St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 20th November 2026

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School News...

Thanksgiving Mass with Archbishop Sherrington

This afternoon we have held a special Thanksgiving Mass led by the Archbishop Sherrington and Father John. We celebrated the wonderful achievement of Mrs Cawley, who has been a governor at St Stephen's for 40 years. This is a remarkable achievement and testament to the commitment and dedication Mrs Cawley has shown to our school for four decades. Archbishop Sherrington presented Mrs Cawley with the Bene Merenti Award from Pope Leo VIX. The concept of awarding this medal is a mark of recognition to persons in service of the Catholic Church and Mrs Cawley has been recognised for exemplary Christian service in her role as a governor at St Stephen's. The Mass was a joyous celebration where our children set a wonderful example with their singing, reading and behaviour. Thank you to our families and parishioners who were able to join us for this special occasion. I am sure you will all join us in congratulating Mrs Cawley on her 40 years of service to St Stephen's and her well-deserved award!

Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – 'Break the Silence'

The children have enjoyed taking part in a range of activities this week based on the theme of 'Break the Silence.' We welcomed Altru-Drama back into school who performed an anti-bullying show called 'Agents of Change' to launch this important week to the children. Our Mini Vinnies led a special assembly for the whole school, there have been a range of PSHE lessons on anti-bullying and an Odd Sock Day to celebrate everyone being special, unique and valued. The children have been encouraged to 'Break the Silence' by talking to a trusted friend or adult if they feel uncomfortable or upset by the actions of someone else.

Christmas at Stephen's

Our Christmas events poster for the upcoming festive season was sent home earlier this week to all families as a paper copy to help you keep track of what is happening in school throughout December – stick it on your fridge! We will be sending home ticket information for our EYFS and KS1 Nativity Plays next week.

School Choir Fundraiser – Raffle Prize Draw Friday 27th November

Please see the poster below from our KS2 Choir. They are fundraising next week in order to help towards the cost of participating and transport arrangements for the Young Voices Concert that they will be taking part in at the Co-Op Live in Manchester in January 2027. Raffle tickets will be on sale every day next week and the prize draw will take place next Friday in assembly!

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 27th November

On Friday 27th November, we are inviting all pupils to wear their own clothes to school and in return make a small chocolate donation to add towards our Christmas hampers. All of the donated chocolate will then be organised and made into huge hampers which will be raffled at each of our EYFS/KS1 Christmas performances and KS2 Carol Concert in December. All monies raised from the raffles will be used to spend on our pupils and their learning experiences in the Spring and Summer Terms.

After School Clubs finish next week

Next week is the last week that our Autumn Term after school clubs will run. There will be no clubs running during the last three weeks of the term. Thank you to all the children who have attended the clubs over the last 10 weeks and to the staff who have given up their time to run the clubs.

ADVANCE NOTICE: Year 4 Advent Service – Thursday 10th December

On Thursday 10th December, our Year 4 children have been chosen to represent St. Stephen's at the Advent Service at the Cathedral in Liverpool. The children will leave school at 9.15am and arrive at the Cathedral in time for the service at 10.15am. The service will end at approximately 11.15am so the children will be back at school in time for their lunch by 12.15pm. If any families are able to make a toy donation for the children to take along to the service, we will be very grateful as they will be donated to Nugent Care who support families in need at Christmas. Pupils are to wear smart school uniform on the day and wear a warm, waterproof coat as it can be chilly in the Cathedral.

ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Chocolate Hamper Raffle!



Tickets: £1 each

Help us send our school choir to Young Voices!

YV YOUNG VOICES

Your support will help our choir take part in this amazing event.

Raffle tickets will be sold from:
Monday – Thursday (23rd – 26th Nov)

The raffle will be drawn in assembly on:
Friday 27th Nov

Good luck!

Let's Celebrate...

Gospel Value: Love			Proud Work of the Week:		
	YR	Maja		YR	Sya
	Y1	Cherry		Y1	Axel
	Y2	Georgia		Y2	Dhwanik
	Y3	Corey		Y3	Sienah
	Y4	Anthony		Y4	Harley
	Y5	Laura		Y5	Macy
	Y6	Jayden B		Y6	Frankie

Lunchtime Stars:		Sports Stars:
YR	Gracie	**EYFS/KS1:**
Y1	Matej	**Dorothy Y2** *For performing a great sequence of shapes in gymnastics*
Y2	Lucas	
Y3	Theo	**KS2:**
Y4	Bobby S	**Leah Y5** *For always showing excellent listening and effort in PE lessons*
Y5	Sienna	
Y6	Frankie	



Rainbow Champions



R: Raphael, Lucas, Adelaide, Julia, Maja, Liza, Sya

Y1: Gheorghe, Maya, Kai, Purna, Paisley, Barney, Sofia, Axel, Maya, Maia, Miyah, Akwaugo, Emily

Y2: Dorothy, Genelia, Jan, Esme, Lucas, Georgia, Victoria, Tomas, Vito, Atlas, Serenity, Albert, Emilia, Dhwanik, Elizabeth, Niya, Alex

Y3: Scarlett, Alex, Anthony, Leona, Corey

Y4: Davids, Caesar, Kobe, Anthony, Niamh, Alan, Laura, Bobby N, Hunter, Olivia

Y5: Oscar, Roman, Madison, Barbora, Maisy, Mathias, Leah

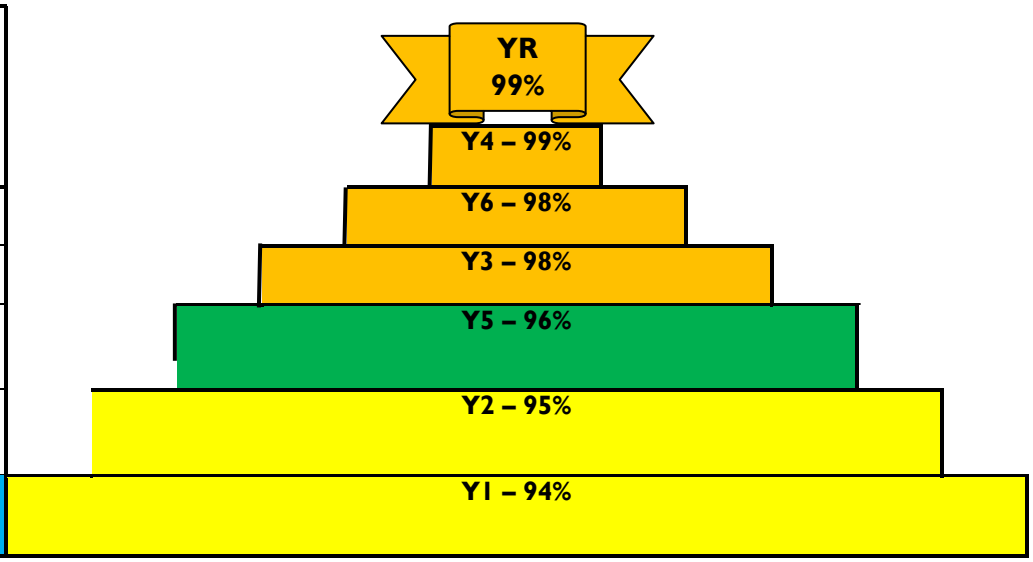
Y6: Madison, Lacey, Bella, Fatima, Jaiden, Sonny, Phoebe, Hallie, Grace, Olivia, Alfie, Luke, Diana, Moses, Max, Harry, Bailey, Bradley, Sophie

Attendance Update...

Congratulations to YR 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
17/9/26	1.00pm	Y5 Swimming lessons begin
21/9/26	9.00am	Y6 Stay and Read with parents/carers
21/9/26	All day	International Day of Peace
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
9/10/26	All day	Own clothes day for tombola donations
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
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
20/11/26	2.00pm	Thanksgiving Mass
23/11/26	All week	Autumn Term after school clubs finish this week
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 1 of the menu when we return after the half term break:

