



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

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

NEWSLETTER

23: FRIDAY 6th MARCH 2026

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

Reading Treasure Hunt and Vocabulary Day

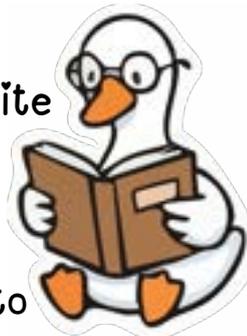


★ AMBITION

Our ambition: 'We want every St Stephen's child to leave our school as a confident, fluent reader who loves books!'

YOU CAN HELP IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- 1) Read together every day
- 2) Let your child see you reading
- 3) Re-read favourite books together
- 4) Explore new words together
- 5) Ask your child to read real-life text, e.g. shop signs



A big thank you to all our parents for your incredible efforts in making our Reading Treasure Hunt and Vocabulary Day such a success. You are truly brilliant partners in our children's learning, and we appreciate every one of you. Thank you!



Please share your photos with us on Facebook



USE your VOICE

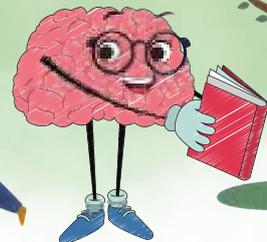
Share your views on the SEND white paper...See page 5 for more details.



Together We Can!

WE NEED YOUR HELP

As part of **The Year of Reading**, we want to show how reading comes in lots of different forms - cuddled up with a picture book at bedtime, looking through the programme at a football match or checking the receipt after the big shop! PLEASE send in photographs of you/your child reading out and about to ststephens@thesycamoretrust.co.uk - we'd love to share them each week in our newsletter and inspire one other!



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

EYF

Y STAGE 1

Y STAGE 2

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY:

<u>NURSERY</u>	91.1%	1 late	<u>YEAR 3</u>	99.6%	2 lates
<u>RECEPTION</u>	92.7%	6 lates	<u>YEAR 4</u>	95.0%	1 late
<u>YEAR 1</u>	98.2%	0 lates	<u>YEAR 5</u>	95.0%	0 lates
<u>YEAR 2</u>	95.6%	1 late	<u>YEAR 6</u>	98.1%	2 lates

Number of lates this week: 13



down from 8 last week

Punctuality Champions: YEAR 1 and YEAR 5



Attendance Heroes: YEAR 3

96%

Appointments in term-time:

Appointments, where possible, should be booked in school holidays or after school. This includes routine dental and optician appointments.

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



ENCOURAGING READING



This week it's the perfect chance to spark a love of reading in every child. Stories don't just build literacy skills, they inspire curiosity, boost confidence and open doors to new worlds. This guide highlights simple, practical ways families can make reading part of everyday life. From creating cosy reading spaces to showing children that reading is fun, small habits can make a big impact!



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



Year 6-7 Transition Event

**DON'T
FORGET**

Wed 11th March
3-6pm
Elizabethan Suite,
Knowsley St,
BL9 0SW

Come along to our free event and find support and advice to help make the transition into high school seamless and stress free

**Secondary schools
Mentally healthy schools**

Virtual school team

Kooth

GM travel

Free school meals

Youth Service

Educational Psychology

Early Help

Bury SENDIASS

NSPCC

Bury EHC team





Share your views on the SEND reforms

You may have seen in the media that the Department for Education has published the **SEND White Paper: SEND Reform – Putting Children and Young People First**, which proposes changes to the SEND system. The government is now asking for feedback from parents and carers through a national consultation. These proposals could shape the support children receive in school and how families access support in the future.

This consultation period is an important opportunity for parents and carers to share their experiences and views.

The consultation is open until 18th May.

Complete the consultation:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/send-strategy-division/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-firs/consultation/intro/>

Guidance to support you with your responses:

<https://www.specialneedsjungle.com/39-steps-guidance-to-help-craft-your-response-to-the-white-paper-send-consultation/>

More information about the proposed changes:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people-firstg>



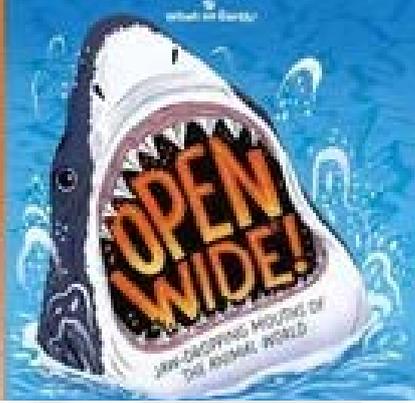
What's on the menu next week?

SCHOOL MENU

	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



THE YEAR OF READING AT ST. STEPHEN'S



Great Books Guide
2025-26: for 6 to 7-
year-olds
[CLICK HERE](#)

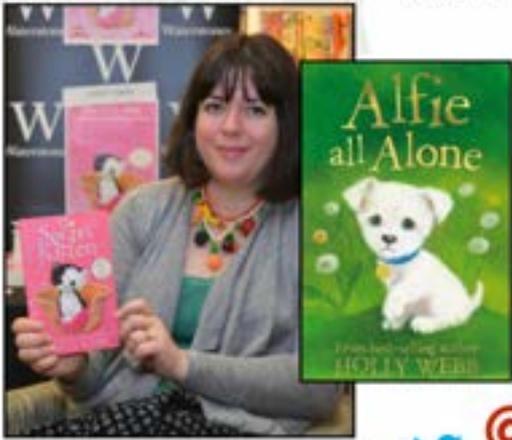


A place I love to read is in bed or on a sun lounger beside the pool on holiday!!
Mrs Harrison



Holly Webb

Holly Webb is a bestselling author of over 80 books and was born and raised in southeast London. The Rose series stems from a childhood love of historical novels and the wish that animals really could talk. Before deciding to become a writer, she worked for five years as a children's fiction editor. She lives in Reading with her husband and three small children.



conspiracy - a secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful.

nuzzle - rub or push against gently with the nose and mouth.

 [@VocabularyNinja](#)

'Words unlock the doors to a world of understanding...'



Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

**GO
ALL
IN.**



Visit your local library!



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



JOIN US



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

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

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



SPRINGTIME



family



WELLBEING WALK

When? Saturday 14th March at 2 pm

Where? Meet at Bolton Road Methodist
Church Car Park

We look forward to seeing you!





St Stephen's
CE Primary School

EASTER Bingo Night

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR OUR
ANNUAL, FUN-FILLED EVENING OF BINGO
GAMES, FOOD, AND EXCITING PRIZES.

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026
6.00PM - 7.30PM

BOOK NOW



ON **schoolmoney**

£3 FAMILY TICKET

INCLUDES FIRST BINGO GAME



22

YOU are in the spotlight:

George Year 3

Favourite food: Chicken nuggets

Favourite film/programme: Minecraft Movie

Favourite subject: Music

What is the best thing about St Stephen's? That everyone is caring

What would make St Stephen's better? If everyone was ready, respectful and safe

What is your greatest achievement in school? Getting cog of the day

What is your greatest achievement out of school? I got star player in football

Anything else? My favourite animal is a kangaroo

you are A.M.A.Z.I.N.G

Kindness spotlight

CHOOSE kindness

Ibrahim Y5

Your kindness makes our school shine!

Wellbeing WISDOM from the warriors:

KEEP LEARNING

Read a book or listen to an audio book

WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING

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

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
DO WHAT YOU CAN, ENJOY WHAT YOU DO, MOVE YOUR MOOD

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

NHS 5 ways to wellbeing.



Reflection of the week: GOD KNOWS

I am the Lord, and I can look into a person's heart. Jeremiah 17:10

Wellbeing Club with Katie every:

MONDAY

12.30-1.00pm in HUB Connect

KID TIP

Made a mistake? Ask for forgiveness? If you've broken one of God's rules, you can always ask Him for His forgiveness. And He will always give it!

Joke of the week:

Q: Why can't you tell a joke to an egg?

A: It might crack up.

REMEMBER! You're awesome

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

Dear Lord, that You for watching over me. Let the things that I say and do be pleasing to You. And Lord, thank You for Your love; let me share it with others today and every day. Amen.

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
Spring Assessment Week	Monday 9th - Friday 13th March
Y6-7 Transition Event at Elizabethan Suite, Bury	Wednesday 11th March 3-6pm
Spring Wellbeing Walk around Elton Reservoir	Saturday 14th March at 2pm
Parents' Consultation Evening	Wednesday 18th March
Easter Bingo!	Friday 27th March
Family Breakfast	Monday 30th March
Y6 Crucial Crew	Wednesday 1st April
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
Bank Holiday - school closed to pupils	Monday 4th May
Local Elections - school closed to pupils	Thursday 7th May
Y6 KS2 SATs	Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May
Break the Rules Day	Friday 15th May
May half-term	Monday 25 May - Friday 29th May
Y6 Bikeability	Monday 1st - Friday 5th June
Y6 Residential	Wednesday 10th - Friday 12th June
Y6 Swimming - everyday for 10 days	Monday 15th - Friday 26th June

THIS WEEK



Picture News

Uniform: Should school uniforms be the same for everyone?

TAKEHOME



In the news this week

Brynteg School in Wales has said that from September, skirts will no longer be part of the school uniform. Instead, all children will wear trousers or shorts. The school says this will make the uniform more practical and fairer for everyone, but some parents and pupils have different opinions about the change. This announcement has added to discussions about school rules, fairness, and whether uniforms should be the same for all children.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Talk to someone older at home about your and their experiences of school uniform. Have they changed over time?
- Share your thoughts on the changes Brynteg School is making. Do you feel they are positive changes?
- If you could create your own uniform, what would it look like?

Should school uniforms be the same for everyone?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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USE your VOICE

What do you think?

“No, we think if everyone had to wear pants or shorts it could make a person feel uncomfortable and you won't be able to tell who is from which school” - Poppy & Anaya, Year 6