



WEEKLY INFORMATION SHEET - 9th JANUARY 2026

STAR AWARD WINNERS	
Reception	Heavenly
Year 1	Elsie
Year 2	Rozh
Year 3	Grace K
Year 4	Bobby
Year 5	Buster
Year 6	Ollie

CLASS	% ATT	LATES
REC	92.42	0
YEAR 1	95.77	4
YEAR 2	98.55	0
YEAR 3	97.97	3
YEAR 4	97.16	4
YEAR 5	96.21	2
YEAR 6	94.79	5

HOUSE WINNERS
DERWENT

HEAD TEACHER'S THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

"May you shine the light of Christ in the New Year"

Welcome back to a new term. I hope you and your families enjoyed a restful break and have had time to be together. It has been a real joy to welcome the children back into school this week, and the building has once again been filled with energy, laughter, and a strong sense of community.

I would like to extend a warm St Stephen's welcome to Mrs Ince, our new School Business Manager and Mrs Yates, our new Year 3 Teacher. I know that they will be great assets to our school and made to feel part of our family.

The children have settled back into routines well and have shown enthusiasm for their learning, as well as kindness and respect towards one another. It has been pleasing to see pupils supporting their friends and welcoming new members of our school family with warmth and compassion.

We look ahead to the term with hope and excitement, knowing that there will be many opportunities for learning, celebration, and growth. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work together to nurture each child's progress, wellbeing, and faith journey. May this term be one of growth, resilience, and blessing for our whole school community.

With warm wishes,

Mr Townsend
Acting Head Teacher



DANCING FEET

This term will be **cheerleading** starting Wednesday 14th January. Classes are open to children in Reception to Year 6 and will run for 5 consecutive weeks, with last class on Wednesday 11th February. Cost will be £20 and children will need to bring their trainers and tie long hair up.

If you would like to take part in these classes, please contact **Carol** directly on 07730 565 096.

WATER BOTTLES

Friendly reminder, we are a healthy school and **only water** is allowed in children's water bottle, unless otherwise stated with a medical note. Thank you for your continued support.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please note, for all medical appointments (hospital, doctors, dentist etc) made during school time, proof of appointment is required. Please provide this at the Office or send to Mrs Wall on Dojo.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they will receive Universal Free School Meals funded by the Government. However, if you are eligible for benefit related free school meals, please apply as all children who are in receipt of free school meals at St Stephen's will also benefit from school trips being funded by school.

To find out more, and whether you may be eligible, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

School attendance is hugely important. For your child to gain the full benefit from their education, for their learning, wellbeing, and wider development, they need to attend on time, every day possible.

School gates **open at 8:40am** and **close at 8:55am**. We are seeing an increase in children arriving after the gates have closed, and when the registers have closed. Please note, lates and unauthorised absences are flagged with the Local Authority and may result in fine.

10 sessions (5 days of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period)

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period. This means 5 full days. Being more than 30 minutes late to school will count as 1 session of unauthorised absence.

Penalty Notice Fines for Attendance is changing

NEW CHANGES FROM 19TH AUGUST 2024

1

1st OFFENCE

The first time a penalty notice is given for absence, the cost will be:

£160 per parent, per child.

This will be £80 if paid within 21 days.

2

2nd OFFENCE (within 3 years)

The second time a penalty notice is given for absence, the cost will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days.

No reduced rate offered.

3

3 OR MORE OFFENCES (within 3 years)

If a third penalty notice is given for absence, you will not get a penalty notice. The case will be presented to the Magistrate's Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to **£2,500 per parent, per child.**

Guilty cases can show on parents' future DBS certificates, due to not safeguarding a child's education.



ILLNESSES

Making all parents aware that we have a case of Threadworm in school. We have enhanced our cleaning and sanitising within in school.

Please see below NHS guidelines on when to return to school after illnesses. If your child is ill, please contact the Office on 01204 333 642 in the mornings to let school know.

When should my child return to school?



Chicken Pox	Conjunctivitis	Diarrhoea & Vomiting	Glandular Fever	Hand, foot & mouth	Impetigo
When all spots have crusted over	None*	48 hours from last episode	None*	None*	When lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles	Mumps	Scabies	Scarlet Fever	Slapped Cheek	Whooping Cough
4 days from onset of rash	5 days from onset of swelling	After first treatment	24 hours after commencing antibiotics	None*	48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu	Head Lice	Threadworms		Tonsillitis	
Until recovered	None*	None*		None*	



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
Monday 12 th January	KS2 Dodgeball 3:15pm - 4:15pm
Tuesday 13 th January	Y3 / Y4 Football 3:15pm - 4:15pm
Wednesday 14 th January	Dancing Feet 3:15pm - 4:15pm
Thursday 15 th January	KS1 Gymnastics 3:15pm - 4:15pm
Friday 16 th January	