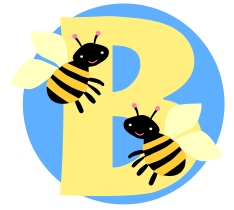




Easter Newsletter



This half-term has been another busy one. Congratulations to all the pupils on their hard work. I hope you found the parent/ teacher meetings at the beginning of March helpful to find out what is going well for your child and where you can provide support.

Today is our last day in school before the Easter holiday. We return to school on Monday 20th April.



St. Stephen's Services Easter Services are as follows:

Friday 3rd April 3.00pm Prayers at the cross

Sunday 5th April 10.00am Communion
All are welcome.

All the children who have applied for after school club places next half-term were successful in gaining a place. All clubs are now on ParentPay. Please pay for the clubs before the start of the new term.

Well done to all the pupils who have been reading regularly at home this half-term. All children who read at least 3 times a week have their names entered into a half-termly class draw. Congratulations to our winners from this half-term who have received a £5.00 Waterstones voucher.

Rec: Oliver

Y4: Iv

Y1: Theo

Y5: George

Y2: George M

Y6: Delilah

Y3: Imogen

Thank you to everyone for their donations of easter eggs for the Easter Draw. The draw has taken place today. Year 3 have decided that they would also like the proceeds to go to *The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association*. An amazing £515 has been raised. Congratulations to all our prize winners.

Our annual sponsored walk will be held on the afternoon of Friday 22nd May. More details will be sent home after Easter, but do put the date in your diary. On this date family members are invited to join us.

Next half-term's Heartsmart theme: Fake is a Mistake. We want the children to consider why they tell lies and the consequences when they do. Telling the truth requires courage, nevertheless we want children to choose to resolve to tell the truth always for 'Truth will last forever' Proverbs 12:19. We want them to understand that this not only shows love towards others but also towards themselves and to God. Telling the truth is the cornerstone of true friendship.

In Christ: Be healthy, be happy, be helpful. Believe!

Diary dates for April/May

20th April - school re-opens after the Easter holiday
21st April - Family Worship with Reception 9.15am
24th April - Y5 Crucial Crew
28th April - Rec/Y1 Smithills Farm
28th April - Family Worship with Y5/6 9.15am
4th May - Bank Holiday - School closed
5th May - Class photographs
7th May - Inset Day (Polling Day)
11th - 13th May - Y4 residential
11th - 14th May - Y6 Sats
12th May - Full Governing Board Meeting @ 5.30pm
19th May - Family Worship with 1/2 9.15am
22nd May - Sponsored Walk pm
22nd May - School closes 3.25pm for half-term
1st June - School re-opens

The Bee Ready Club turns 1!



On Wednesday 22nd April the Bee Ready Club turns 1. The introduction of this has been well-received by our families - with approximately an extra 40 children arriving each day. Feedback from the children tells us that they enjoy meeting their friends and having something to eat before the start of the school day. All our pupils are welcome to attend- junior gates open between 8.25 and 8.35am.

Attendance and Punctuality

We are aiming to send you a digital copy of your child's attendance sheet after Easter. If you require any support regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Brennan.



We pride ourselves on our school uniform. Over the holidays, please will you check that your child has the correct uniform including school shoes, and the correct P.E. kit ready for the start of the new term.



Now is a good time to check that your child's name is in all items of clothing they bring into school (uniform, coat, wellingtons, pumps etc). We regularly find things without names in them. **Please could I remind everyone that large hair bows, nail varnish and earrings are not to be worn for school. Thank you.**



Medical appointments

Please ensure that routine medical appointments are made outside of the school day. I appreciate that some children may need to see a Consultant, and that these may need to be in the school day.



Each week we celebrate the class who has had the best attendance that week, and a star for their class goes into our attendance box. At the end of the half-term we count the stars. Well done to our Reception class who had the most stars in the box this half-term. They will be receiving their prize from Miss Brennan today. Our Reception class have had amazing attendance this term, with 16 pupils having 100% attendance.

Congratulations to the 33 pupils throughout school who have had 100% attendance since September!



Governor Spotlight

My name is Ceri and I have been a governor at our school since 2017. I was initially elected as a parent governor but when my term came to an end I was pleased to be appointed as a foundation governor.

Back in 2018 I wanted to get involved with being a governor to support my eldest daughter, who had found the adjustment to school life a challenge. My goal was to show her that the school community was not such a scary place. My eldest daughter is now in high school and remembers her time at St Stephens fondly. She will be sitting GCSE's next year - that time has flown by! My youngest daughter is still a student at St Stephens, and this gives me a great insight into what school life looks like for families in our school.

I work as a family solicitor, supporting people who are going through a separation or divorce and have a particular focus on supporting families experiencing domestic abuse. In addition to volunteering as a governor, I am also a trustee of a domestic abuse charity. I am the link governor for safeguarding, a role which sits well with my other responsibilities, outside of school.

