St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 13th November 2026

Telephone: 01925 630100
Website: https://ststephenscps.com/
Email: ststephens_primary@sch.warrington.gov.uk

School News...

Catholic Schools Inspection – OUTSTANDING IN ALL AREAS!

As you will have seen from the inspection report sent home on Wednesday, we are delighted to announce that we have been graded as **OUTSTANDING** again in the three key areas of our Catholic Schools Inspection: Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship. Our pupils, staff and governors shone throughout the inspection giving the inspectors from Liverpool Archdiocese a real flavor of everyday life in school based on our Catholic ethos which is underpinned by our mission statement. We thank our parents and carers for their contributions via the survey sent home and those who spoke to inspectors too. These outcomes are testament of what we achieve together as a whole school community on a daily basis which makes our school a special place to be in providing Catholic education!

Key highlights include:

- *Pupils are deeply committed to the Catholic Life and mission of the school and demonstrate an excellent understanding of what it means to live as disciples of Christ.*
- *The mission statement is central to school life and is understood and embraced.*
- *Pupils describe themselves as part of "one big family", reflecting a culture of welcome, inclusion and mutual respect.*
- *The parish priest is a visible and valued presence within the school, working closely with leaders to support pupils' faith development.*
- *Leaders have developed a curriculum that is ambitious, responsive and continuously evolving.*
- *Teachers demonstrate thorough subject knowledge and a passion for religious education which contributes significantly to pupils' engagement and achievement.*
- *Religious education makes a substantial contribution to pupils' intellectual, spiritual and moral development.*
- *Pupils' behaviour is exemplary, creating a calm, purposeful learning environment.*
- *Governors provide support and some challenge and are kept informed frequently by the leadership team of key priorities for continuous improvement.*

REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

- **Monday 16th November:** Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying Week. Pupils are invited to wear odd socks to represents themselves and their uniqueness with their uniform or PE kits.
- **Wednesday 18th November:** Years 1 and 5 have Forest School sessions. Pupils are to wear warm clothing, a waterproof coat and suitable footwear as well as a change of footwear for after the session.
- **Thursday 19th November:** Year 5 swimming lessons continue
- **Friday 20th November:** Whole School Thanksgiving Mass at church at 2pm. Parents/carers, families and parishioners are very welcome to join us for this celebration. All pupils are to wear smart school uniform to school next Friday for Mass. There will be no PE lessons in school that day.

ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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RECEPTION OPEN DAYS

Your child's learning journey starts here!

Come and visit our school, meet our friendly team and discover how your child can learn, grow and belong in our school community.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Love like Jesus, Learn like Jesus, Love like Jesus"

Come and see our happy learners in action!

RECEPTION OPEN DAY DATES

- Thursday 5th November at 10am
- Thursday 5th November at 2pm
- Tuesday 10th November at 10.30am
- Thursday 19th November at 2pm

CALL TO BOOK A PLACE ON ANY OF OUR VIEWINGS

GOOD ATTENDANCE OPENS DOORS

ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Holidays are better when school isn't missed!

The impact of holidays in term time

- Children miss important lessons and learning
- It can be harder for them to keep up and feel confident
- It can affect friendships and wellbeing
- Good attendance now = better outcomes for the future.

Holidays during school time are not authorised

The law says children must attend school every day. Headteachers **cannot** authorise holidays in term time **except in exceptional circumstances.**



Plan holidays in the school holidays – every day counts!

Fines may be issued for unauthorised holidays in term time
Penalty Notices are issued by the local authority – not the school.

HOW FINES WORK IN ENGLAND

You take your child on holiday during term time (5 or more consecutive days).

↓

You may receive a Penalty Notice (fine) from the local authority.

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The fine is £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
It increases to £160 per parent, per child if paid between 22–28 days.

↓

If not paid, you may be prosecuted in the Magistrates' Court. Fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child, plus court costs.

FINE AMOUNTS FOR REPEATED HOLIDAYS

1ST HOLIDAY (within 3 years)	£80 per parent, per child	if paid within 21 days
	£160 per parent, per child	if paid between 22–28 days
2ND HOLIDAY (within 3 years)	£160 per parent, per child	if paid within 28 days
3RD HOLIDAY (within 3 years)	PROSECUTION	Your case may be taken to the Magistrates' Court. You could be fined up to £2,500 per parent, per child, plus court costs.

WE WANT TO WORK WITH YOU!

Talk to us if you are struggling with anything that might affect your child's attendance.

Let's Celebrate...

Gospel Value: Faithfulness			Proud Work of the Week:		
	YR	Myla		YR	Matthew
	Y1	Akwaugo		Y1	Paisley
	Y2	Avah		Y2	Frankie
	Y3	Natan		Y3	Elizah
	Y4	Evelyn		Y4	Brooklyn
	Y5	Oscar		Y5	Sienna
	Y6	Olivia		Y6	Luke

Lunchtime Stars:		Sports Stars:
YR	Raynar	**EYFS/KS1:** **Paisley Y1** *For excellent balancing in gymnastics*
Y1	Cherry	
Y2	Thomas	
Y3	Sienah	**KS2:** **Kobe Y4** *Showing excellent agility skills in dodgeball*
Y4	Charlotte	
Y5	William	
Y6	Maisie	

Rainbow Champions

R: Adelaide, Matthew, Zara, Sya, Jan, Liza, Lucas, Jack, Amber, Cynthia

Y1: Jasmina, Gheorghe, Kayla, Kai, Paisley, Sam, Barney, Sofia, Maya, Maia, Miyah, Darcie

Y2: Dorothy, Genelia, Avah, Harvey, Georgia, Frankie, Victoria, Bailey, Tomas, Leon, Calub, Atlas, Emilia, Elizabeth

Y3: Teddy A, Lemon, Marie, Roksana, Klaudia, Lena, Dexter, Milan, Anthony

Y4: Anthony, Laura, Bobby N, Bobby S, Darcy, Olivia W, Evelyn

Y5: Harper, Lilly, Mason, Sienna, Antoni, Oscar, Roman, Lennon, William, Madison, Zofia, Annsilo, Macy, Maisy, Laura, Theo S, Mathias

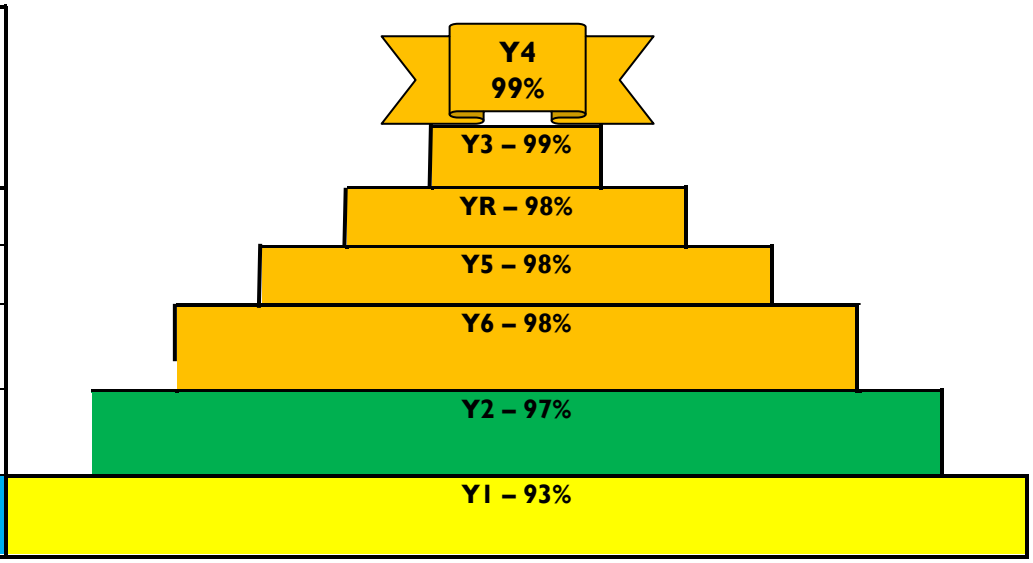
Y6: Madison, Jayden, Lacey, Frankie, Miley, Fatima, Jaiden, Ava, Hallie, Olivia, Luke, Diana, Moses, Max, Harry, Ihe, Bailey, Bradley

Attendance Update...

Congratulations to Y4 for having the best attendance this week!

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

98-100%	Excellent
96-97%	Good
93-95%	Needs to Improve
90-92%	Cause for Concern
Our attendance target is: 96%	



Where a child has 10 or more unauthorised absences (equivalent to 5 full school days) in an academic year, this may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) being issued.

Fixed Penalty Notice Charges:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
£160 per parent per child if paid within 28 days.

Punctuality Reminders:



- School gates open at 8.40am to all pupils each day.
- Pupils are to be in their class lines on the playground for 8.45am where they will be accompanied into class and the registers and lunch orders will be taken.
- Registration closes at 8.50am and the main pedestrian gate will be closed and locked.
- Any pupils arriving to school after 8.50am must be brought to the school office and signed in by an adult who must provide a reason for the lateness.

Autumn Term Diary Dates 2026

***** Please note dates are subject to change and further events are to be added *****

Date	Time	Event
8/9/26	11.00am	Welcome Mass at Church
21/9/26	9.00am	Y6 Stay and Read with parents/carers
22/9/26	9.00am	Y5 Stay and Read with parents/carers
23/9/26	9.00am	Y3 Stay and Read with parents/carers
24/9/26	9.00am	Y1 Stay and Read with parents/carers
25/9/26	9.00am	Reception Stay and Read with parents/carers
25/9/26	All day	'Class Cake Sales' in support of Macmillan Cancer Support
28/9/26	All week	Autumn Term After School Clubs begin
28/9/26	9.00am	Y4 Stay and Read with parents/carers
30/9/26	All day	Y3 & Y6 Forest School sessions
1/10/26	9.00am	Y2 Stay and Read with parents/carers
2/10/26	All day	CAFOD Family Feast Day/Harvest
7/10/26	All day	Y1 & Y5 Forest School sessions
16/10/26	All day	Show Racism the Red Card Day – pupils can wear a splash of red with their uniforms today.
19/10/26	All morning	School photographs – individual and siblings
21/10/26	All day	Y2 & Y4 Forest School sessions
22/10/26	Morning	Y5/6 Halloween and Bonfire Night Safety talk
23/10/26	9.00am	Y2 Class Assembly – parents/carers invited to attend
23/10/26	**3:15 pm**	**School closes for half term**
2/11/26	8.45am	School reopens
2/11/26	5.00 – 6.30pm	St Stephen's Firework Event
4/11/26	All day	Y2 & Y4 Forest School sessions
6/11/26	All day	Non-refundable deposits due for Y4 & Y6 residential trips
10/11/26	2.00-6.00pm	Autumn Term Parents' Evening in school
11/11/26	All day	Y3 & Y6 Forest School sessions
13/11/26	All day	Children in Need fundraiser
13/11/26	All afternoon	Whole School Anti-Bullying Performance
16/11/26	All week	Anti-Bullying Week 2026
16/11/26	All day	Odd Sock Day for ABW
18/11/26	All day	Y1 & Y5 Forest School sessions
20/11/26	2.00pm	Thanksgiving Mass
23/11/26	All week	Autumn Term after school clubs finish this week
27/11/26	All day	Own clothes day in return for a chocolate donation
10/12/25	All morning	Y4 attending Advent Service at Liverpool Cathedral
11/12/26	9.00am	Y6 Class Assembly – parents/carers invited to attend
11/12/26	All day	Christmas Jumper/Christmas Dinner/St. Rocco's Elf Run/KS2 Choir Performance (3pm)
15/12/26	9.15am/2.30pm	EYFS/KS1 Nativity Performances
16/12/26	2.30-3.15pm	KS2 Carol Concert in Church
17/12/26	All afternoon	Class Christmas Parties
18/12/26	All morning	Christmas Pantomime in school
18/12/26	**3.15pm**	**School closes for Christmas holidays**

ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Holiday Dates 2026/27

	Open	***Close***	***No. of Days***
Autumn Half Term 1	Thursday 3rd September 2026	Friday 23rd October 2026	37
Autumn Half Term 2	Monday 2nd November 2026	Friday 18th December 2026	35
Spring Half Term 1	Tuesday 5th January 2027	Friday 12th February 2027	29
Spring Half Term 2	Monday 22nd February 2027	Wednesday 24th March 2027	23
Summer Half Term 1	Wednesday 7th April 2027	Friday 28th May 2027	37
Summer Half Term 2	Monday 14th June 2027	Friday 23rd July 2027	29
			TOTAL: 190

School closed: Bank Holiday Monday - Monday 3rd May 2027

INSET Days: School closed for pupils

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026
- Monday 4th January 2027
- Friday 2nd July 2027 – Warrington Walking Day (TBC)
- Monday 26th July 2027

We are on Week 3 of the menu next week:

