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Friday 8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance & Punctuality

Last half term, Year 5 won the half term prize for attendance with 96.28%. Year 5 have chosen a class trip to Jump 360 as their prize – further details will follow soon. The race starts again this half term and it's all to play for!

Our whole school attendance from Reception to Year 6 was 95.59% this week. This means that we are in the **Amber zone** (but very close to Green) and we are not meeting our targets set by the Department for Education.

Attendance	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week commencing 4 th November	95.6%	95.00%	97.2%	90.00%	99.3%	98.3%
Autumn Half Term 2	95.6%	95.00%	97.2%	90.00%	99.3%	98.3%

Christmas Events

A newsletter will be going out early next week regarding all upcoming Christmas events. Thank you for your patience while we are waiting for events to be confirmed. We will communicate this with parents as soon as possible.

Anti-Bullying Week/Odd Socks Day

On Tuesday 12th November, St. Stephen's will be taking part in #OddSocksDay as part of Anti-Bullying week. As part of our Relationships and Health Education curriculum, during this week pupils will be learning about the impact of bullying on our well-being. The theme of Anti-Bullying Week this year is 'Choose Respect' and centres around choosing kindness and understanding our role in making our peers feel valued and respected. On Tuesday of next week, all you need to do is wear odd socks! It's a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique during Anti-Bullying Week.



Lost Property

We are continuing to receive many items of lost property that remains unclaimed. Please ensure that you check the box at the school office for your child's belongings. **Any items not claimed by Friday 15th November will be donated.**



St Stephen's Autumn Movie Night

Reception to Year 6 **Tuesday 12th November 2024** Collection 4.30pm (from your child's classroom door)



An admission to Movie Night includes access to a cinema screen of your choice, a drink and a snack.

Suggested donation £2.00 - all proceeds will go to supporting our school PTA funds.

SCREEN ONE: Tangled (PG)

The magically long-haired Rapunzel has spent her entire life in a tower, but now that a runaway thief has stumbled upon her, she is about to discover the world for the first time, and who she really is.



SCREEN THREE: TOY Story (PG)

A cowboy doll is profoundly threatened and jealous when a new spaceman action figure supplants him as top toy in a boy's bedroom. ______



SCREEN TWO: Trolls (U)

After the Bergens invade Troll Village, Poppy, the happiest Troll ever born, and the curmudgeonly Branch set off on a journey to rescue her friends.



screen Four: How to Train your Dragon: The Hidden World (PG)



When Hiccup discovers Toothless isn't the only Night Fury, he must seek the Hidden World, a secret Dragon Utopia before a hired tyrant named Grimmel finds it first.

*Please ensure that you inform us if you do not wish for your child to view a PG rated movie.

Help Available - Gas & Electricity

Unity in Community will be providing vouchers between £28 and £49 to help towards paying for gas and electric. To qualify you must pay for your energy through a prepayment meter and have not received energy vouchers from Unity in Community within the past year. This is in response to the ongoing cost of living crisis and beneficiaries can be working, unemployed, self-employed or retired. For more information and to register, call 01482 420836, Monday to Friday, 9am - 2pm – if busy, please keep trying.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November. You should have now received instructions to book an appointment. **We strongly encourage parents to make an appointment with their child's class teacher – please contact the school office should you experience any difficulties in doing so.** Please see table below for details of the location of appointments, depending on the time you have booked.

Year	Dates	2pm-3pm	3.30pm -5.20pm
Group			
Nursery	Wednesday 13 th November	Meeting Room 2	Meeting Room 2
		(School Office)	(School Office)
Reception	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Meeting Room	Meeting Room
	14 th November	(School Office)	(School Office)
Year 1	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Dining Hall	Year 1 Classroom
	14 th November		
Year 2	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Group Room 1	Year 2 Classroom
	14 th November		
Year 3	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Group Room 2	Year 3 Classroom
	14 th November		
Year 4	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Group Room 3	Year 4 Classroom
	14 th November		
Year 5	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Intervention Room 1	Year 5 Classroom
	14 th November		
Year 6	Wednesday 13 th and Thursday	Intervention Room 2	Year 6 Classroom
	14 th November		

All Nursery and Reception class appointments will be held in the meeting room by the school office. Appointments in classrooms can be accessed via the school yard. For all other appointments, please report to the school office.

Children in Need Appeal 2024

St Stephen's will be supporting BBC Children in Need this year and we would love our pupils to be involved and help raise funds for such a worthy cause. National Children in Need Day is Friday 15th November. To fundraise, we will be hosting an online duck race - for a suggested donation of £2.00, pupils will be able to name a duck and enter the race. During the school day, the race will take place and pupils can enjoy a Pudsey biscuit, kindly made by our school kitchen, while we eagerly watch and await the results! There will be a special prize for the best named duck as well as for the race winner!

To enter the duck race, please follow the link or scan the QR code and hand in your donation at the school office or online on our JustGiving page:



Duck Race Entry: https://forms.office.com/e/wfq99RZWYh

JustGiving Page: https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-stephens-catholic-primary-school

Here are some examples of ducks that have taken part in previous years... Quackie Chan James Pond Ducktor Who

Chewquacker Sirius Quack David Beakham The Real Swim Shady Quack Grealish Captain Quack Sparrow Baby Yoduck We wonder if they can be beaten this year?!





In addition to this, Pudsey merchandise will also be on sale in the lead up to Children in Need Day. Thank you for your anticipated support of this cause.

Phonics Workshop

On Wednesday 20th November, at 9:15am, we will be hosting a Phonics workshop for parents of Key Stage 1.

During the session, we will share information regarding the Phonics Screening Check (Year 1), we will share resources and materials to support your child at home, as well as share a range activities to do at home with your child. Phonics is the absolute bedrock of reading, and we would love to share some fun and engaging ideas for

you to encourage your child's progress and development in the home.

There'll also be a chance to chat to your child's class teacher too and ask any questions that you may have regarding Phonics and Reading. Come along and learn all about Phonics in Key stage 1! We'd love to see as many of you there as possible!

You can register your interest here: <u>https://forms.office.com/e/3pt2ZpB19T</u>

Book Swap

Our book swap event will take place on Wednesday 20th November 3.30pm.

During the event, there will be some fun activities for families to take part in including reading cafes and a raffle. We would be grateful for donations of unwanted books to support the scheme – please hand these in at school in advance of the event.

We hope that you can make it!

Active North Tyneside Sessions

There are various free sessions happening in North Tyneside for children of all ages:

Family Splash

Bring your family along to enjoy a free weekly toys and floats swimming session! It's a great way to have fun as a family, introduce kids to the water, improve their water confidence and encourage being physically active.

Stay and Play

Stay and Play is a free session for children aged 1 to 7 years old (children must be accompanied by an adult). Children can have fun in the soft play and take part in arts and crafts, while parents and carers get healthy eating and physical activity tips from our lovely staff!

Mini Movers

Mini Movers is for children aged 2 to 4 years old and is a great opportunity for them to be active and try healthy foods.

During the session the team delivers a variety of activities to develop the following skills:

- Agility
- Balance
- Co-ordination
- Numeracy
- Literacy









Dates for the Diary (as always, dates are subject to change!): Friday 8th November – Shoebox appeal deadline Monday 11th November – Remembrance Service 10.30am Tuesday 12th November 3pm-4.30pm – Movie Night Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November – Parent Consultations Friday 15th November – Children in Need Day Wednesday 20th November 9.15am – Phonics Workshop Wednesday 20th November – Book Swap Event 3.30pm Year 3 Residential visit to The Sill - Tuesday 3rd December – Wednesday 4th December