



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

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

NEWSLETTER

24: FRIDAY 13th MARCH 2026

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

Uniform request



Do you have any good quality school jumpers or cardigans at home your child has grown out of? Please consider donating them to school.

Also, if you have any children's wellington boots you could donate, please bring to the school office.



HAF Vouchers

Vouchers for HAF Easter 2026 have now been issued to all children in receipt of benefits related free school meals. Scan the QR code on Page 9 to book activities.

Find activities



Scan the QR code to find and book activities

next week

What Is a Book Fair?

A book fair is a small pop-up bookshop that comes to our school for a few days. Children can browse a range of exciting, age-appropriate books, and families can choose to buy a book if they wish.



Book Fair

Every book purchased helps our school earn free books for our classrooms—so it's a lovely way to support reading across the school



Reminder!



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

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING

Wednesday 18th March. Spare letters are available in the school office.



A huge well done to our amazing Gymnastics Team! Our talented pupils represented our school brilliantly at the INSPIRE Gymnastics Event held at Goshen. We are so proud of their hard work, confidence, and teamwork—they were fantastic ambassadors for our school. A big thank you to our coaches at Funtime for making it such a success. Well done, team—you are incredible!

AMAZING!



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:

EYFS Lama and Anaya
 YEAR 1 Rhoda and Grace
 YEAR 2 Jordan and Oliver
 YEAR 3 Freddie and Lucy
 YEAR 4 Great and Elsie
 YEAR 5 Arish and Chloe
 YEAR 6 Miah and Daniel



OUR CHARACTER SUPERSTARS:

EYFS	KEY STAGE 1	KEY STAGE 2
Rhema - YR	Zoya	Gracie

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY:

<u>NURSERY</u>	88.89%	1 late	<u>YEAR 3</u>	97.20%	2 lates
<u>RECEPTION</u>	93.46%	4 lates	<u>YEAR 4</u>	98.95%	1 late
<u>YEAR 1</u>	98.33%	1 late	<u>YEAR 5</u>	97.93%	2 lates
<u>YEAR 2</u>	97.50%	1 late	<u>YEAR 6</u>	95.86%	1 late

Number of lates this week: 13

no improvement from 13 last week

Punctuality Champions: Nursery, Y1, Y2, Y4 and Y6

Attendance Heroes: Year 4



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



STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming platforms have quickly become one of the most popular ways for children to watch TV and films. But behind the convenience of on-demand content are several risks that parents and educators should be aware of.

This guide provides practical advice to help families create safer viewing environments, including:

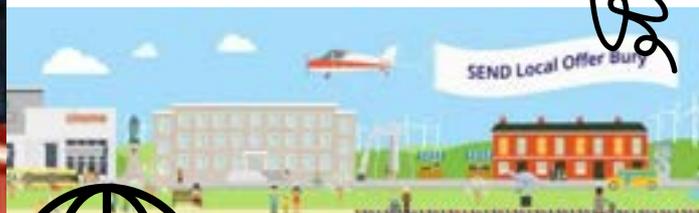
- Setting up individual profiles and PINs
- Managing screen time and autoplay
- Talking to children about algorithms and stereotypes

[DOWNLOAD.](#)

ONLINE



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





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	Chicken Korma Curry, 50/50 Rice, Naan Bread	Minced Beef Pie	Pork Sausage Dinner With Gravy	Pizza Margherita	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons
	Halal Chicken Korma Curry, 50/50 Rice, Naan Bread	Halal Minced Beef Pie	Halal Chicken Sausage Dinner With Gravy	Pizza Margherita	Halal Southern Fried Chicken Goujons
	Sweet Potato & Coconut Curry, 50/50 Rice, Naan Bread	Broccoli & Cream Cheese Pasta Bake	Quorn Sausage Dinner With Gravy	Asian Noodles	Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake
	Bean Jacket Potato	Cheese Jacket Potato	Tuna Jacket Potato	Bean Jacket Potato	Cheese Jacket Potato
	Cheese Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Egg Sandwich	Egg Sandwich	Tuna Sandwich
Accompaniments	Roasted Cauliflower Potato Salad	Garlic New Potatoes Steamed Mixed Vegetables	Mashed Potatoes Fresh Broccoli Fresh Carrots	Oven Baked Sweet Potato Wedges Roasted Vegetables	Oven Chips Sweetcorn
Dessert	Chocolate Cookie Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Banana Muffins Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit	Carrot Cake Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Eves Pudding & Custard Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit	Wibble Orange Jelly Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter



THE YEAR OF READING AT ST. STEPHEN'S

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING



Great Books Guide
2025-26: for 8 to 9
year-olds
CLICK HERE

CHECK OUT

**WELCOME ✨
to the TEAM**

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Robinson, who has joined our St Stephen's team as a volunteer this week. She will be supporting reading in Year 3 and Year 4, helping to nurture confidence, fluency and a love of books. Thank you, Mrs Robinson, for giving your time and enthusiasm—we're so happy to have you with us!



Pupil Shoutouts!

Year 3 are doing brilliantly with their reading. Tommy has read 7 times this week and Josh 6 times - well done and thank you, superstars!

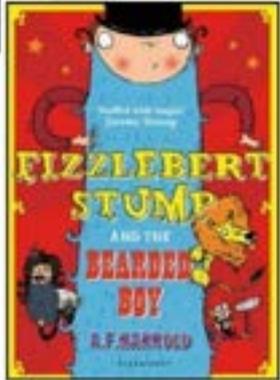
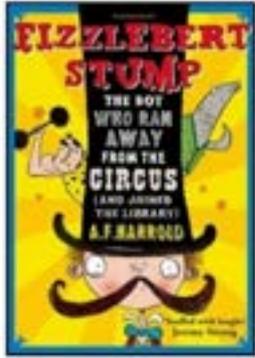


AUTHOR WORDS OF THE WEEK

Another wonderful author, who needs no introduction, Mr. A.F. Harrold!
@afharrold and @vocabularyninja

A.F. Harrold

I like holding pens. I like resting my hand on a keyboard and I hate blank paper. I like the nice feeling of stopping writing at the end. And the cups of tea. And the baths.



flapway - doorway into a tent.

psychopomp - a guide who leads the living into the underworld.

@VocabularyNinja

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



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

VISIT US ONLINE TO ACCESS EBOOKS, AUDIOBOOKS, RENEW & RESERVE ITEM & E-MAGAZINES WWW.BURY.GOV.UK / LIBRARIES

One of my favourite books is Wonder by R. J. Palacio... have a read!







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!

Family Wellbeing Walk - Let's explore Elton Reservoir together!

We're excited to invite all families to join us for a Family Wellbeing Walk, where we'll be exploring the beautiful Elton Reservoir. Elton Reservoir is a peaceful and scenic spot, perfect for a gentle stroll with our school family.

What you need: Comfortable/waterproof shoes and a warm/waterproof coat - we know what March weather can be like!





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

BURY HOLIDAY Activities & Food Programme



HAF SPRING 2026

Vouchers have been issued.

HAF is funded by The Department of Education to provide Food and Activities to families in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals.

Eligible families should now have received your email from Holiday Activities with a link to log in and redeem your voucher codes with 4 credits to book onto our fantastic Spring Holiday Activities programme.

If you are in receipt of benefits related free school meals but have not received your voucher email please contact school.

Our programme this Spring is bigger and better, with 31 providers in venues across the whole of the borough.

Activities Available include

- Forest Schools
- Football Camps
- Multisport Clubs, Martial Arts, Gym Sessions, Swimming
- Guided walks
- Drama and Theatre Workshops
- and so much more

SEND Provision is offered by a number of Providers. With SEND Specific Places provided by Bee Inclusive and Funtime

A full list of Providers, dates and time, and the level of need they are equipped to provide activities for can be found on the Bury HAF Webpage.

Find activities



Scan the QR code to find and book activities



bury.gov.uk/bury-haf



YOU are in the spotlight:

Oliver Year 2

Favourite food: Chicken nuggets

Favourite film/programme: Spiderman

Favourite subject: Science

What is the best thing about St

Stephen's? It's fun

What would make St Stephen's better?

Having juice and biscuits

What is your greatest achievement

in school? Getting certificates

What is your greatest achievement out

of school? Nothing

Anything else? Being in Year 2 is amazing and the teachers are too!

you are
A·M·A·Z·I·N·G

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:

Q: What do you call a dog magician?

A: A labracadabrador.

REMEMBER! *You're awesome*

Kindness

spotlight

CHOOSE kindness

Jacob

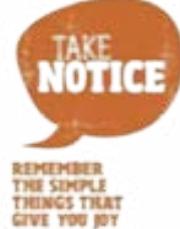
Y6

Your kindness makes our school shine!

Wellbeing WISDOM from the warriors:

“ **BE ACTIVE**
Play tag, football or hide-and-seek in the park ”

WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING



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

NHS 5 ways to wellbeing.

Reflection of the week: WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT HONESTY

Your word is like a lamp for my feet and a light for my way. Psalm 119:105

KID TIP

Who's in charge of your Bible? If you're the person who's supposed to be taking care of your Bible, then take that responsibility seriously. Your Bible is by far the most important book you own!

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

Dear Lord, You have given me a wonderful gift: the Holy Bible. Let me read it and understand it and follow the commandments that I find there. 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 Wellbeing Walk around Elton Reservoir	Saturday 14th March at 2pm
Bury National Epidemiology Survey (YR & Y1)	Tuesday 17th March
Parents' Consultation Evening	Wednesday 18th March
Own clothes day - Easter egg donation	Friday 20th 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

Robots: How might robots change our daily lives?

TAKEHOME

9th - 10th March



How might robots change our daily lives?



In the news this week

During China's Lunar New Year Gala, one of the world's most-watched TV shows, humanoid robots danced and performed kung-fu moves on stage. The robots could spin, jump, and move in time with music, showing how fast robotics technology is developing. Other Chinese-designed robots appeared at New Year celebrations in New York, USA. The performances have sparked global conversations about how robots might be used in future entertainment and everyday life.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Have you ever seen a robot before? Where was it?
- > Do you think robots should be used for entertainment, work, or both?
- > What are some of the things that people can do that robots can't?
- > If you could design a robot, what would it do and why?

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?

"If robots could answer 999 calls they could listen and provide the best action." -

Jacob, Year 6