



St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School
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Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Letter from Minister of Schools

We were delighted to receive a letter from Damian Hinds, Minister of Schools, this week congratulating St Stephen's on a high standard of achievement in reading, writing and mathematics in last year's Key Stage 2 assessments. Our results put St Stephen's in the top 1% of primary schools in the country. This is credit to the hard work put in by our school staff and pupils.

Attendance & Punctuality



Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 has been 94.5% this week. This means that we are in the **Amber zone** and we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education. It is vital that children are in school every day, as missed school = missed learning. If your child is unwell, understandably, they cannot attend school, however, it is imperative that you notify school at the earliest time.



Remember we encourage you to check, if you are ever unsure that your child is able to attend school, check the Healthier Together, where it can give you clear advice and up to date information.

<https://www.nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk/>

Fundraising Evening

Keep your eyes peeled for further details and ticketing information regarding our school fundraising evening on Friday 26th April. We are hoping for tickets to go on sale next week!

Easter Fun Day – Duck Race and Name the Bunny

To fundraise for our school PTA, we will be hosting an Easter Fun Day on Thursday 28th March which will include an online duck race, Name the bunny competition and many more activities throughout the day!



Duck Race

For a suggested donation of £1.00, pupils will be able to enter the duck race. The race will take place during the school day, we will gather together to eagerly watch and await the results! There will be a special Easter hamper for the race winner!

Name the Bunny

We have a gorgeous Easter bunny that needs a home and a name! For a suggested donation of £1.00, pupils can submit a name for the bunny. A name will be selected at random, and the winner will get to take the bunny home!

To enter the duck race or to name the bunny, please follow the links and hand in your donation at the school office, or online on our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/ststephensptaspring2024>

Duck Race Entry: <https://forms.office.com/e/hxMgvDg5Yg>

Name the Bunny: <https://forms.office.com/e/s4N1bfyNKm>



Lenten Soup

Lenten soup will be served during breaktime every Friday of Lent that pupils are in school. All proceeds will go to support CAFOD. We suggest a donation of 50p per cup which can be paid in cash at the school office or directly to CAFOD:

www.justgiving.com/page/st-stephens-catholic-primary-school-1709209412775



Cross-Trust Choir Event

Selected members of our school choir were invited to attend a Cross-Trust choir event, where children from over 20 schools joined together to sing. We are thrilled to be able to share a clip with you of the beautiful singing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2EEzR47qRk>



**HEATON HAWKS
WILDCATS**

•LED BY FA QUALIFIED COACHES

Book here:



Girls football for aged 5-11

Tuesdays 6-7pm (term time)

**Jesmond Park Academy, Jesmond Park
West, NE7 7DP**

Contact - Steve.Ketteringham@gmail.com



Dates for the Diary (as always, dates are subject to change!):

Each Tuesday, 6th February – 26th March - Year 6 Ski Lessons (Group 1 and 2)
Friday 1st March – Monday 4th March – Year 4 Residential to High Borrans
Monday 4th March – Friday 15th March – Year 5 Swimming Lessons Hadrian Leisure Centre
Wednesday 6th March – Classes visit Book Fair in school day
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
Thursday 7th March 3.15pm-4pm – Book Fair open for parents
Friday 8th March 2pm – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 3)
Tuesday 12th March/Wednesday 13th March 2pm-5.30pm – Parent Consultations
Wednesday 13th March – Vision Screening for Reception Class
Friday 15th March 9.15am – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 4)
Monday 18th March – Thursday 28th March – Year 4 Swimming Lessons Hadrian Leisure Centre
Tuesday 19th March – KS2 Dance Festival at Whitley Bay Playhouse
Friday 22nd March 9.15am – Prayer, Song and Soup (Year 5)
Friday 22nd March 1pm-3pm – Spring Disco
Week commencing 25th March – Holy Week Services
Thursday 28th March 9am – Awards Assembly
Thursday 28th March – Last day of Spring Term
Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April – Easter Holidays
Monday 15th April – School closed to pupils for INSET Day
Tuesday 16th April – Pupils return to school