

St Stephen's Primary School Newsletter

Friday 17th April 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

This first week has flown by! We have begun the Summer term focused on the virtues of Perseverance and Resilience which are entirely relevant as we consider the busy times ahead and the work we still have to complete to be ready for our next academic year. We have to keep trying when the work is hard. We have to have faith and hope when we are struggling. We will be talking a lot about how to help ourselves and each other in the coming weeks.

We celebrated a lovely Mass with Father Chris this morning, with some fantastic reading from our Y3 children. We gathered together to mark the start of the Summer term and to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus. The children played their part well and sang with an abundance of enthusiasm.

Early Years had a fabulous visit today from a little woolly visitor. How brilliant that Nursery have been learning the nursery rhyme 'Mary had a Little Lamb', as they met Ella and her little lamb with a poorly foot. It was so much fun to watch Pea, the lamb, skip out the door to follow big girl, Ella. The little lamb definitely followed her to school.

Whilst last half term may be a distant memory, you may recall the tremendous efforts made by our Mini Vinnies in their fundraising efforts for the Good Shepherd Appeal during Lent. With all their ideas put into action, our community has raised £950. The money will go towards helping families who need it. Thank you to everyone who supported the appeal – we want our children to understand how important it is to help others who have less and are in need. Our children will grow up as responsible citizens with a strong moral code.

This week has been a chance to settle into routines once more. We have been happy to see so many parents attend our parents' evening sessions this week on Tuesday and Thursday. Thank you to everyone that made appointments and came into school this week. The success of your child on their school journey prospers when there are strong relationships with school and teachers. Please make the most of these opportunities and come into school when invited.

Thinking of other important school routines, we have a set school uniform that should be worn by all children from Reception through to Year 6. The uniform includes a red jumper or cardigan and a school tie. Trainers should only be worn on PE days - again with the correct uniform. They should not be branded items or football kits. We do have spare uniform if this happens and children will be asked to change once in school. Also, please remember that jewellery should not be worn (other than a single stud earring) and that long hair should be tied back on both girls and boys. Please add names to school uniform so it does not end up in lost property. If anyone is unsure about the uniform, please ask for details at the school office.

Next week is a busy one and an exciting one in lots of ways. We have two school trips happening! Our Year 2/3s will be visiting Ponderosa Zoo on Tuesday, where they will enjoy seeing lots of lovely wildlife, including seeing the lemur enclosure. They will have a workshop on lifecycles and completing some lovely writing after their visit. Reception and Year 1 will visit Hesketh, the local farm in Bolton Abbey, to enjoy feeding lambs, meeting guinea pigs and more farm fun. They will have lots to talk about on their return. I am sure!

We will also be celebrating Earth Day on Wednesday (22nd) for the second year running. This year we are asking that children come to school in greens and blues to represent the rolling hills and meandering rivers of Yorkshire. The children will learn about why it is important that we look after our world and in the coming weeks get involved in activities around the school grounds and local area to improve our spaces. We are asking for donations – rather than a plant like last year – as we need specific things to grow in certain areas around school. We will go shopping with money raised to improve our school grounds. We have gardening club starting on Monday, 27th so they will be busy looking after everything we plant.

A note about clubs – they will begin week commencing 27th April. Next week is busy with training and meetings for teachers so the following week makes more sense. Mrs Millington will send out information next Monday.

Enjoy your weekend!

Warm regards,

Jo Sykes
Headteacher



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DATES

APRIL:

Tue 21st—

St Patrick visit Ponderosa Zoo

Fri 24th—

St David Tennis at Sandylands
9-11am

St George visit to Hesketh Farm

Tue 28th—

Little Saints Playgroup at 9am

MAY:

Sun 3rd—

St Margaret Clitherow House Mass
at 10:30am

Thu 7th—

Weighing & Measuring for
Reception & Y6



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

Dougie and Hadi!

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.



Monday Menu 20th April (week 1)

Main: Crispy Kentucky Chicken

Vegetarian: Quorn Crispy Fillets

Sandwich: Ham or Cheese

Tuesday

Main: Chilli Con Carne

Vegetarian: Veggie Chilli

Sandwich: Ham or Cheese

Wednesday

Main: Roast Pork Loin

Vegetarian: Cheese Pasty

Sandwich: Tuna Mayo or Ham

Thursday

Main: Yorkshire Sausages

Vegetarian: Vegetarian Sausages

Sandwich: Crispy Chicken Wrap or Ham Sandwich

Friday

Main: Crispy Baked Fish

Vegetarian: Pizza Slice

Sandwich: Cheese

Attendance (23/03—27/03)

SCHOOL 92.3%

St George 92.7%

St Patrick 97.9%

St Andrew 90.3%

St David 88.3%

St Christopher 90.9%





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Stars of the week



St George

Stars: Arya & Azaan

Maths: Matthew

St Patrick

Star: Gracie

Maths: Nathan & Arlo

St Andrew

Stars: Peter & Ivy

Maths: Rafferty

St David

Stars: Daisy & Nadiia

Maths: Nila & Amelie G

St Christopher

Stars: Aidan & Oliver

Maths: Amelia



After School Clubs

There will be a charge of **£2 per session per child (£20 for the 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**.

Clubs will take place from 3.20-4.20pm. If your children are interested in joining, please contact the school office.

Information regarding the new after school clubs will be sent home next week.

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 at Sandylands (4-5pm)





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NHS
Bradford District Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Parent / Carer Workshop Behaviour strategies and support

Specialist advice for parents of children with a Learning Disability
Delivered by the Children's Learning Disability Team Craven

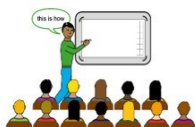


Up to 15% of children with special educational needs use behaviours of concern. Join our specialist nursing team to explore the reasons for these behaviours and what your child may be trying to communicate, as well as strategies to manage and reduce the behaviour.

12:30 to 14:30 17 April 2026
at Fisher Medical Centre,
Community Hub Room, Millfields,
Coach Street, Skipton, BD23 1EU

If you cannot attend in person, a virtual option will be available.

Book your place today! email: ChildrensLearningDisabilities@bdct.nhs.uk



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SUMMER HOLIDAY ROCK CLIMBING



Holiday climbing sessions are an ideal way for kids to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. Activities include climbing, abseiling and weaselling, an action-packed day.

Holiday Session - from £62.50 (7-17 years old)

Ilkley Cow & Calf: Every week except w/c 3rd August
Brimham Rocks: Every week except w/c 3rd August
Rock Skills Introduction (1-day) and Intermediate (2-day) Courses are also available

Childcare Vouchers accepted



Book online or contact us via email



WWW.MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM INFO@MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM

MAY HALF TERM ROCK CLIMBING



Holiday climbing sessions are an ideal way for kids to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. Activities include climbing, abseiling and weaselling, an action-packed day.

Holiday Session - £62.50 (7-17 years old)

Ilkley Cow & Calf: Tuesday-Friday, 9:30-16:30
Brimham Rocks: Tuesday or Friday, 9:30-16:30
Rock Skills Introduction (1-day) and Intermediate (2-day) Courses are also available

Childcare Vouchers accepted



Book online or contact us via email



WWW.MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM INFO@MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM

Sounds of Skipton Mini Musicmakers

An open-air workshop for youngsters to discover the Heartbeat of the Dales...

**Skipton Amphitheatre
Monday May 4th, 2026**

