St Stephen's CE Primary School

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

# NEWSLETTER

## 08: Friday 23rd October 2026

*Learning, loving and growing: together as God's children*

## THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU

This week has been a significant one for our school as we welcomed Ofsted into St Stephen's. While we are unable to share the outcome just yet, we are looking forward to sharing the final report with you in the coming weeks.

I would like to say a huge thank you to our entire school family. To our wonderful children, thank you for being yourselves and for demonstrating every day what makes St Stephen's such a special place. You spoke with confidence, kindness and pride, and you were a credit to our school and your families. To our incredible staff team, thank you for your ongoing commitment, care and hard work. The dedication you show to our children each and every day is second to none. Also to our families, thank you for your support, encouragement and partnership. Your trust in us and your commitment to our school help us achieve all that we do together.

# WE LOVE ST STEPHEN'S

## PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING




Appointments will be booked through the Arbor Parent App or Parent Portal. If you do not have access to Arbor or need support logging in, please contact the school office.



## DON'T FORGET...



In the UK, the clocks go back by one hour on Sunday, 25 October 2026 at 2:00am meaning mornings are lighter and evenings get dark earlier.




This half term we introduced Skip2BFit club each lunchtime at 12.45pm and it has been a great success.

This week's champs:
Y3 = Emma
Y4 = Phoebe
Y5 = Sonny
Y6 = Heavenlyjoy




HUGE improvements:
Muhammad Y5
Archie Y4
Mercy and Khadija Y3
Teddy Y6




## JAMES FRITH MP CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Check your email for details of James Frith MP Christmas Card competition. Entry forms are available from the office. Deadline for entries is Wednesday 4th November.

## 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



# OUR ST.STEPHEN'S SUPERSTARS:

| | |
|---|---|
| **EYFS** | Ivie & Thea |
| **YEAR 1** | Rayah-Jai & Tanaka |
| **YEAR 2** | Adam & Deborah |
| **YEAR 3** | Karter-John & Abdulrahman |
| **YEAR 4** | George & Aleena |
| **YEAR 5** | Skye & Alex |
| **YEAR 6** | Arish & Daniel |

# OUR CHARACTER SUPERSTARS:

| EYFS & KEY STAGE 1 | KEY STAGE 2 |
|---|---|
| Raphael - Year 1 | Oliver - Year 3 |

# THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NURSERY** | 88.41% | 0 lates | **YEAR 3** | 96.88% | 4 lates |
| **RECEPTION** | 91.18% | 3 lates | **YEAR 4** | 98.52% | 2 lates |
| **YEAR 1** | 97.14% | 4 late | **YEAR 5** | 94.29% | 0 lates |
| **YEAR 2** | 93.33% | 2 lates | **YEAR 6** | 92.76% | 4 lates |

Attendance Heroes: Year 4

Punctuality Champions: Year 5

Number of lates this week: 19

No improvement from 9 last week.

## Whole School Attendance this week: 94.83%




Let's keep working together to keep our whole school attendance above 96% each week

# 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




Deepfakes can make it appear that someone has said or done something they haven't, using AI to create increasingly convincing fake images, videos and audio.

As this technology becomes easier to access, children and young people may encounter risks ranging from online bullying and impersonation to scams.

It also offers practical advice for parents and educators on recognising warning signs, protecting personal information and talking to young people about responsible AI use.




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.

# NEW MENU

## Week 1 commencing 4th November

This new winter menu will be served until we break for the Easter holidays.

Week 1

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Mains**<br>Chicken Tikka Curry, 50/50 Rice & Naan Bread<br>Vegetable & Chickpea Tikka Curry, 50/50 Rice, Naan Bread<br>Tomato & Cheese Pasta<br>Jacket Potato Choices<br>Sandwich Choices<br>**Accompaniments**<br>Farmhouse Vegetables<br>**Desserts**<br>Jam & Coconut Sponge with Custard<br>Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Fresh Fruit | **Mains**<br>Cheese & Onion Pie<br>Macaroni Cheese & Crusty Baguette<br>Tomato & Cheese Pasta<br>Jacket Potato Choices<br>Sandwich Choices<br>**Accompaniments**<br>Baked Beans<br>New Potatoes<br>**Desserts**<br>Vanilla & Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream Sponge Roll<br>Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Fresh Fruit | **Mains**<br>Roast Chicken & Gravy<br>Roast Quorn Fillet & Gravy<br>Tomato & Cheese Pasta<br>Jacket Potato Choices<br>Sandwich Choices<br>**Accompaniments**<br>Fresh Carrots<br>Savoy Cabbage<br>Garlic Roast Potatoes<br>**Desserts**<br>Blueberry Muffin<br>Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Fresh Fruit | **Mains**<br>Pasta & Meatballs in a Homemade Tomato Sauce<br>Spinach & Ricotta Ravioli in a Homemade Tomato Sauce<br>Tomato & Cheese Pasta<br>Jacket Potato Choices<br>Sandwich Choices<br>**Accompaniments**<br>Fresh Broccoli<br>**Desserts**<br>Apricot Flapjack<br>Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Fresh Fruit | **Mains**<br>MSC Battered Whitefish Fillet<br>Vegan Sausage Roll VE<br>Tomato & Cheese Pasta<br>Jacket Potato Choices<br>Sandwich Choices<br>**Accompaniments**<br>Garden Peas<br>Oven Chips<br>**Desserts**<br>Strawberry Smoothie Pot<br>Yeo Organic Fruit Yoghurt<br>Fresh Fruit |

White with Wholewheat Bread will be available every day
Salad products will be available every day
All jacket potatoes will be offered with salad and or the vegetable of the day
All sandwiches will be offered with salad and or the vegetable of the day
Note, some dishes already incorporate potatoes so will be served with vegetables only



# West Bury CEPS Parent & Carer drop in

Bury Council



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

## Who are the sessions for?

These sessions are avaliable to families whoes 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.

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 recieve an email with the link to access the meeting.

## 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.*

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

BEST START IN LIFE







PEEP is coming to St Stephen's!
Are you interested in fun, practical activities you can do at home?

**Starts: Tuesday 3rd November (for 4 weeks)**
**2:00-3:00pm**

peep Learning Together Programme

Suitable for Nursery & Reception aged children including younger siblings.
Speak to class teacher to book

Bury Council

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~~

Rooted School of Kindness 2025/26 KINDNESS AMBASSADOR SCHOOL School of Kindness Accredited 2025/26

Inclusion Quality Mark IQM Bury Schools

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



# 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 Thomas

Year 4

Your kindness makes our school shine!

Wellbeing WISDOM from the warriors:

"CONNECT
Share your favourite part of the day with someone."

## WINNING WAYS TO WELLBEING




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!

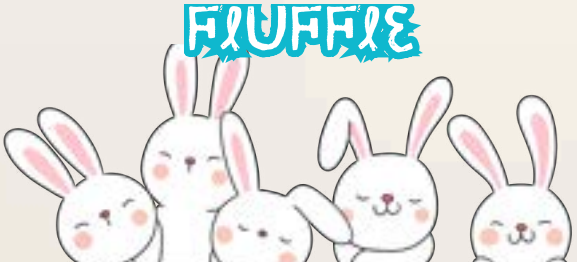
## Wellbeing Club with Katie every:

## MONDAY

12.30-1.00pm in HUB Connect

## DID YOU KNOW...

A group of RABBITS is a called a FLUFFLE



## PRAYERS TO CHANGE THE WORLD

### OVERFLOWING WITH HOPE

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13



I know what the word "overflowing" looks like, Lord. I've seen it happen. I guess some people think "overflow" means "too much" but when it comes to giving love and hope to others, I don't think it's possible to go overboard. You want me to overflow with hope in every situation, to completely trust in you, even when things seem impossible. When I spill over the top with hope, others will see and want to put their hope in You too, Lord. Amen.

**BE THE CHANGE:** Give a hug to someone you care about.

# INCLUSION CHAMPIONS

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

St Stephen's Inclusion Champions
Different minds brighter together

## MEET THE TEAM



## CURRENT PROJECTS

- We're designing a sensory garden that everyone can enjoy!
- We're creating a Zones of Regulation Tool Kit for our school.

## ZONES OF REGULATION LAUNCH!

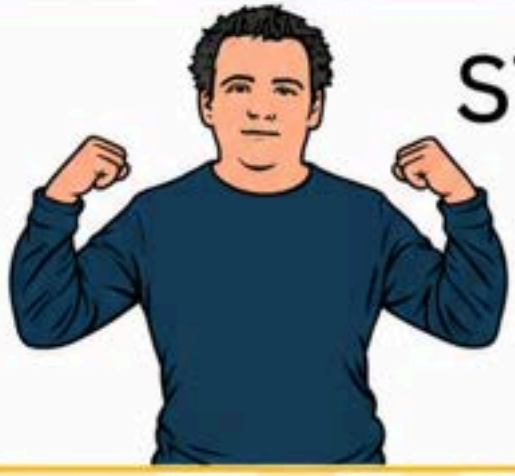
This week, our Inclusion Champions officially launched the bespoke Zones of Regulation Toolkit they have created for our school!

They led an assembly to explain the zones and then held a ribbon cutting ceremony on the playground!

Check our Facebook to see a video of their ribbon cutting ceremony.




## SIGN OF THE WEEK



strong

## ONGOING PROJECTS

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

Bury Young People's Mental Health Support Team
Thrive in Education

NHS Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust

# Hello, my name is Katie



I'm an Education Mental Health Practitioner

## 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.**

## 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 |
| October half-term | Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October |
| Year 6 Secondary School Application Deadline | 31st October 2026 |
| Solo & Sibling Photographs<br>Parents Evening | Wednesday 4th November |
| Remembrance Service @ St Stephen's Church (Parents Welcome) | Wednesday 11th November @ 2:00pm |
| Flu vaccination catch-up session | Thursday 12th November |
| Children in Need non-uniform day - £1 donation | Friday 13th November |
| Year 6 at Bury Grammar - 'Wizard of Oz' | Wednesday 25th 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<br>Christmas Dinner<br>Christmas Fair | Wednesday 9th December |
| Family Breakfast | Monday 14th December @ 8:15am |
| EYFS Christmas Show | Tuesday 15th December @ 2:00pm |
| KS1 Christmas Show<br>Christingle Service @ St Stephen's Church (Families Welcome) | Wednesday 16th December @ 2:00pm<br>Wednesday 16th December @ 6:00pm |
| EYFS and KS1 Christmas Party Day | Thursday 17th December |
| KS2 Christmas Party Day | Friday 18th December |
| Close for Christmas holidays | Friday 18th December **@ 2:30pm** |

THIS WEEK

Picture News

# Chess: Should age decide what we're allowed to do?

**Eleven-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan from London has become the youngest person ever to earn the woman grandmaster title in chess.**

TAKEHOME




## In the news this week

Eleven-year-old Bodhana Sivanandan from London has become the youngest person ever to earn the woman grandmaster title in chess. She achieved this while playing for England at an international competition in Uzbekistan. Bodhana said she was happy with her achievement and wanted to keep making history.

**Things to talk about at home ...**

- How do you think adults might feel competing against someone much younger than them?
- What could you teach someone older than you?
- Should age decide what we're allowed to do?
- When might an age limit be fair?

**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?

"I think some things should have certain age restriction to keep us safe but not everything, like sport should have an age limit, young people can still be very talented."- Noah, Year 6

# Oracy 21

Oracy is articulating ideas, developing understanding and engaging with others through speaking, listening and communication.

Voice 21 Oracy School

## Our School Priorities




**Our theme this half-term is...**

# Physical Oracy

As part of our commitment to developing confident speakers and listeners, we are working on physical oracy this half term. Children will explore how their body language, expressions and voice can help them share ideas, show understanding and communicate with confidence.

## Physical

### Voice

- Pace of speaking
- Tonal variation
- Clarity of pronunciation
- Voice projection

### Body language

- Gesture & posture
- Facial expression & eye contact

## CHALLENGE

### Weekly family challenge ...

I like this painting

Strongly Agree  Agree  Neutral  Disagree  Strongly Disagree



# Did you know...

...at Stephen's we are continuing our journey to improve Oracy?



**What is Oracy?**

Articulating ideas, developing understanding and engaging with others through speaking, listening and communication.

**Voice 21 explains that oracy is a powerful tool for learning because it helps children:**

- Express their thoughts and ideas clearly.
- Listen actively to others.
- Build understanding through discussion.
- Develop confidence, relationships and social skills.
- Improve learning across the curriculum



**Why is it a priority?**

Oracy is a priority because spoken language is the foundation of learning. Children who can communicate effectively are better able to express their needs, share their ideas, build relationships and access the curriculum.

# How can I help at home?

## Talk together throughout the day



- Chat during meals, journeys and routines.
- Encourage children to explain what they are doing, thinking or feeling.
- Ask open-ended questions such as:
- "What do you think will happen next?"
- "Why do you think that?"
- "How did you solve that problem?"

## Read and discuss stories

- Read books together regularly.
- Talk about characters, events and predictions.
- Encourage children to retell stories in their own words.

## Sing, rhyme and tell stories

- Nursery rhymes, songs and storytelling help children hear and practise language patterns.
- Encourage children to join in, perform and create their own stories.

## Learn through play

- Engage in imaginative play, small-world play and role play.
- Introduce new vocabulary during play.
- Encourage children to negotiate, explain and share ideas with others



**Every conversation counts. Talking, listening, reading and playing together help children develop the confidence and communication skills they need for learning, friendships and future success.**



Manchester Cathedral

# Painting workshop

## An opportunity for children to meet locally renowned artist Rob Floyd in a special painting session

## Thursday 29th October 10.30-11.30am

Free to attend but booking essential
Most suitable for primary school aged children.
Parents/guardians must stay with children at all times



TUES 3RD NOV • **MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL** • 4:00-6:00PM

# COME AND HELP US SHAPE WHAT IS NEXT...

**JOIN US TO CREATE AND DEVELOP THE FUTURE OF LEARNING AT THIS HISTORIC VENUE**



***WE INVITE YOU TO OUR CONSULTATION***

JOIN US FOR OUR LAUNCH EVENT;

TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2026

ARRIVAL FROM 3:30PM

EVENT 4:00-6:00PM

MEET IN THE NAVE

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

***WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU***

THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE;

A TOUR AND NLHF PROJECT OVERVIEW

ACTIVITY (TBC)

CONSULTATION AND FEEDBACK

DRINKS AND REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Made possible with Heritage Fund

***RESERVE YOUR PLACE BELOW, OR CONTACT:***

***BETHANY.FROST@MANCHESTERCATHEDRAL.ORG***

CLICK HERE TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, M3 1SX

TUES 3RD NOV • **MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL** • 4:00-6:00PM

# COME AND HELP US SHAPE WHAT IS NEXT...

**JOIN US TO CREATE AND DEVELOP THE FUTURE OF LEARNING AT THIS HISTORIC VENUE**

## *WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU*



We are inviting teachers and educational professionals to join us for a conversation about how Manchester Cathedral might support learning across your curriculum.
We want to showcase the opportunities currently available - and more importantly, to hear your ideas about what could be developed next. There are clear links to many subjects and areas within the wider syllabus, so whether you teach RE, history, art, photography, technology, PSHE, citizenship, English, drama, music, amongst others, or have responsibility for areas such as well- being, enrichment, careers or work experience, we'd love you to take part. This will be a chance to explore what Manchester Cathedral has to offer, to network and meet others in education, and an opportunity to get involved as we design our new Education Programme.



## *BRING YOUR IDEAS*

This forum will be the start of a wider consultation and conversation. We are looking for a variety of educational establishments across Greater Manchester who are willing to share their experiences and suggestions. This will include the chance to test and pilot activities, trips, workshops and events you would like to see developed here at Manchester Cathedral.

## *UNABLE TO ATTEND?*

ARRANGE A PRIVATE CONSULTATION:

**BETHANY.FROST@MANCHESTERCATHEDRAL.ORG**

GIVE YOUR FEEBDACK THROUGH OUR SURVEY:

**HTTPS://ONLINE1.SNAPSURVEYS.COM/INTERVIEW/6E43ED15-3038-4179-B67E-A2DEA7F4665F**

**CLICK HERE TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE**

**MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, M3 1SX**