Stephen's Church on Wednesday evening. It was a lovely celebration and the children's singing was absolutely beautiful. We are always proud of how respectfully and reverently our pupils represent our school community at parish events.

Trust Visits to School 📚 - This week we were pleased to welcome colleagues from the Trust into school on two occasions. They spent time visiting classrooms and speaking with staff and pupils, and they were very impressed with the work taking place at St Stephen's.

Thank you to all of our children for their continued hard work, positive attitudes and enthusiasm for learning - you are a credit to our school.

KS2 Swimming Gala 🏊 - This evening, some of our KS2 children will be representing our school at a swimming gala against other Tameside Catholic Schools. We wish all of the children taking part the very best of luck and hope they have a fantastic time.

Stay and Pray – Year 2 🙏 - Next week we will be holding our Stay and Pray sessions for Year 2. Parents are warmly invited to attend and join their children in prayer and worship shortly after morning drop-off. **Monday: Year 2LW Tuesday: Year 2JL.** We look forward to welcoming those who are able to join us.

Own Clothes Day – St Patrick's Day 🍀 - On Tuesday we will be marking St Patrick's Day with an own clothes day. Children are invited to wear their own clothes and, if possible, something green to celebrate the occasion.

Enjoy the weekend,

Mr Lavin **Headteacher**

**Our Values:
St Stephen's
CARES**

Compassion



Ambition



Rejoice



Excellence



Service





BE READY | BE RESPECTFUL | BE SAFE |

EYFS/ Key Stage One

I am thrilled to confirm that our Annual Easter Bonnet Parade for Children in **Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** is back this year! We invite all children to create an Easter Bonnet at home and bring it in for a Parade on **Friday 27th March**. It is a wonderful event and has been supported so well in past years. Parents are invited to attend.



Plan 1 will be for parents from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to gather on the playground after drop off. Children will then parade their bonnets on the playground for all to see - if the weather is bad, we will go to plan 2. We will inform you the day before when we know more about the weather!

Plan 2 will be in the school hall at the following times to watch your child walk down the catwalk. Please only attend during your allocated time, we will clear the hall before the next set of parents are allowed to enter so please wait outside until a member of staff signals for your time to come in:

Nursery and Reception: 9:00-9:15 am

Year 1: 9:20 am - 9:30 am

Year 2: 9:35 am - 9:40 am

We will allow you to take individual photographs of your child but you will not be allowed to photograph or film the parade for Safeguarding reasons.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6)

For children in Key Stage 2, **Years 3 to 6**, we invite children to decorate an egg - we have had some incredible creations over the years and I cannot wait to see what comes in this year. We display the eggs in the school hall on the day (Friday 27th March) for all classes to come and look at the creations.

****Please can we ask for donations of Easter Eggs to help us with the prizes for the Bonnet and decorated eggs - these can be sent in with your child or left at the office.**

THANK YOU!**





Dates for your calendar - Spring 2

Week Beginning 16th March 2026

Date	Event
16/03/26	Y2LW Stay and Pray
17/03/26	Wear Green for St Patrick's Day Y2JL Stay and Pray
18/03/26	Y5 Confession at 1:30pm in Church
19/03/26	Y6GB Class Assembly 9:05am
20/03/26	Reception and Y6 Mass @ 10am

Week Beginning 23rd March 2026

Date	Event
25/03/26	Y6 Confession at 1:30pm in Church
26/03/26	Y6DF Class Assembly 9:05am
27/03/26	Y3, Y4, Y5 @ 10am
27/03/26	Easter Bonnet Parade/Decorate an Egg KS2

Week Beginning 30th March 2026

Date	Event
30/03/26	Whole School Lent Retreat
31/03/26	Y5 Passion Play 9:15am
02/04/26	Whole School Mass 10am
02/04/26	School closes for Easter 1:30pm



Hot Chocolate Friday Winner



Nursery	Georgie W & Muhammed
RNE	Caitlyn
RAB	Esmae
Y1AL	Olivia
Y1LB	Natalia
Y2JL	Victoria
Y2LW	Betti
Y3MD	Hassan
Y3LH	Seon
Y4HG	Jessica
Y4HB	Oscar
Y5CP	Kiana
Y5LS	Rumaisha
Y6GB	Daisy
Y6DF	Bobby

Readers of the Week

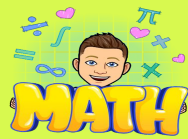


Nursery	Leah-Rose & Aryan
RNE	Olivia
RAB	Lily
Y1AL	Harlow
Y1LB	Aahil
Y2JL	Harper
Y2LW	Iremide
Y3MD	Finley
Y3LH	Muzaffar
Y4HG	Freddie
Y4HB	Coby
Y5CP	Clark
Y5LS	Noah
Y6GB	Amella
Y6DF	Freddie





Maths Star



Nursery	Luke
RNE	Penelope
RAB	Cameron
Y1AL	Nellie
Y1LB	Jasper
Y2JL	Jeremy
Y2LW	Betti
Y3MD	Odin
Y3LH	Rahilla
Y4HG	Runo
Y4HB	Thomas F
Y5CP	Olivia
Y5LS	Harrison
Y6GB	Charlie
Y6DF	Noah V

Writing Star



Nursery	Pearl & Valentina
RNE	Layla-Mai
RAB	Imoleoluwa
Y1AL	Mazeedah
Y1LB	Adrian
Y2JL	Aurora
Y2LW	Peyton
Y3MD	Scarlett
Y3LH	Leon
Y4HG	Michelle
Y4HB	Lano
Y5CP	Samuel
Y5LS	Caoimhe
Y6GB	Alisha
Y6DF	Daisy

1% BETTER





St Stephen's RCP

Attendance

League

NAM	91.6%	Y3LH	97.5%
NPM	98.6%	Y3MD	96.5%
RNE	96.6%	Y4HG	99.5%
RAB	90.6%	Y4HB	89%
Y1AL	96.5%	Y5LS	96.6%
Y1LB	94.4%	Y5CP	98.3%
Y2JL	95.8%	Y6GB	92.6%
Y2LW	92.7%	Y6DF	98.3%

St Stephen's Attendance League EY and KS1

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 1AL	24	6th: 2LW	11
2nd: 1LB	23	7th: NAM	10
3rd: NFD	22	8th: RAB	6
4th: RNE	17		
5th: 2JL	15		

St Stephen's Attendance League KS2

Position	Total Points	Position	Total Points
1st: 6DF	35	6th: 3LH	7
2nd: 4HG	33	6th: 4HB	7
3rd: 5CP	20	6th: 5LS	7
4th: 6GB	10		
5th: 3MD	9		

Wednesday 11th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we read about how Jesus brought healing and light into the life of the man who was born blind. The man could then see the world around him, but the most important thing he saw was who Jesus really was – the Son of God.

Difficulties, worries and sickness can sometimes be part of our lives. Yet, when we believe in Jesus and we pray and look carefully, we can often learn something about

the world and ourselves, and about how Jesus is always there for us. Jesus is the light of the world. Believing in him brings light to our lives; it changes how we see the world and it can bring healing to us too. Come and see!

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

Dom Henry Warsbrough

A Word from
the Saints

"Prayer is certainly the most wonderful medicine in the world."
St Hyacinth

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH
Sunday 15th March 2026

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. Jesus spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam" (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "Yes, it is the same one." Others said, "No, he only looks like him." The man himself said, "I am the man." Some of the Pharisees did not believe that Jesus had healed him and they drove him away. Jesus heard about this and when he found the man he said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Sir," the man replied, "tell me who he is so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You are looking at him; he is speaking to you." The man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshipped Jesus.

Adapted from John 9:1-38
The 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

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

Family Time Prayer & Share Overleaf ▶

**Good News
for Everyone**

God still heals today, through the sacraments of the Church (which remind us of God's love and care for us) and through people: doctors, nurses and, if we let him, through us too. Following Jesus' teachings and loving others brings healing and adds something very special to our lives.



Good News for Families

TOGETHER TIME



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

Jesus saw a man who had been blind from birth. He wet his fingers, made a muddy paste with the dust on the ground, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go and wash off the paste in the Pool of Siloam." When the man came back he was able to see. Some of the teachers of the Law did not believe the man and what the man said about Jesus healing him, and they drove him away. When Jesus found the man he said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Sir," the man replied, "tell me who he is so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You are looking at him; he is speaking to you." The man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshipped Jesus.

What had the blind man told the teachers of the Law?

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...

"Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal."

St Thomas More

HEALING



This Sunday's Gospel reminds us how, in Jesus, God is active in the world, bringing healing. At differing times and in differing ways, we all need the healing touch of God. Ask your child what the word 'healing' means to them. It may help your child if you tell them about the different kinds of healing we can experience in life. Then ask your child who brings healing to them, bringing comfort when they are ill, hurt or upset.

As a family, consider if there is anyone to whom you can help bring God's healing in this coming week. Perhaps you could: pray for someone; talk gently and lovingly to someone if there is a problem; take time to listen carefully to them, and try to support them where possible. God has given the Church sacraments for healing - the Sacrament of the Sick and the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). In preparation for Easter, many parish churches will be having special Reconciliation services to which all are warmly invited.

3 Dear Lord Jesus, help us to see you more clearly - to believe in you - and to share your light and healing with all those around us. Amen.

FINDING THREE

W N L C B S W E W L E R
S U S E J O O T H J D E
N Z L B B O R N O E B R
H E A L E D S N P S E B
E J E I C L H P L D L J
O D J N D W I J H I I H
C E S D P H P E N Z E W
L H I D S L P K V A V A
H S L R S T E C L E E H
M A O L I S D E J O D S
L W A S H E D D N I L B
D B M W J E S U S J D W

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER ACROSS OR DOWN

BORN
 BLIND
 WASHED
 SILOAM
 HEALED
 BELIEVED
 WORSHIPPED
 JESUS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY



Find and draw 3 differences, then colour the picture

Cross out the letters **u s f** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

Lafwus musant sheatlinug buteliesve

The teachers of the _____ did not _____ what
the _____ said about Jesus _____ him.

It's good to be a 'healer'. We can hurt people by unkind words, by a look or by refusing to speak to them. But we can heal people by a smile, by a greeting or even by asking for their forgiveness or offering them ours.

This week I will try my best to...



Write a promise & draw a big smile on Smiley



Religious Education

Lenten Deanery Mass At St Stephen's Church

Our Year 3 and 4 children have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation over the past two weeks.

During Lent, Catholics often go to Reconciliation (Confession) during Lent because Lent is a special time focused on repentance, spiritual renewal, and preparing for Easter.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available weekly on a Saturday after 10am Mass at St Stephen's Church.

Prayer of the Week

A Lenten Prayer

Almighty and Everlasting God,
You have given the human race
Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of
humility.
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man
And giving His life on the Cross.
Help us to bear witness to You
By following His example of suffering
And make us worthy to share in His
Resurrection.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus
Christ, Your Son.

Caritas Award

This week our Caritas award is awarded to: Annie, Alfie, Nehneh, Corniella, Evie-Rose, Aaliyah, Jessica, Deanah, Evelyn, Anastazja, Kalani, Harrison and Keoni for their participation in the Lenten Deanery Mass. Well done!



/ BE READY / BE RESPECTFUL / BE SAFE /



Nursery

This week's phonics focus has been the Nursery Rhyme 'Miss Polly had a dolly'. The children have loved this rhyme and creating actions to the rhyme as we sing. Our initial sound focus has been 'r' we know that 'rice, red, rocket, ring and rabbit' all begin with this sound.

In our focused Maths sessions we have been learning about length and can identify when things are long and short.

We have also been learning how to identify things according to their size.

In our RE sessions this week we have started to learn about Holy Week.

We have listened to how Jesus entered Jerusalem and know that people were happy and excited to welcome Jesus and that Jesus was riding a donkey.

On Thursday we performed our 'Jasper's Beanstalk' assembly, well done to all our children for working so hard, creating such wonderful artwork, re telling the story of Jasper's Beanstalk and for beautiful singing.

Miss Taylor, Miss Whittaker and Mrs Parkinson are so proud of all your confidence and learning this term.

Next week we look forward to our new book focus 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle.

Question: What did the crowds wave at Jesus as he entered Jerusalem?

Reception

We have had a lovely week in Reception. The children have been working very hard to innovate our story "That's My Flower." They have written lots of sentences about the parts of the story they have changed. Ask your child what their ideas were!

In maths, we have continued to build the numbers 9 and 10 using pictorial representations. The children are really enjoying being able to see the maths and represent the numbers in different ways.

In RE, we learnt about the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. We re-enacted the story using pitta bread and juice. We know that when we see this during Mass it helps us to remember Jesus. Jesse reminded us of Jesus' words: "Do this in remembrance of me."

Very exciting things have been happening in our outdoor area. The beans we planted last week have started to grow shoots, and we can see the frogspawn beginning to change. If you look very carefully, you can even see tiny wiggles inside! We have also really enjoyed exploring flowers and looking closely at the different parts that we have been learning about.

Question: What does the bread and wine at the last supper represent?



Year One

This week, Year 1 have truly lived out our school value of 'rejoice' with their enthusiasm for learning!

In English, we have completed our independent writing using compound nouns as subjects and objects.

In Maths, we have been partitioning 2 digit numbers and using number lines to 50.

In R.E, we learnt about Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and his passion for the temple being God's holy place of prayer.

In Geography, we looked at the types of weather that we experience in each season. Both classes have completed their first 'Purple Mash' computing unit this week and they thoroughly enjoyed creating their own avatars and using the paint tool.

We ended our week with a lovely Mass.

Question: Why was Jesus angry in the temple?

Year Two

The children have enjoyed an action-packed curriculum this week, which culminated in a lovely Mass in church on Friday. They were all so respectful and sang beautifully. We are very proud of them.

Our week began with a day of computing on Purple Mash. The children used direction and distance keys to write simple routes using 2Go. They then progressed to creating more advanced algorithms for longer routes and those with more than one stop. They all enjoyed applying their skills to a range of contexts and recognised the need to debug the code as they were creating it.

In RE, we have continued to learn about the sacrament of Reconciliation. The children used the Examen to examine their conscience. They reflected on their thoughts, feelings and choices before identifying areas of growth and opportunities to respond more fully to God.

This week also saw the conclusion of our current unit of work in English. Using picture prompts, they recounted the events in Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory, incorporating both singular and plural nouns and ensuring subject/verb agreement.

Question: In Maths, what does commutative mean?

Be Ready. Be Respectful. Be Safe



Year Three

This week, Year 3 took part in a Forest School session where the children created their own crosses using clay and sticks. They also acted out the different scenes from the 15 Stations of the Cross. The children enjoyed taking turns to explore and understand each station, helping them reflect on the meaning behind them.

In English, the children have been learning about adverbials of time and place. They have been identifying these in texts and using them in their own writing to describe where Laszlo and the dark are in the story.

In Art, the class explored how artwork can represent events from the past. The children focused on the Bayeux Tapestry and discussed how it shows power and strength using thick lines and dark sketching. They shared thoughtful ideas about how artists can use these techniques to tell important historical stories.

Question: What is the minuend in a subtraction equation?

Year Four

On Monday, Year 4 enjoyed a lovely session with Mrs Artingstall who took us through the Stations of the Cross. This took place out in the Peace Garden. The children took part by acting out the stations and using a paper puppet of Jesus.

In English this week, we practised using Present Participles as Fronted Adverbials. The children constructed their own sentences based on the book 'Journeys.'

In Maths, we looked at distributive rules of multiplication as well as beginning work on multiplying by ten.

In History, we concluded our unit on the Vikings by learning about Gudrid Thorbjarnardottir, a female Icelandic explorer who lived around 1000 years ago. We were amazed to learn that Gudrid traveled to as far away as Canada.

On Wednesday afternoon, Year 4 went to church where those who have done their First Holy Communion did their Reconciliation in preparation for Easter. It was a lovely service and the children not participating did a great job of supporting their peers with their lovely singing.

Question: Why is Gudrid so respected even today?



Year Five

This week has been an exciting and busy one for Year 5.

In English, we have continued our work with Dog Man. The children have been focusing on punctuating speech correctly and incorporating narrative around dialogue to make their writing more engaging.

In Maths, we continued learning about area. The class worked on finding the area of compound shapes and also practised finding missing dimensions when the area of a shape is already known.

We were delighted to welcome the Deputy Mayor of Tameside into school to present our Art Award certificates. The children were extremely respectful and impressed our visitor by asking a number of thoughtful and interesting questions.

We are now well underway with rehearsals for our Passion Play. If your child has a speaking part, please ensure they have learned their lines by next week. Homework has been set according to the timetable distributed earlier this week.

Question- How do you find the area of a compound shape?

Year Six

In Maths this week, we have been working our way through our algebra unit. This included forming expressions and equations, with some of the children already demonstrating that they are capable of solving them, which is our next focus. We have once again been impressed by the resilience shown by all of the children.

In English, we have been applying all of our learning to produce rewrites of the narrative around The Beast. The children have demonstrated some excellent use of metaphors, similes and fronted adverbials. They have then shown that they are able to cast a critical eye over their own work through the editing and improving process.

Our R.E. work has centred around Ash Wednesday and then delving into conscience. We analysed a Celebration of The Word planning sheet, looking at why certain elements would be suitable choices for a celebration during Lent. We then also looked at the different interpretations of conscience. We particularly liked Saint John Henry Newman's opinion that our conscience is an echo of God's voice, trying to lead us towards the correct path in life.

We have also completed a round of mock SATS this week. The children have all been fantastic and have demonstrated all that they have learned over the course of the year.

Question: Which algebraic expression would show "four more than t"?