



St Stephen's  
CE Primary School

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

# NEWSLETTER

14: FRIDAY 12th DECEMBER 2025

*Learning, loving and growing together as God's children*



## Christmas AT ST. STEPHEN'S



**NATIVITIES** - Our wonderful children have been working hard to bring the Christmas story to life. We can't wait for you to see their performances! EY on Monday at 2pm and KS1 on Wednesday at 2pm - see you then!

**CHRISTINGLE** - A beautiful tradition that reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas. Join us for this special celebration at St Stephen's Church on Wednesday at 6pm.

**PARTY DAYS** - A chance for everyone to celebrate together before the holidays with games, music, and treats. Children to wear their party clothes (suitable for a day in school). Please see School Money.



## KS2 HUNGRY TUMS



Our Hungry Tums provision is designed to support children and families who may be experiencing food shortages at home and need additional help. It is not a breakfast service, and all our children are expected to have eaten breakfast before arriving at school. Hungry Tums exists to ensure that no child goes hungry during the day, and we appreciate your understanding and cooperation in using this support as intended. Thank you for helping us keep this resource available for those who truly need it.

As we move through the winter months, we know seasonal illnesses like colds and flu are more common. While some symptoms (fever, sickness, diarrhoea) require time off, some can be managed in school (sore throat, cough, cold). If a child is unwell, we will send them home. We know our parents value learning and progress as much as we do so let's continue to work together for every child to have 96%+ attendance, ensuring they don't miss valuable opportunities to learn and thrive. Thank you for working with us to make every day count! You can view your child's attendance % on Arbor.

## ATTENDANCE



## STAY CONNECTED WITH US:

Phone: 0161 764 1132

Email: [ststephens@thesycamoretrust.co.uk](mailto:ststephens@thesycamoretrust.co.uk)

Facebook: [St Stephen's CE Primary School, Bury.](#)

Website: [www.ststephensceprimary.co.uk/](http://www.ststephensceprimary.co.uk/)



LOGIN

LOG INTO OUR  
SCHOOL APPS:

Arbor 93%  
Parent Portal usage



School Money


## THIS WEEK'S ST.STEPHEN'S SUPERSTARS ARE:

Reception	Abeera	Melissa
Year 1	Deborah	Rhema
Year 2	Jordan	Emma
Year 3	Rhyan	Hassan
Year 4	Sonny	Zoe
Year 5	Eddie	Zahra
Year 6	Dexter	Musa

## THIS WEEK'S CHARACTER SUPERSTARS ARE:

EYFS	Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Jayden - R	Dominion - Y1	Daniel - Y6

## THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

N	96%	2	98.13%	5	83%
R	92.69%	3	97.08%	6	94.83%
1	99.17%	4	94.74%		

Number of lates: 23



5 to 9 - be on time!





# STAYING SAFE

Keeping our children, and each other, safe is our number 1 priority at St Stephen's. Each week we will share key information we hope will be useful to our families.



[Link here to our school website for helpful information, links and downloads.](#)

If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Denney (DSL), Mrs Garside or Mr Smith (DDSL)

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Regularly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TOY SCALPING, FAKES & SCAMS

Online scalping is when individuals or groups use automated software (bots) to bulk-buy high-demand items – such as gaming consoles, concert tickets, limited-edition trainers, or exclusive merchandise – with the intention of reselling them at vastly inflated prices. It's a fast-moving online trend that can frustrate young consumers and expose them to misleading practices or financial harm. As this unethical tactic grows, it's important to help children and young people understand how scalping works and how to navigate it responsibly.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- FINANCIAL PRESSURE AND MANIPULATION**  
Scalpers create artificial scarcity by buying up large quantities of items before the public has a fair chance to purchase them. This drives up demand and pushes prices to extreme levels. Young people may feel intense pressure to spend more than they can afford for fear of missing out entirely.
- EXPLOITATION OF FANDOMS**  
Scalping often targets popular releases with strong fan bases, knowing that loyal followers are emotionally invested. Children and young people may place huge value on owning certain items linked to their favourite artists, sports teams or games, making them more likely to accept unfair prices or questionable sellers.
- ACCESSING UNSAFE WEBSITES**  
In the rush to secure rare items, young people might click through to unverified sellers, online marketplaces with little consumer protection, or even sites designed specifically to harvest personal and financial data. This can expose them to fraud, malware, and identity theft.
- NORMALISING UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR**  
Some influencers and online communities present scalping as a clever money-making scheme rather than an exploitative one. This can normalise unethical behaviour and blur the line between legitimate business and opportunistic profiteering for younger audiences.
- RISK OF SCAMS OR COUNTERFEIT GOODS**  
Not every high-priced resale is legitimate. Fraudulent sellers may take payment for goods they never send, or ship counterfeited versions of branded items. In some cases, the products may look authentic in photos but turn out to be of poor quality or completely different from what was advertised.
- REINFORCING INEQUALITY**  
Scalping makes already expensive items even less accessible, particularly for lower-income families. Children may feel excluded from trends or shared experiences with friends if their family cannot meet the inflated prices, which can lead to feelings of isolation and disappointment.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

- TALK ABOUT ONLINE FAIRNESS**  
Use scalping as an opportunity to discuss fairness, consumer ethics, and how some people exploit markets for profit. Encouraging children to think critically about whether they truly need an item – and at what cost – can help them make more considered decisions.
- ENCOURAGE PATIENCE OVER IMPULSE**  
Teach young people to wait for official releases or future releases instead of paying over the odds. Many products come back into circulation, and patience can save significant amounts of money while reducing the likelihood of falling victim to scams.
- SUPPORT INFORMED PURCHASING**  
Show children how to check seller credentials, read independent reviews, and verify whether a site is secure before making any payment. Knowing how to spot red flags, such as unrealistic promises or missing contact details, can prevent costly mistakes.
- SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES**  
Establish clear rules for online spending, including limits on prepaid cards, gifting gift cards, and online wallets. Discuss the real-world value of money spent on digital or collector's items so children understand the long-term impact of their purchases.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Home to the world's largest CPS library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

**The National College**

**#WakeUpWednesday**

**The National College**

Source: WakeUpWednesday for any guide page(s)

**@wake\_up\_weds** **/www.thenationalcollege** **@wake.up.wednesday** **@wake.up.weds**

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Content as of the date of release: 10.11.2025



Our EFS accreditation signifies that our school has implemented a whole-school approach to address emotional needs, including clear safeguarding and health and safety policies, demonstrating a strong focus on creating a safe and supportive learning environment for ALL. We are very proud to be the first primary in Bury to receive this!

St. Stephen's is an Emotionally Friendly Setting

Please see Padlet links below for further support:  
[For children and young people](#)  
[For parents and carers](#)







**YOU are in the spotlight:**

*Lacey-Mai*

**Favourite food:** Takis (crisps) **Year 6**

**Favourite film/programme:** Vampire

Diaries

**Favourite subject:** English

*you are*  
A·M·A·Z·I·N·G

**What is the best thing about St Stephen's?**

The teachers

**What would make St Stephen's better?**

More Forest School trips

**What is your greatest achievement**

**in school?** Getting greater depth in my mock SATs reading paper

**What is your greatest achievement out of school?** Dance/drama

**Anything else?** My favourite colour is red and I like curry and pretzels

If you need support with your wellbeing, speak to one of our Wellbeing Warriors, Mrs Cooney or Katie. YOU matter!



**Wellbeing Club with Katie every:**

**MONDAY**

12.30-1.00pm in HUB Connect

**Joke of the week:**

What is a plumber's favourite vegetable?

A leek!



**REMEMBER!**

to prioritise your

**You're**

**awesome**

**Wellbeing**

This week, the Wellbeing Warriors have chosen to focus on:

“

**TAKE NOTICE**

Pause and take 3 deep breaths when feeling stressed

”

**WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING**



INTRODUCE THESE FIVE SIMPLE STRATEGIES INTO YOUR LIFE AND YOU WILL FEEL THE BENEFITS.

NHS 5 ways to wellbeing.

**Thought of the week:**

**THE TROUBLE WITH GOSSIP**

A person who gossips ruins friendships.

Proverbs 16:28

**KID TIP**

Don't say something behind someone's back that you wouldn't say to that person's face.

**A PRAYER FOR TODAY**

Lord, make me a person who says the same things to other people that I say about them. Make my words helpful, encouraging, and true. And let the light of Christ shine in me and through me, today and forever. Amen.

Hello, my name is Katie



### Who are Bury Mental Health Support Team (MHST)?

We are a service who works with Bury schools and colleges to support children and young people who struggle with their mental health.

Our goals are:

- To work with children, young people or parents on their own or in a group.
- To work with teachers to make school an emotionally friendly place for all.
- To give advice to school staff to help children and young people get the right support.

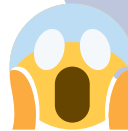


I'm an Education Mental Health Practitioner

### How can I help?

I am trained to help children and young people, who may start to struggle with emotions such as;

**Worry, sadness or fear**



My allocated day with your school is:

**MONDAY**

From 3<sup>rd</sup>

**November 2025**

I work all year round so, i can support you during the school holidays.

### How to ask for help?

If you are struggling with your emotions, please speak to;

- Your teacher
- Mrs Denney
- Mrs Cooney
- Parents/Carers
- Any trusted adult



### What do I do?

- Work closely with school staff to help make school a happy and emotionally friendly place for everyone.
- Deliver workshops and teaching for school staff, pupils and parents.
- Offer advice about other services that are available within Bury so that you get the right support.



### A bit about me:

Some fun facts about me:

- I really enjoy reading
- My favourite animal is a Lion
- I don't like spiders!



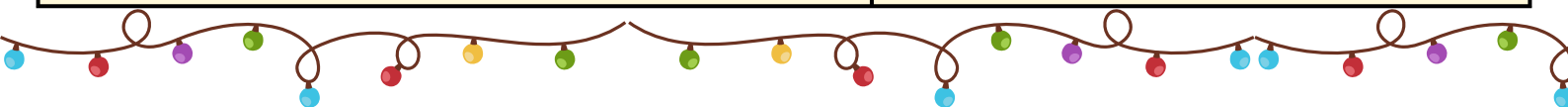
I look forward to working within your school and meeting you all.

**Katie is in school every**  
**MONDAY**



For the year's overview, please view school calendar

Event	Date
Celebration Worship	Fridays 3pm
EYFS Nativity	Monday 15th December at 2pm
KS2 Panto Trip - see School Money for payment	Wednesday 17th December
KS1 Christmas Show	Wednesday 17th December - 2pm
Christingle Service at <u>St Stephen's Church</u>	Wednesday 17th December - 6pm
EYFS & KS1 Christmas Party Day	Thursday 18th December
KS2 Party Day	Friday 19th December
Close for Christmas holidays	Friday 19th December at <b>2:30pm</b>
Pupils return to school	Monday 5th January 2026
Year 3 trip to Bolton Museum - see School Money	Friday 9th January



**REMINDER:** On Friday  
19th December,  
St Stephen's closes at  
**2:30pm**





# Antarctica: How might challenges help us grow?

## TAKEHOME

8th - 14th  
December

How might challenges help us grow?



## In the news this week

An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski. If he succeeds, he will break the world record for the longest sit-ski journey to the South Pole. Darren hopes his challenge will raise money for charity and show that his injury does not limit what he can achieve.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- > How do you think Darren will feel at each stage of his challenge (before, during, and after)?
- > What kinds of challenges do you think can help you grow the most – something physical, emotional, or trying something new?
- > Can you recall a challenge you have set yourself and achieved? Ask others at home about their experiences.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



© Picture News 2025

USE  
your  
VOICE

# What do you think?

“They make you stronger.”

- Kyle, Year 6



# **CHRISTINGLE 2025**

**17TH DEC 6PM  
ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH  
ELTON**

**PRIZE FOR THE BEST  
NATIVITY COSTUME**