



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

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

NEWSLETTER

29: Friday 1st May 2026

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

Girls' Football Superstars

A huge celebration for our football superstars who represented us at the Sycamore Trust Tournament - we are so proud of you!



Well done and thank you: Myra, Poppy, Grace, and Zahra (Year 6) and Aizah, Amber, Hallie, Chloe and Heavenlyjoy (Year 5)



REMINDER - we are closed on Monday 4th May for May Bank Holiday and Thursday 7th May for local elections.

St Stephen's Super Sixes

SATS BREAKFAST CLUB

All Y6 children are invited to eat breakfast together during SATs week, please arrive from 8:15am.



Year 3/4 Tennis Superstars

A huge celebration for our Year 3 and 4 tennis stars who represented us so brilliantly at the Bury Bee Proud event - we are so proud of you!



BREAK the 15th May 2026
RULES DAY See page 12 for more details.

HELP NEEDED

Are you a builder, gardener, or generally 'handy'? We are looking for people who would like to be part of a team creating special places of remembrance for Mrs Smith. If you can offer your time or expertise, please let the office know.



Save the Date

Saturday 27th June

Are you having a clear out?
Do you like a bargain?

See page 7 for more details.



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:



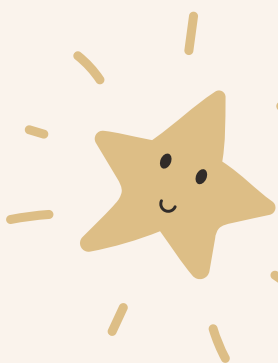
Arbor **94%**
Parent Portal usage



School Money

OUR ST.STEPHEN'S SUPERSTARS:

EYFS Alaaya & Nicole
YEAR 1 Emily & Lacie-Penny
YEAR 2 Khadija & Mercy
YEAR 3 Paige & Hassan
YEAR 4 David & Zoe
YEAR 5 Nathan & Ariana
YEAR 6 Thomas & Grace



OUR CHARACTER SUPERSTARS:

EYFS	KEY STAGE 1	KEY STAGE 2
Tanaka - YR	Halima - Y1	Inaaya - Y3

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY:

<u>NURSERY</u>	91.04%	0 lates	<u>YEAR 3</u>	99.20%	3 lates
<u>RECEPTION</u>	95.77%	5 lates	<u>YEAR 4</u>	96.84%	1 late
<u>YEAR 1</u>	97.08%	1 late	<u>YEAR 5</u>	97.93%	1 late
<u>YEAR 2</u>	92.50%	1 late	<u>YEAR 6</u>	92.07%	3 lates

Number of lates this week: 15



No improvement from 14 last week

Punctuality Champions: Nursery

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!

FAMILY SUPPORT

Please see Padlet links below for further support:

[For children and young people](#)

[For parents and carers](#) **CLICK HERE**



EXAMS

Exam periods can place significant pressure on young people, affecting their confidence, focus and overall wellbeing.

This guide explores realistic and supportive strategies to help manage this pressure.

It highlights practical approaches, including:

- Organising workload and reducing overwhelm
- Using active and creative revision techniques
- Creating calm, focused study environments
- Using technology, including AI, in a thoughtful way

[CLICK HERE](#)

10 Top Tips For Parents and Educators
MANAGING EXAM STRESS

At some point in their education, most young people will encounter exam stress, which can affect their mental, emotional, and physical wellbeing. Mental health charity Young Minds estimates that 87% of pupils experience exam-related stress. This highlights the importance of supporting young people to manage exam pressure effectively, maintain perspective, and protect their overall wellbeing during this period.

- 1 PRACTISE WORKLOAD WISDOM**
- 2 CLEAR UP THE CLUTTER**
- 3 MASTER THE MATERIALS**
- 4 GET CREATIVE WITH NOTES**
- 5 USE VISUAL MEMORY AIDS**
- 6 BUILD A TECH TOOLKIT**
- 7 KEEP REVISION ENJOYABLE**
- 8 USE ACTIVE STUDY METHODS**
- 9 USE AI THOUGHTFULLY**
- 10 PRACTISE WITH ONLINE TOOLS**

Meet Our Expert
Wake Up Wednesday
The National College



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





School Grid is our online system for ordering school lunches. It lets parents and carers choose their child's meal in advance using a phone, tablet or computer.

How will it help at lunchtime?

Your child gets the meal they've chosen: Meals are pre-selected, so children feel confident and know what they're having.

Less waiting, calmer lunchtimes: Choices are already made, which helps queues move faster and gives children more time to eat and play.

Supports healthy choices: Parents can see the menu in advance and help children choose balanced meals.

Helpful for allergies and dietary needs: Dietary requirements are safely managed as staff know exactly what each child needs.

Less food waste: The kitchen prepares the correct number of meals, helping reduce waste.

Easy to use: You and your child can order meals at a time that suits you and see what's coming up on the menu.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU NEXT WEEK?

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
ORANGE	Beef Burger	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Beef Lasagne	BBQ Chicken Panini	Vegetable Nuggets
BLUE	Halal Beef Burger	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Halal Beef Lasagne	Halal BBQ Chicken Panini	Vegetable Nuggets
PURPLE	Vegetable Bolognese	Vegan Sausage Roll	Vegetable Moussaka	Cheese Whirl	Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake
GREEN	Cheese Jacket Potato	Tuna Jacket Potato	Bean Jacket Potato	Cheese Jacket Potato	Tuna Jacket Potato
YELLOW	Ham Sandwich	Egg Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich	Ham Sandwich	Egg Sandwich
Accompaniments	Mini Corn Cobs Jacket Wedges	Steamed Mixed Vegetables Smokey Diced Potatoes	Fresh Carrots Fresh Broccoli Mashed Potatoes	Garden Peas Garlic Sliced Potatoes	Baked Beans Oven Chips
Desserts	Wibble Strawberry Jelly Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Chocolate Orange Sponge & Custard Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Strawberry Smoothie Pot Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Blueberry Muffin Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter	Organic Rainbow Fruity Ice Lolly Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Platter



THE YEAR OF READING AT ST. STEPHEN'S

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

GO ALL IN.

I LIKE READING IN QUIET, CALM SPACES LIKE MY LIVING ROOM.
Kyle, Y6



Great Books Guide for age 11+
CLICK HERE

CHECK OUT



BURY LIBRARIES SERVICE

Download the FREE BorrowBox app today!



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, BADCLIFFE & RAMSBOTTOM)
SUNDAY 9.30AM - 1PM (FREETWICH)
VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.BURY.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES

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AUTHOR WORDS OF THE WEEK

@andyseedauthor and @vocabularyninja



Andy Seed

I'm an author and humorist who writes books for children and adults (but not animals or aliens). I love funny things and most of my books are a bit giggly, as you'll find out if you read them. I write lots of different types of books!



nabble - to gnaw at something.

flibbertigibbet - a person who can't sit still.



@VocabularyNinja

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



JOIN
US

FAMILIES OF ST. STEPHEN'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

fundraising

CAR BOOT SALE

£10
PER CAR

£15
PER VAN



£1
ENTRY
PER ADULT
CHILDREN
FREE

REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 8-10AM

ST STEPHENS PRIMARY SCHOOL, COLVILLE DRIVE, BURY, BL8 2DX

PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL TO BOOK: 0161 764 1132

YOU are in the spotlight:

Emma

Year 2

Favourite food: Strawberries

Favourite film/programme: Gymnastics Academy

Favourite subject: Art

you are
A·M·A·Z·I·N·G

What is the best thing about St Stephen's? Eating lunch at lunchtime!

What would make St Stephen's better?
Some gymnastics equipment on the playground

What is your greatest achievement in school? Getting a certificate in worship

What is your greatest achievement out of school? Gymnastics

Anything else? My favourite colours are crystal colours.

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:

Why do astronauts wear bulletproof vests?

To protect themselves against shooting stars!



Kindness

spotlight

Year 5

CHOOSE kindness

Aleena,

Zoya & Aria

Your kindness makes our school shine!

Wellbeing WISDOM from the warriors:

“
BE ACTIVE
Walk the dog or offer to walk a neighbour's
”

WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING



TALK & LISTEN, BE THERE, FEEL CONNECTED



Your time, your words, your presence



REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES, SEE OPPORTUNITIES, SURPRISE YOURSELF



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:

PAUL AND HIS FREIDNS

I thank my God every time I remember you.

Philippians 1:3

KID TIP

The postman can help: If you have friends or relatives who are far away, send them letters or drawings (your mum or dad will be happy to mail them for you). Everybody loves to receive mail, and so will your family members and friends.

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

Dear Lord, thank You for my family and my friends. Let me show kindness to all of them: those who are here at home and those who are far away. Then my family and friends will know that I remember them and love them, today and every day. Amen.

Bury

Young People's
Mental Health
Support Team
Thrive in Education

Hello, my name is Katie



NHS

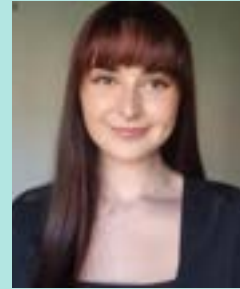
Pennine Care
NHS Foundation Trust

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.

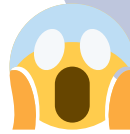


I'm an Education Mental Health Practitioner

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
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
Family Breakfast & Parent Workshop	Monday 18th May at 8:15am
'No Pens Day' - £1 suggested donation	Wednesday 20th May
May half-term	Monday 25 May - Friday 29th May
Y6 Bikeability	Monday 1st - Friday 5th June
Class Photographs	Monday 8th June
Y6 Residential	Wednesday 10th - Friday 12th June
Y6 Swimming - everyday for 10 days	Monday 15th - Friday 26th June
New Starters Parent Meetings	Monday 15th June at 3:45pm & 5:00pm
New Starters Parent Tours	Thursday 18 June at 9:30am & 10:30am
Skips2bFit	Thursday 25th June
KS2 Sports Day - morning	Friday 26th June
FOSS Car Boot Sale	Saturday 27th June at 9:00am
Super Mrs Smith Week	Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July
Super Mrs Smith Saturday	Saturday 4 July at 12:00pm

THIS WEEK



Picture News

AI Glasses: What is the best way to support people who need extra help?

New AI-supported glasses to help people with dementia or memory problems have won a £1 million prize.

TAKEHOME



In the news this week

New AI-supported glasses to help people with dementia or memory problems have won a £1 million prize. The glasses, made by the company CrossSense, can recognise objects and show labels or give spoken instructions to help people remember what things are and what to do. They use an AI assistant that learns how each person lives and adapts to their needs over time. Early tests show these glasses could help wearers feel more confident and independent in their daily lives.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your overall opinion on the glasses, do you think they are a good idea?
- > In your opinion, is it better for people to get help from technology or from other people? Why?
- > How might these glasses make someone feel more confident or independent?
- > What technology do you use at home to help you? How does it help?

What is the best way to support people who need extra help?



NIHR

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?

“Companies should create devices that are subtle and inclusive.” - Jacob, Year 6

NO PENS DAY



WEDNESDAY

Speech and
Language UK 
Changing young lives.

20TH MAY

What is No Pens Day?

No Pens Day is a national initiative organised by Speech and Language UK. For one day, children put their pens and pencils away and focus on activities that develop speaking, listening and communication skills.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Speech and language skills are essential for:

- learning in school
- building friendships
- expressing ideas and feelings
- understanding others

Across the UK, around 1.9 million children struggle with speech, language and communication. No Pens Day helps raise awareness and supports the development of these vital skills.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN SCHOOL?

Throughout the day, children will take part in activities such as:

- discussions and debates
- storytelling and drama
- problem-solving challenges
- speaking and listening games
- collaborative group work

These activities help build confidence, vocabulary and communication skills.

I CAN

No Pens Day
Wednesday

SUPPORTING THE CHARITY

We are also raising money for Speech and Language UK to help support children with speech, language and communication needs. Suggested donation: £1 per child. If you would like to donate, please visit our fundraising page:

<https://speechandlanguage.donorsupport.co/-/NLEQCSSZ?member=SATSDHUB>

Every donation helps more children get the support they need to find their voice.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING NO PENS DAY AT ST STEPHEN'S!

Concerned about your child's speech and language? There's a brilliant online tool that parents can use at home to get personalised ideas to support their child's communication. It's super simple to use and gives you fun and practical everyday strategies you can do together — perfect if your little one is finding certain sounds tricky, struggling to put words together, or just needs a little extra support. Easy, reassuring, and parent-friendly.

A great first step if you're looking for guidance at home.



Free Speech & Language Support for Families

♥ What is it?

A simple, friendly WhatsApp programme that helps you support your child's early communication – no waiting, no appointments.

You'll get short videos, ideas and practical tips for everyday life – all designed by a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist



Who is it for?

- Parents of children who aren't yet talking or are not having conversations
- Families on waiting list for or considering speech and language therapy
- Anyone who wants to feel clearer and more confident about what to do next



What will you get?

- 10 easy steps delivered by WhatsApp
- Videos, audios, and quick activities
- Support for connection, confidence and communication
- Trusted by over 7,000 families worldwide

How to start

Scan the QR Code to Join instantly



(This is not a group chat – it's private support sent directly to you.)