

NEWSLETTER

04: Friday 25th September 2026

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

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to join us for our parent workshops this week. As you know, one of our key priorities this year is ensuring that all children develop strong foundations. The workshops provided an opportunity to share some of the approaches we use in school and practical ways that families can support learning at home. At St Stephen's, we know that children achieve their very best when school and home work together. Thank you for partnering with us as we continue learning, loving and growing together as God's children.



We are absolutely delighted to be awarded the SACRE AWARE Award for Widening Achievement in RE! Please see Facebook and the Bury Times

Flu vaccinations

Another date will be offered to complete the flu vaccinations in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. We will inform parents as soon as we know the new date. Thank you.

Year 6 parents: apply for your child's secondary school place now! Deadline is 31/10/2026.

Apply Now

SPECIAL MENU

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2026

We are pleased to let you know that we will be offering a special lunch menu on Thursday 1st October 2026 and this will be available to all children across school.

THE MENU WILL INCLUDE:



Jacket potatoes and sandwiches will remain available as normal.

AS THIS MENU IS BEING OPENED UP TO ALL CHILDREN:



children will receive this meal free of charge as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.



children who are not entitled to Free School Meals will be charged £2.90 for the meal.

£2.90



If your child would like this special meal, please ensure you book and pay on **SchoolGrid: (Schoolgrid.co.uk)** by Friday 25th September.

Thank you for your support!

BOOK IN

This week, in Skip To Be Fit, we are celebrating the children who have made the most progress

SKIP TO BE FIT Well done!

Year 3 - OYIN
Year 4 - CINDY
Year 5 - PAIGE
Year 6 - AMELIA

STAY CONNECTED WITH US:

Phone: 0161 764 1132

Email: ststephens@thesycamoretrust.co.uk

Facebook: [St Stephen's CE Primary School, Bury.](https://www.facebook.com/StStephen'sCEPrimarySchoolBury)

Website: www.ststephensceprimary.co.uk/

LOGIN



STAY
CONNECTED



Arbor

Parent
Portal



SchoolGrid

OUR ST.STEPHEN'S SUPERSTARS:

EYFS

Anglea

YEAR 1

Finn & Clara

YEAR 2

Rhoda & Amelia

YEAR 3

Khadija & Esme

YEAR 4

Tammy & Hassan

YEAR 5

Sonny & Zoe

YEAR 6

Josh & Teddy



OUR CHARACTER SUPERSTARS:

EYFS & KEY STAGE 1

KEY STAGE 2

Lama - Year 1

Jake - Year 5

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY:

NURSERY 97.14% 0 lates

YEAR 3 98.75% 2 lates

RECEPTION 90% 0 lates

YEAR 4 100% 2 lates

YEAR 1 96.28% 2 lates

YEAR 5 93.78% 1 late

YEAR 2 100% 1 late

YEAR 6 97.59% 2 lates

Number of lates this week: 10



No improvement
from 10 last week.

Punctuality Champions: Nursery and Reception

Attendance Heroes: Year 2 and Year 4



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 

Emotional and Mental Wellbeing Support

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Thriving
IN BURY

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DISCORD

Launched in 2015, and with over 10 million daily active users, Discord has become one of the most widely used young people's communication - with text, voice, and video chat helping people connect around shared interests. For young people, Discord can be a useful way to talk with friends, join communities, and explore hobbies. However, this very online platform built around communication, it also carries risks around strangers, inappropriate content, spending money, and time spent online. This guide looks at what parents and educators need to know.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is primarily associated with voice chat, it also has text channels where users can communicate. These channels can be used for everything from sharing memes to discussing schoolwork. However, this openness can also be a risk. Strangers can join channels and interact with users, potentially leading to harassment or inappropriate content. Parents and educators should be aware of the risks of online communication and encourage young people to use Discord responsibly.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can be a real-life distraction. Young people can spend hours on the app, losing track of time and missing out on other activities. This can impact their academic performance and social life. Parents and educators should encourage young people to use Discord in moderation and to balance their online and offline lives.

STRANGER DANGER

Discord is a platform where young people can connect with strangers. This can be a risk, as strangers can use the platform to groom young people or engage in inappropriate behavior. Parents and educators should encourage young people to be cautious when interacting with strangers online and to report any suspicious activity.

A HARASSMENT RISK

Discord is a platform where young people can be harassed. This can happen through direct messages, voice chat, or text channels. Harassment can include bullying, threats, and sexual harassment. Parents and educators should encourage young people to be aware of the risks of harassment and to report any incidents.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Discord is a platform where young people can access inappropriate content. This can include explicit language, sexual content, and hate speech. Parents and educators should encourage young people to be aware of the risks of inappropriate content and to report any incidents.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is a platform where young people can spend money. This can happen through in-app purchases, such as buying virtual gifts or boosting a server. Parents and educators should encourage young people to be aware of the risks of spending money online and to use Discord responsibly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of the Family Centre, which provides a safe space for young people to discuss their online experiences. The Family Centre also provides resources and support for parents and carers.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree with young people on a set of rules for their online time. This should include limits on how long they can spend on Discord and what they can do while online. Parents and educators should encourage young people to follow these rules.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review young people's online activity regularly, including what they post and what they interact with. Talk to young people about their online experiences and encourage them to report any suspicious activity.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk to young people about their spending habits and encourage them to use Discord responsibly. Review their spending controls and encourage them to use Discord in moderation.

Meet Our Expert

Meet the experts who provide advice and support for young people and their families. The experts include the DSL, the DD, and the SEND team.

Wake Up Wednesday

The National College

Discord gives young people a space to chat, play games and join communities based around shared interests.

While it can be a positive way to connect with friends, there are also important risks for parents and educators to understand.

This guide highlights the risk, click [here](#)

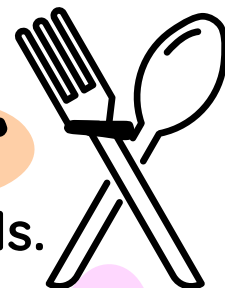


It also shares practical advice about agreeing clear expectations around screen time.



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





We use School Grid for pre-ordering school meals.

Parents can book their meal on School Grid up to 8:55am each morning.

WHAT'S ON THE MENU NEXT WEEK?

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	Beef Burger	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Beef Lasagne	See special menu	Vegetable Nuggets
	Halal Beef Burger	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Halal Beef Lasagne		Vegetable Nuggets
	Vegetable Bolognese	Vegan Sausage Roll	Vegetable Moussaka		Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake
	Choice of Jacket Potato	Choice of Jacket Potato	Choice of Jacket Potato	Choice of Jacket Potato	Choice of Jacket Potato
	Choice of Sandwich	Choice of Sandwich	Choice of Sandwich	Choice of Sandwich	Choice of 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



West Bury CEPS Parent & Carer drop in

Bury
Council

Book an individual appointment with
**Bury Community Educational
Psychology Service** to discuss
questions or concerns relating to your
child.



Who are the sessions for?

These sessions are available to families whose child has not already been seen by an Educational Psychologist through school, for example as part of an EHC Needs Assessment.

The aim of the call is to give you an opportunity to talk through any concerns you have about your child and to access advice, guidance, or signposting from the CEP Team.

Please note:

We do not record calls or keep personal details from our conversations. We may, however, keep anonymous notes about the themes and questions discussed so that we can identify common areas of need and continue to improve the support we offer to children, families, and schools across Bury.



Mondays, Tuesdays and
Thursdays



4pm - 6pm (30 minute
slots)



Microsoft Teams

How to book

To book a session at a time that suits you, please use the following QR code.



Once you have selected the booking time and submitted the request, you will receive an email with the link to access the meeting.

For any further questions, please contact  Abigail.Boylin@bury.gov.uk

please



SHARE

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

St Stephen's
CE Primary School

OPEN DAYS
SEPTEMBER 2027

Emotionally Friendly Settings
2025 to 2027
Bronze Accredited

"St Stephen's **welcomes, nurtures** and **supports** all children enabling them to **flourish.**"
SIAMS Inspection, November 2023

WE CAN'T WAIT TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR NURSERY OR RECEPTION CLASS 2027

Our school vision is about **celebrating the uniqueness of every individual**, inspiring a life long love of learning and experiencing life in all its fullness. If you would like to visit our wonderful school to see our school vision in action, please contact the school office on 0161 764 1132 to book a tour with Mrs Denney, our Headteacher.

Monday 5th October at 9:30am
Monday 5th October at 4:00pm
Monday 19th October at 1:30pm
Tuesday 20th October at 4:00pm

Friday 20th November at 9:30am
Monday 23rd November at 1:30pm
Deadline for application: 15th January 2027

Please also visit us at Facebook or at www.ststephensceprimary.co.uk

... a supportive learning community that prepares pupils not only **academically**, but also **emotionally** and **socially** for the challenges and opportunities they will encounter in the wider world."

Inclusion Quality Mark Accreditation, July 2024

Do you know a family looking for a primary school Nursery or Reception place for September 2027? We would be so grateful if you could share information about our upcoming Open Days with friends, family, neighbours and anyone who may be considering schools for their child.

At St Stephen's, we are proud to offer a nurturing, welcoming environment where children are known, valued and encouraged to flourish. We'd love the opportunity to show prospective families what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow. Thank you for your continued support

Our wellbeing focus this half term:

CONNECT

"We belong."

Some of the ways we will be supporting this include:

- Friendship-focused activities at social times
- Buddy systems to help children settle in
- Collective worship centred on kindness, community and belonging
- Family workshops offering advice on supporting positive friendships

By working together, we can ensure every child feels a strong sense of belonging and enjoys a positive start to the year ahead.

Kindness

spotlight

Rhoda

CHOOSE kindness

Year 2

Your kindness makes our school shine!

Wellbeing WISDOM from the warriors:

“

CONNECT

Connect at Home
Spend 10 minutes talking, playing a game or reading with a family member without any screens.

”

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

NHS 5 ways
to wellbeing.



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

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:

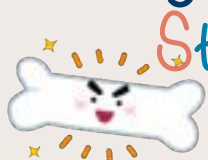
MONDAY

12.30-1.00pm in HUB Connect

DID YOU KNOW...

The human thigh bone is

Stronger
than
concrete!



PRAYERS TO CHANGE THE WORLD UNTIL THAT DAY

I pray that your love will keep on growing and that you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices... And until that day, Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.

Philippians 1:9



Lord, You're showing me day by day how to make better choices. Sometimes I have to learn from my mistakes but at least I'm learning. I'm finally figuring out how to say "no" to the bad things and "yes" to the good. I want, more than anything, to please Your heart. One of the reasons why I'm trying so hard is because I know people are watching. I want people to know that I am who I say I am, whether I'm at home or in public. Amen.

BE THE CHANGE: Offer to help a neighbour



St Stephen's
CE Primary School

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

SPECIAL MENU

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2026

We are pleased to let you know that we will be offering a special lunch menu on Thursday 1st October 2026 and this will be available to all children across school.

THE MENU WILL INCLUDE:



Hot Dogs and
Halal Hot Dogs



Margherita
Pizza



Old School
Cake

Jacket potatoes and sandwiches will remain available as normal.

AS THIS MENU IS BEING OPENED UP TO ALL CHILDREN:



Reception, Year 1
and Year 2

children will receive this meal free of charge as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

FREE!



Nursery, Year 3, Year 4,
Year 5 and Year 6

children who are not entitled to Free School Meals will be charged **£2.90** for the meal.

£2.90



If your child would like this special meal, please ensure you book and pay on **SchoolGrid: ([Schoolgrid.co.uk](https://www.schoolgrid.co.uk))** by Friday 25th September.



INCLUSION CHAMPIONS



Inclusion means everyone belongs.
Everyone is welcome, valued and supported.

MEET THE TEAM



CURRENT PROJECT



We're designing a sensory garden that everyone can enjoy!

SIGN OF THE WEEK



World

ONGOING PROJECTS

- RUNNING THE SENSORY ROOM.
- LEADING SIGN LANGUAGE IN WORSHIP.
- ADDING WIDGIT TO OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.

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.

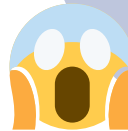


I'm an Education Mental Health Practitioner

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 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



For the year's overview, please view school calendar

Event	Date
Celebration Worship	Friday 3pm
Harvest Festival Assembly at School (Families Welcome)	Monday 5th October @ 3:00pm
Hello Yellow in support of Healthy Young Minds - £1 donation	Friday 9th October
Parent Drop-in (to be confirmed)	Monday 12th October @ 3:00pm
Family Breakfast	Monday 19th October @ 8:15am
9:00am Parent Stay & Learn (to be confirmed)	Thursday 22nd October @ 9:00am
October half-term	Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October
Year 6 Secondary School Application Deadline	31st October 2026
Solo & Sibling Photographs Parents Evening	Wednesday 4th November
Remembrance Service @ St Stephen's Church (Parents Welcome)	Wednesday 11th November @ 2:00pm
Children in Need non-uniform day - £1 donation	Friday 13th November
Advent Service @ St Stephen's Church (Families Welcome)	Monday 30th November @ 2:00pm
Panto! - Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2	Monday 7th December
Panto! - Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6	Tuesday 8th December
Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Christmas Fair	Wednesday 9th December
Family Breakfast	Monday 14th December @ 8:15am
EYFS Christmas Show	Tuesday 15th December @ 2:00pm
KS1 Christmas Show Christingle Service @ St Stephen's Church (Families Welcome)	Wednesday 16th December @ 2:00pm Wednesday 16th December @ 6:00pm
EYES and KS1 Party Day	Thursday 17th December



Tigers: Do wild animals have as much right to the land as we do?

Nepal has announced that its wild tiger population has more than tripled, rising from 121 tigers in 2010, to 429 today.

TAKEHOME


In the news this week

Nepal has announced that its wild tiger population has more than tripled, rising from 121 tigers in 2010, to 429 today. Officials say the turnaround is the result of years of protected wildlife corridors and local communities working hand-in-hand with conservationists to protect the big cats. With tiger numbers now increasing, more encounters between tigers and nearby villages are leaving experts asking how people and wildlife can safely share the same land going forward.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you think it's fair that wild animals need the same land that people want to use? Why?
- > If you lived near a forest with tigers, would you feel excited, nervous, or both? What would help you feel safe?
- > Is there an animal, plant, or wild space near where you live that you believe deserves more protection? What would or could you do to help it?



Do wild animals have as much right to the land as we do?

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



**USE
your
VOICE**

What do you think?

"Humans are part of the animal kingdom. God created us all. Wild animals have just as much right to be here as we do." - Henry,

Year 6