



St Stephen's Primary School Newsletter

Friday 8th May 2026



Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

The first thing I want to say is that I have been so impressed by the manner and confidence with which our children are engaging with adults around the school these last few weeks. Whether it's a conversation with a member of staff, a visitor to school, or myself, our children are chatting away with genuine warmth and politeness. This ability to communicate confidently and respectfully is a life skill that will serve them well beyond their time here at St Stephen's. It speaks volumes about the culture we're nurturing – one where our pupils feel valued, heard and confident in their interactions. I'm genuinely proud of how our children conduct themselves. I realise a lot of this begins at home, so the conversations you're having, the time you are spending with your children and the value you place on this is so important and it is making a difference. Our school virtues help us to guide the children on their path and they are living out those virtues every single day.

This week, our final group of children started their swimming lessons. Swimming is such an important life skill, and it's been lovely to see the progress and confidence our children have gained throughout the year. Whether they've been perfecting their strokes, building their water confidence, or simply enjoying the experience, each pupil has taken something valuable from these sessions. Please do what you can to take the children swimming throughout the year to build on what the children are learning within their school sessions.

Our school clubs continue to be a real highlight this term. They're taking part in sports, creative activities and other enrichment opportunities – and it's wonderful to see. These clubs provide such important spaces for the children to explore their interests, develop new skills and simply have fun with their friends.

Our Year 1 children enjoyed a marvellous trip to Sandylands this morning. They had to walk all the way there, all the way back, and used lots of tennis skills whilst they were there. We learned some new skill-based games to bring back to school, like 'everybody's it, rock, paper scissors'. There were some tired legs and hungry faces back at school, along with excited faces ready to chat about their day. We appreciate everything Skipton Tennis do to support fun, engagement and being active.

This afternoon the whole school had the chance to join a live assembly to celebrate the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough. We joined children around the country and around the world to recall key moments in his history and life and learned that he has been producing television for more than 70 years, has filmed on every continent and many countries around the world and is widely regarded as champion and steward of the natural world.

As we look ahead to next week, I want to thank our Year 6 children and all the staff that have been working hard with them all year. The journey towards these assessments has been one of steady progress and growing confidence. Our children should be genuinely proud of the effort they've put in and the resilience they've shown. We remain committed to supporting them in every way we can and I'm confident that they will do themselves justice.

Looking ahead to the end of this half term, I am thrilled to announce that Culture Day is returning, and this year it's going to be bigger and better. Following the huge success of last year's celebration, we've decided to expand it into a full week-long focus. It will be a wonderful opportunity for our children to explore, celebrate and appreciate the rich diversity of cultures within our school community and beyond. There will be a programme of activities that will include a special dressing up day on Thursday 21st May, when we invite pupils and staff to wear clothing that represents a culture or heritage that's meaningful to them. The week will culminate in a fantastic after-school food festival on Friday 22nd May, where we'll come together to share, taste, and enjoy foods from around the world. It's a celebration that brings our entire community together, and I really hope everyone gets involved as much as they can. We are busy preparing flags to decorate the school and believe we have covered all nationalities – if you think we may have missed any, please speak to the school office.

The pupils in St David also have a theatre trip to look forward to in the final week. A letter with full details will be coming out to parents today, so do keep an eye out for that. Theatre trips are fantastic experiences – they inspire creativity, broaden horizons and create memories that our children will treasure. We're very much looking forward to this outing.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Jo Sykes

Headteacher



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DATES

MAY:

- Mon 11th to Thu 14th—** Year 6 SATS Week
Sat 16th— First Holy Communion at 10:30am
Tue 19th— Little Saints Playgroup at 9am
Nursery Open Morning 10am
- Mon 18th to**
Fri 22nd— Celebrating World Cultural Week
Wed 20th— Good Shepherd Celebration
in Leeds (6 pupils)
- Thu 21st—** Non-uniform—Cultural Dress Day
Fri 22nd— St David visit to Bradford Alhambra
Break up for Half-term



This week we're wishing
a very happy birthday
to.....

Edith, Arlo & Falak!

Please remember we are a **NUT FREE** school. Please do not pack anything containing nuts in your child's lunch pack. This includes Nutella/hazelnut/chocolate bars with nuts. Please make sure to read the label before sending this in with your child. We have some severe allergy sufferers in school.



Menu 11th May (week 3)



Monday

Main: Crispy Kentucky Chicken
Vegetarian: Crispy Quorn Fillets
Sandwich: Cheese or Ham

Tuesday

Main: Chilli con Carne
Vegetarian: Veggie Chilli
Sandwich: Cheese or Ham

Wednesday

Main: Roast Pork Loin
Vegetarian: Cheese Pasty
Sandwich: Tuna mayonnaise or Ham

Thursday

Main: Yorkshire Sausages
Vegetarian: Vegetarian Sausages
Wrap: Ham or Crispy Chicken Wrap

Friday

Main: Crispy Baked Fish
Vegetarian: Pizza Slice
Sandwich: Cheese

Attendance (27/04-01/05)

SCHOOL 94.3%

St George 90%

St Patrick 97.9%

St Andrew 97.1%

St David 98.1%

St Christopher 91.7%



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Stars of the week



St George

Stars: Aaron & Zunairah

St Patrick

Stars: Lizino & Amelia

Maths: Bonnie

St Andrew

Stars: Esther & Anna-Claire

Maths: Albert & Nila

St David

Stars: Samantha & Angelina

Maths: Hafsa & Malachy

St Christopher

Stars: Paula & Dhyan

Maths: Elodie



After School Clubs

Please note these are the After School Clubs for this term. There will be a charge of **£2 per session per child (£20 for a whole term)**. Monday clubs will be for 9 weeks (£18) due to May Day. These sessions will run from **Monday 27th April until Friday 10th July (10 weeks)**. Clubs will take place from 3.20-4.20pm. If your children are interested in joining, please contact the school office.

Mondays: Years 2-6

Gardening Club with Mrs Holt

Tuesdays: Years Rec, Y1-2

Stay & Play with Mrs Shooter

Thursdays: Years 1-2

Numbots with Mrs Fox

Years 3-6

Morphs with Mrs Fox

Years 3-6

Running Club with Mrs Sykes & Miss Calow

Fridays: Years 3-6

Chess Club with Mr Bullock

Free after school clubs

Wednesdays: Years 3-6

Music Choir with Miss Howe (3.30-4.45pm)

Fridays: Years 3-6

Football with Mr Douglass



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YORK FESTIVAL OF Ideas
30 May to 12 June 2026

FUN FOR FAMILIES

ENJOY A HOST OF **FREE FAMILY EVENTS AT YORK FESTIVAL OF IDEAS!**

- ★ Full Steam Ahead @Discovery Zone
- ★ Storytelling in a Virtual World
- ★ Where Are All the Aliens?
- ★ Festival Fringe Family Fun Afternoon
- ★ Treasure-Hunting and Origami Making

Plus, explore the world of graphic novels, connect with nature, discover a magical world built by fairies – and much, much more!

DON'T MISS Songs of Nature: An evening of words and music with author Michael Morpurgo and cellist Clare O'Connell

yorkfestivalofideas.com

SOCCER HUB MAY HOLIDAY CAMP

TAKE YOUR GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL THIS HALF TERM

- ✓ HIGH ENERGY FOOTBALL CAMPS
- ✓ OPEN TO ALL ABILITIES – EVERYONE WELCOME
- ✓ ENJOY FUN, ENGAGING SESSIONS WITH THE BALL
- ✓ GAMES, CHALLENGES AND SMALL SIDED MATCHES EVERY DAY
- ✓ BUILD CONFIDENCE, MAKE FRIENDS AND STAY ACTIVE

LIMITED PLACES REGISTER NOW

TO BOOK: WWW.SOCCERHUB.ORG.UK

**TUE 26th, WED 27th & THU 28th
SANDYLANDS, SKIPTON 10-3PM**

**£20 PER SESSION
£50 FULL 3-DAY PACKAGE**

WILD EXPLORERS

Where nature, fun and adventure collide!
A child-led, fun and nurturing holiday club set in beautiful woodland on the Broughton Estate.

We are an OFSTED registered outdoor holiday club where children can play, enjoy a campfire, woodland crafts, tools and much more!

Price
£35 per child per day
Childcare vouchers accepted

Age
Reception - Age 13

Upcoming Dates
26th - 29th May

Into The Wild (Year 6 upwards) is running 26th - 27th May
Click [here](#) for more info

Time
9.30am - 3.30pm

Location
Broughton Hall Estate

hello@wildexplorers.org.uk www.wildexplorers.org.uk

SWIM + RUN

50% off Thanks to the Rotary Club
Use Code "50offCeSBR"

Sat Afternoon 13th June

CRAVEN LEISURE CENTRE

JUNIOR AQUATHLON

Come have fun and try out a multi-sport event

Swim 50 m (2 lengths)
Run 1km
Age 7-14 years

Enter Here!

Rotary Skipton

Swim Bike Run - Skipton