

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



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

NEWSLETTER

20: FRIDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2026

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



Our school supports the...



BURY EARLY YEARS
COMMUNICATION
CHAMPION NETWORK

Welcome CCA



This week, a new logo was shared—and it carries very special meaning. The design honours two incredible women: Mrs Smith (in blue) and Jen from Hoyle Nursery School (in purple). Together, they devoted many years to supporting countless children and families with care, compassion, and commitment.

We were so touched by this tribute and remain incredibly grateful for Mrs Smith's lasting legacy within our community. We have already shared the logo with her family, who were moved by the acknowledgement, and we wanted to share it with you as well.

On Monday 2nd February we officially welcomed Christ Church Ainsworth to our Sycamore Family. It was wonderful to be with them to worship and celebrate. We are now 7 schools, exciting times!



Grow together. learn forever



Ask your child, what does it mean to be an UPstander at St. Stephen's?

This week, we revisited the idea of being an UPstander at St. Stephen's. We reminded the children that we all share the responsibility to speak up, make a positive impact and support others—at home, in school and in our wider community. You can find more information on page 5.

N - Never Give Up
E - Encourage Others
D - Do Your Best

STAY CONNECTED WITH US:

Phone: 0161 764 1132

Email: ststephens@thesycamoretrust.co.uk

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

Website: www.ststephensceprimary.co.uk/



LOGIN

LOG INTO OUR

SCHOOL APPS:



Arbor 94%
Parent Portal usage



School Money

OUR ST.STEPHEN'S SUPERSTARS:

BACK



NEXT



OUR CHARACTER SUPERSTARS:

WEEK

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY:

<u>NURSERY</u>	81.63%	0 lates	<u>YEAR 3</u>	95.6%	1 lates
<u>RECEPTION</u>	98.08%	3 lates	<u>YEAR 4</u>	91.43%	0 lates
<u>YEAR 1</u>	97.08%	0 lates	<u>YEAR 5</u>	98.0%	0 lates
<u>YEAR 2</u>	96.25%	2 lates	<u>YEAR 6</u>	97.24%	0 lates

Number of lates this week: 6



Down from 5 last week!

Punctuality Champions: Nursery, Y1, Y4, Y5 and Y6

96%

Attendance Heroes: Reception



Parent information, support and signposting

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)



St. Stephen's is an Emotionally Friendly Setting

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!

Please see Padlet links below for further support:

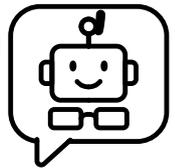
[For children and young people](#)

[For parents and carers](#)

CLICK HERE



Supporting safe use of AI



AI is becoming a familiar part of young people's online experiences, with a growing number of school tools and entertainment platforms now using it. This guide breaks down what AI really is, helping adults explain it clearly and realistically so children don't overestimate its abilities or trust it unquestioningly.

Download your FREE [copy here](#) >>



The Local Offer helps SEND families access information about the services that are available to them.



BURY YOUTH CABINET



YOUTH PARLIAMENT ELECTION 2026

Aged 11-18?
Then you can vote for your next member of Youth Parliament. Who do you want to represent young people in Bury?



Molly Levy

I would like to be Bury's MYP because I want to make a difference to Bury and the world I live in. I want to fight racism and inequality wherever I meet it but I also want to make Bury a safer and cleaner place, so that young people can be proud of it. I'm 13 but not as all shy and I'll always stand up for my beliefs and the people I represent.



Alexandro Ghanem

I am standing as Bury MYP to make youth voice impossible to ignore. I will push for a youth led website where every young person can demand change and help decide what gets fixed in Bury. I will push harder for more sports activities, full access to pitches for everyone, and proper fixing of factories. I will fight for cheaper youth bus prices, better mental health support, stronger youth services, and real opportunities for all.



Max Kenyon

I would be an MP for the people, not the parties, and all I want to do is engage with the public and find their voice. I am a diligent, fair and sincere person and my policies involve potentially expanding the DurrPass to the Metrolink and implementing more nurses in schools to support and aid the mental health of Bury children. Remember! A wide smile is a vote for you!



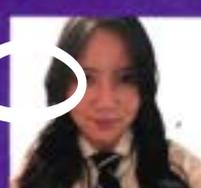
Ted Powditch

I, Ted Powditch want to be Bury's MYP so I can improve Bury's safety for the young people of Bury and improve student's mental health training so that teachers can help students who may need help or someone to listen.



Tobias Dickson

I believe I should be the youth MP because I have 3 years experience in Youth Cabinet and other organisations gaining valuable experience for the well as demonstrating my commitment and dedication. I am also an advocate of trust equality and believe everyone should have the same chances and opportunities to succeed as well as having the freedom to be whoever they want.



Hannah Clark

Young people in Bury don't need more empty promises. We need change and that change starts with a happier youth. I will fight for there to be safe inclusion spaces, like clubs, for young people to socialise and express themselves. I will work with existing mental health services to improve education on emotional health. I aim to represent all young people and create a safer, more supportive community. Vote for happiness, vote for Hannah.



Aisa Khan

Voting for me would be a vote for a proactive leader who cares about making positive change in our borough and helping children and teenagers in Bury feel safe. By listening to the experiences and ideas of those in our area, my priorities would be to take action to improve safety, prevent hate crimes and violence in and around schools and work with our community to use power to make a positive difference.



Emily Dafter

Secondary school student in Bury and I want to help improve Bury that will positively affect all of you. My goals are simple but important. Firstly I want to make sure every young person in Bury is able to access Health Services. Also, I will help make Bee Network Services and stops safer. I encourage you to reflect carefully as your vote matters. Thank you.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

VOTE NOW

We are incredibly proud of this superstar!

We are delighted to celebrate Emily, one of our former St. Stephen's superstars, who is currently in the running for the 2026 Youth Parliament for Bury.

During her time with us, Emily consistently used her voice and energy for positive change. She was not only an outstanding learner, known for her focus and determination, but also a true role model for her character and behaviour. Emily embraced every opportunity available to her and demonstrated exceptional leadership throughout her time at school.

She served as a prefect and was an active member of our School Ethos Team, School Council, Eco Team, and Choir, alongside many other contributions. Whatever she committed to, Emily always approached it with enthusiasm, focus, and excellence. We are absolutely thrilled to see the continued positive impact Emily is having on the world around her. Voting will take place over the coming weeks in our local high schools and colleges – and we encourage everyone eligible to vote for Emily!

The UPstanders Programme at St Stephen's

At St Stephen's, we are committed to creating a school environment where every child feels safe, valued, and supported. As part of this commitment, we follow a whole-school approach designed to empower pupils to speak up, show kindness, and take positive action when they see someone being treated unfairly.

What is an UPstander?

An UPstander is someone who:

- Stands up for others
- Helps others who may be feeling left out or upset
- Speaks out against unkind behaviour
- Helps to create a culture of respect, empathy, and inclusion



The Upstanders Programme helps pupils:

- Recognise the difference between playful behaviour and unkind behaviour
- Understand how their actions affect others
- Build confidence to use UPstander language such as **'Stop that, I don't like it!'**



It also reinforces our school values.



How you can support at home

We encourage parents and carers to:

- Talk with your child about what it means to be an UPstander
- Praise them when they show kindness or speak up
- Reinforce UPstander language such as 'Stop that, I don't like it!'
- Reinforce that telling an adult is not "telling tales," but helping keep others safe

Together, we can help our pupils grow into confident, compassionate individuals who make a positive difference in their schools, homes and community.

[Watch video here](#)

If you have any questions about the UPstanders Programme, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher or a member of the senior leadership team.



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

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



YOU'RE INVITED!

Monday 9th February Family Breakfast 8.15am



Join us for a slice of toast and a hot/cold drink. We can't wait to see you!



We are delighted to be joined by Sarah from Bury Libraries Services as part of Our Year of Reading

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.



Parent Workshop

 9am

Supporting Your Child's Sleep

In this session, we will:

Understand what sleep is and why it matters for children's learning, behaviour and wellbeing

Explore simple, effective strategies you can use at home to support your child's sleep routine

Come and join us



What's on the menu next week?

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Main	Hot Chicken Tikka Panini	Pasta Carbonara	Roast Chicken Dinner With Gravy	Cottage Pie	Chicken Fajitas
	Hot Halal Chicken Tikka Panini	Halal Chicken Pasta Carbonara	Halal Roast Chicken Dinner With Gravy	Halal Cottage Pie	Halal Chicken Fajitas
	Hot Quorn Tikka Panini	Free Range Omelette & Cheese	Roast Quorn Fillet Dinner With Gravy	Pasta Arrabiata with Cherry Tomatoes	Breaded Fish Fingers
	Bean Jacket Potato	Cheese Jacket Potato	Tuna Jacket Potato	Bean Jacket Potato	Cheese Jacket Potato
	Cheese Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Egg Sandwich
Accompaniments	Jacket Wedges Garlic Mayonnaise Sweetcorn	Spiced & Diced New Potatoes Fluted Carrots	Garlic Thyme Roast Potatoes Fresh Cauliflower Fresh Carrots	Steamed Mixed Vegetables Potato Salad	Oven Chips Garden Peas
Dessert	Apple & Cinnamon Flapjack Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit	Rice Pudding Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Gingerbread Biscuit Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit	Wibble Strawberry Mousse Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Raspberry Fruit Smoothie Pot Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit



Agape Day

FEB 13 | FRIDAY

AGAPE IS AN ANCIENT GREEK WORD MEANING LOVE OR CHARITY. THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT AGAPE IS THE HIGHEST TYPE OF LOVE, AND IT IS THE LOVE THAT GOD HAS FOR HUMANS. AGAPE INVOLVES FEELING SO MUCH LOVE FOR SOMEONE THAT YOU PUT THEM BEFORE YOURSELF.

WEAR YOUR OWN CLOTHES WITH
SOMETHING WITH A HEART ON IT
OR SOMETHING RED/PINK

£1

*Share how you
have spread love
with us on
Facebook!*

PINK LEMONADE
ON SALE AT
PLAY TIME AND
LUNCH TIME
(SUBJECT TO
AVAILABILITY)
FOR **50^P**

‘Love one another, as I have loved you’

John 13:34

Spring 2026 East Bury Community Educational Psychology Service (CEPS)

Parent/Carer Bulletin

Upcoming CEPS Events for Parents

Parent Drop In

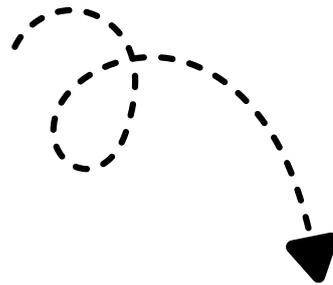
- Wednesday 25th February | 9:00am - 12:00pm
- Microsoft Teams

Parent Drop In

- Tuesday 17th March | 13:00pm-15:00pm
- Microsoft Teams

Parent Drop In

- Thursday 26th March | 16:00pm - 18:00pm
- Microsoft Teams



SEE NEXT PAGE...

Articles for parents in supporting children through grief, eating difficulties, and festive stress [here](#).
To register for talks: Kooth Talks Sign-Up | Contact: kel@kooth.com

For general enquiries, please contact your Assistant Community Educational
Psychologist: r.lak@bury.gov.uk

BURY COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE (CEPS)



Book a 30 minute slot with a Trainee
Community Educational Psychologist.
Get practical advice on:

1. Supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities.
2. Guidance around child development.
3. Strategies to improve learning and engagement in education.

Discussions available in English or Urdu.
With three members of our CEPS team:
Lauren Smith, Rafia Safdar & Romessa Lak.



WEDS, 25TH FEBRUARY
9:00 AM - 12.00 PM



TEAMS MEETING
ONLINE

Sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/maianKtwQd>





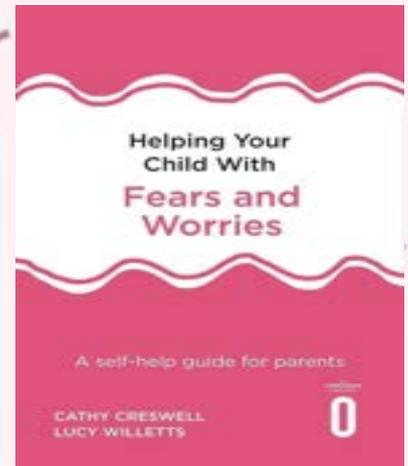
The Overcoming Programme

Group sessions to help parents support children experiencing anxiety.

What is the overcoming programme?

The Overcoming Programme involves **6 sessions** aimed at **parents/carers of children aged between 5 and 12 years old** where the main concern is **anxiety**. The programme uses a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) based approach to focus on changing the way adults around the child respond to anxious feelings by problem solving and creating shared goals and rewards.

8-10 other parents will be in the group with you. There will be **five 2 hour sessions** over the six weeks.



Evidence behind the programme

The Overcoming Programme has strong evidence behind it and is based on the book *Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries* (Creswell & Willetts, 2019). You will be able to read (or listen to) this book to help you as you work through the programme

When & Where?

There are 5 separate overcoming programmes running in Bury throughout the spring and summer terms (the duration of all programmes will be 6 weeks):

Group 1: Morning, in-person sessions, commencing in March 2026.

Group 2: Morning, online sessions, commencing in April 2026.

Group 3: Morning, featuring a combination of in-person and online sessions, commencing in April 2026.

Group 4: Late afternoon, Online sessions commencing in May 2026.

Group 5: Late afternoon sessions, featuring a combination of online and in-person sessions, commencing in May 2026.

What to expect:

An opportunity to meet other parents/ carers who are experiencing a similar situation and support from the group, as well as the Community Educational Psychology Service.

Time to think about how you can best support your child at home and the strategies you can use to do this.

'Homework' between sessions (reading/ listening to part of the book, trying out new strategies with your child).

Attendance at all sessions is really important. Both parents are welcome to attend, but it is important that one parent attends consistently

How to book on?

To book your place, please fill out the booking form using the link or QR code below:

[CLICK HERE](#)



The sessions will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

If you have any further questions, please email ceps@bury.gov.uk, indicating your child's school, so your query can be directed to an appropriate member of the team.



THE YEAR OF READING AT ST. STEPHEN'S MR SMITH

One of my favourite types of books to read are sports autobiographies because they give an honest insight into the challenges athletes face both on and off the field.



My top tip for reading is to choose autobiographies of sports people you admire – it makes reading feel relevant, motivating, and inspiring.

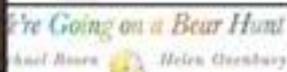
AUTHOR WORDS OF THE WEEK

The one, the only! Mr. Michael Rosen! @MichaelRosenYes and

@vocabularyninja

Michael Rosen

I was born on May 7th 1946 in a place called Harrow, Middlesex. My parents told me that the night I was born, the church next door to where we lived burned down. Out the back of the shops there was a wide alleyway where all the cars, vans and lorries came to deliver the things that were sold in the shops. It was also our playground. At one end of it, there was a builders' yard where carpenters, plumbers and painters prepared the windows, doors, pipes and things for the jobs they were doing in nearby houses. Their dump was my playground too.



mishadamonk - a mess or messy room.

Une Libellule - French for dragonfly.



ST. STEPHEN'S HAVE BEEN

This EYFS superstar loves to be out and about reading: at the library, at the museum and at the Victoria Hall, Bolton.

CAUGHT READING..



WELCOME BACK

WEEK DAYS (ALL LOCATIONS)

Tuesday 10AM - 4.30PM
 Wednesday 10AM - 4.30PM
 Thursday 12:30PM - 7PM
 Friday 10AM - 4.30PM

WEEKENDS

Saturday 9:30AM - 1PM
 (BURY, RADCLIFFE & RAMSBOTTOM)
 SUNDAY 9:30AM - 1PM
 (PRESTWICH)
 VISIT US ONLINE AT
 WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES

Proud to support
 The National Year
 of Reading 2026.

GO
 ALL
 IN.

YOU are in the spotlight:

Amelia **Year 6**

Favourite food: My mum's cooking
Favourite film/programme: The Grinch
Favourite subject: Art
What is the best thing about St Stephen's? That everyone is kind
What would make St Stephen's better?
 More playground equipment
What is your greatest achievement in school? Getting 'Good Learner'
What is your greatest achievement out of school? Nothing
Anything else? No **A·M·A·Z·I·N·G** *you are*

REMEMBER! You're **awesome**
 to prioritise your
Wellbeing

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

GIVE
 Support a local fundraiser or cause

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



WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING

CONNECT TALK & LISTEN, BE THERE, FEEL CONNECTED	Give Your time, your words, your presence	TAKE NOTICE REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY	KEEP LEARNING EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES, SEE OPPORTUNITIES, SURPRISE YOURSELF	BE ACTIVE NO LIMIT YOU CAN, ENJOY WHAT YOU DO, MOVE YOUR BODY
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INTRODUCE THESE FIVE SIMPLE STRATEGIES INTO YOUR LIFE AND YOU WILL FEEL THE BENEFITS.

[NHS 5 ways to wellbeing.](#)

Thought of the week:

IN CONTROL

A person without self-control is as defenseless as a city with broken-down walls. Proverbs 25:28

KID TIP

When you learn how to control yourself, you'll be happier ... and your parents will be happier too.

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

Dear Lord, I want to be able to control myself better and better each day. Help me find better ways to behave myself that are pleasing to you. Amen.

Wellbeing Club with Katie every:

MONDAY

12.30-1.00pm in HUB Connect

Joke of the week:

Q: What do you call a man with no shins?

A: Toe-knee *ha ha ha*

Bury

Young People's
Mental Health
Support Team
Thrive in Education

Hello, my name is Katie



NHS

Pennine Care
NHS Foundation Trust

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 3rd

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

In partnership with:

& Early Break



For the year's overview, please view school calendar

Event	Date
Celebration Worship	Friday 3pm
FAMILY BREAKFAST	Monday 9th February at 8:15am
Y3 Ancient Egyptian Dress-Up Day Y3 Stay and Learn session	Wednesday 11th February Wednesday 11th February at 3:00pm
Ramadan Experience Day - by invitation only	Thursday 12th February
February half-term	Monday 16th - Friday 20th February
BEE Proud Sports Event - by invitation only	Wednesday 25th February
Reception & Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme	Thursday 26th February
A Bury Good Offer	Thursday 5th March
Vocabulary Day	Friday 6th March
Spring Assessment Week	Monday 9th - Friday 13th March
Spring Wellbeing Walk around Elton Reservoir	Saturday 14th March
Parents' Consultation Evening	Wednesday 18th March
Easter Bingo!	Friday 27th March
Year 5 Easter Service	Thursday 2nd April at 2:00pm
Easter Holidays	Friday 3rd - Friday 17th April
Y4 Viking & Anglo-Saxon workshop (in school)	Thursday 23rd April

THIS WEEK



Picture News

Seeing Ourselves: Does seeing yourself in a toy or story help you feel like you belong?

TAKEHOME



In the news this week

A toy company called Mattel has released a new Barbie doll designed to represent people who have autism, with features such as a fidget spinner and noise-cancelling headphones. The doll was created with help from the autistic community, so more people can see themselves reflected in their toys.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Do you think it's important for toys to show different kinds of people?
- How do you feel when you see a character or toy that is like you?
- Can you come up with other examples of books or toys that aim to help people feel included?
- How can we help other people feel included when they might feel different or left out?



Does seeing yourself in a toy or story help you feel like you belong?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



© Picture News 2026

USE
your
VOICE

What do you think?

Henry in Year 5 shared that he feels represented in stories that don't have your 'typical' heroes in.

Tickets on sale in school
Sunday afternoons 2pm-4pm



Snow White



tickets £7 children £3

Thursday 19th, Friday 20th,
Saturday 21st February 2026
Curtain up at 7:15pm

St Stephen's School, Colville Drive BL9 2DX
Contact Gill on 07872 389561 for further details
In association with St Stephen's Church



Greater Manchester

NEED URGENT DENTAL CARE AND DONT HAVE A DENTIST OR DENTIST CLOSED? WE CAN HELP!



WHAT WE DO

We support people with **urgent dental conditions** to:

- Help find urgent appointments locally
- Support you with urgent care if you don't have a dentist or if your dentist is closed
- Provide same-day advice and help you manage your urgent dental problem where appropriate



WHEN TO USE THIS SERVICE

In Hours (Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm)

If you have a dentist, you should contact them first. If you don't have a dentist, we can triage your problem and help, providing you meet the eligibility criteria.

Out of hours (Mon-Fri 6pm-10pm, wknds & bank holidays 8am-10pm)

We can help all patients with urgent dental issues

After 10pm

Call NHS 111 for urgent dental advice



FOR URGENT DENTAL ISSUES

Urgent dental problems include the following conditions, which should receive self-help advice and treatment (where appropriate) within 24 hours:

- Dental and soft tissue infections
- Severe dental and facial pain; that is, pain that cannot be controlled by the patient following self-help advice
- Fractured teeth or tooth

Please note: This is an appointment-only service and carries a fee (currently £27.40 as of April 2025), which may increase annually with inflation. If you would like help finding an NHS dentist for routine care, please visit: www.nhs.uk



Greater Manchester
Urgent Primary Care Alliance

GM Urgent Dental Care Telephony Service

CALL NOW 0333 332 3800

Open 8am-10pm, 7 days a week (including weekends & bank holidays)