



St Stephen's News Letter

Summer 2026

Dear Families of St Stephen's,

I can't quite believe we have almost reached the end of the Summer Term! The time has flown by, and it has been a busy but incredibly enjoyable term, filled with wonderful learning opportunities, experiences, and achievements.

I have been particularly proud of the way the children have embraced school life during the recent heatwaves. Their resilience, enthusiasm, and positive attitudes have been fantastic to see.

To help us respond effectively to periods of hot weather, we have introduced a new Hot Weather Policy, which you will have received. Please take some time to read it, particularly the section for parents and carers, so that we can continue to work together to support the children's wellbeing and learning during warmer weather.

A very special mention must go to our wonderful Year 6 children, who are preparing to begin their next chapter at secondary school. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved during their time at St Stephen's and of the kind, respectful, and resilient young people they have become. They leave us with so many happy memories, and we know they will continue to live out the values of our school community and shine wherever their journey takes them.

Although the summer break is nearly here, we still have a few days of term remaining. Please ensure your child attends school right up until the final day, as every day of learning counts.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Our strong school community makes such a difference to our children's success and happiness.

On behalf of everyone at St Stephen's, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a wonderful summer break, filled with quality time together and many special memories. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 3rd September, refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

Ms Moore
Headteacher

Important Dates



**Tuesday 14 &
Wednesday 15 July**

Free used uniform will be available in the playground – small voluntary donations are requested

Wednesday 15 July
Year 6 Leavers Assembly
parents to attend 1:45pm

Thursday 16 July
Last day of term.
Usual pick-up time of 3:30pm.



If you would like to join our Parent Group, please contact the school office for more information.

Attendance and Punctuality



Year 4 are this term's overall winners of the Attendance Cup, with 4 wins averaging 98%. Year 5 have managed to win the Punctuality Cup an outstanding 7 times. Congratulations to both classes! Particular congratulations to Leymee (Y3), Jamie (Y4), Olivia (Y4), Chisom (Y3), and Mariana (Y1) for their 100% attendance this year. Punctuality and attendance continue to be one of our highest priorities. Our attendance for 2025/26 is 94.6% which is in line with the National Average. May we remind you that the pupils return to school on 3rd September. We look forward to seeing all pupils on this day.



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St Stephen's Summer Fair



Despite having to rearrange the date at short notice due to the heat, our Summer Fair this month was a fantastic success! A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported the occasion, and a very special thank you to our Parent Group for the incredible amount of hard work, planning, and dedication that went into organising such a wonderful event. We are delighted to have raised over £1,200! This will go towards much-needed investment in our outdoor area, helping us to continue improving the spaces our children enjoy. Thank you again to everyone involved – your support and generosity mean so much.

Dining Room Etiquette competition

Over the past few weeks, we have been running a Dining Room Etiquette Competition across the school to encourage children to think about the importance of good table manners and how they can help create a calm, respectful and enjoyable dining environment. Children were asked to produce a creative piece of work promoting positive dining habits. The response was incredible! We received a fantastic range of entries (some examples can be seen on the right), including songs, raps, poems and colourful posters. The standard was exceptionally high, making it extremely difficult to choose the winners. After much deliberation, we selected two winners from each class.



Last week, these children proudly shared their entries in assembly, inspiring the rest of the school to continue demonstrating excellent dining room etiquette. As a result of the competition and the children's commitment to putting these good habits into practice, we have already noticed a significant improvement in our dining room. The atmosphere is calmer, children are speaking more quietly, showing excellent manners, and moving around the dining hall safely. It has made lunchtime a much more enjoyable experience for everyone. To recognise their fantastic efforts, all of our winners were invited to enjoy a special hot chocolate and muffin treat. It was a thoroughly deserved reward, and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their creativity and positive contribution to school life. A huge well done to every child who took part. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, imagination and maturity they showed throughout the competition, and we are confident these excellent dining habits will continue both in school and at home.

Fun Day



in a relaxed environment.

Our pupils had a wonderful time taking part in Fun Day on Wednesday 8th July. They had the opportunity to experience a wide range of activities including exploring their creativity through craft and drawing, developing their digital skills using the iPads and ICT Suite, and working together to build and create in the construction area. There was also plenty of friendly competition and teamwork during the board games and stacking cups challenges! Fun Day gave the children the freedom to lead their own play, follow their interests and spend time socialising with friends



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Fun Day continued...

This provided opportunities for pupils to mix with others and enjoy activities in a way that is different from the usual school day. Having access to all three halls allowed the children to stay cool and comfortable despite the warm weather. The additional space also meant that we were able to continue Fun Day right through until the end of the school day, giving pupils plenty of time to enjoy everything on offer. Overall, Fun Day was a great success and a thoroughly enjoyable experience for pupils across the school.



Year 3 Song Fest

On Monday 6th July 2026, year 3 students had a wonderful opportunity to visit Deptford Green School to sing alongside a large group of pupils from a few other local schools. St Stephens Year 3 pupils had the wonderful opportunity to learn and perform a shared set of songs as a combined ensemble. The pupils had a lot of fun practising, then performing to their parents and other visitors.



Year 6 Leavers' Service at Southwark Cathedral



On Thursday 9th July, Year 6 participated in the Diocese of Southwark Year 6 Leavers Service at Southwark Cathedral. It was wonderful to come together with so many other schools to celebrate all the hard work, efforts and achievements of the children. The Bishop of Southwark reflected on the children's journeys through primary school and some Year 7 pupils from local schools offered words of wisdom about the transition into secondary school. Despite the heat, our Year 6 children enjoyed the service and celebrated back at school with a leavers picnic.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national initiative that helps boost children's reading skills and confidence while encouraging a lifelong love of reading. The programme runs throughout the holidays and is open to all children aged 4–11. Younger children can also take part via the **Mini Challenge** collecting stickers and a certificate of completion. The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to use the library to borrow books so this is a wonderful way to enjoy a variety of books without spending a penny. If you do not yet have a library card, please apply for one at your local library. The children will be asked to tell the librarian a little bit about the book that they have read and will be rewarded with stickers and a small prize. If children complete the Summer Reading Challenge (all six books) then they will receive a certificate and possibly a golden ticket to book in for a special celebration event at **Broadway Theatre** on **29th October 2026**. Young children (age 0-4) who want to take part in the **Mini Challenge** will take part in age-appropriate challenges and tips informed by REAL principles (Raising Early Achievement in Literacy). It offers a fun and engaging way for families to support their child's love of books, plus their early reading and writing skills this summer. We would love for as many children as possible to take part in this rewarding challenge so that we can celebrate how wonderful it is to be able to read and share books with one another.





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Sporting News



Laban Dance

Year 4 were invited to work with Trinity Laban Dance students on their final dance piece during the Summer Term. We were then invited to watch and take part in their final immersive piece at Trinity Laban Theatre on Friday 3rd July. The children were enthralled by the event.

Year 6 Girls' Football Team

We are exceptionally proud of our Year 6 girls' football team who attended the Lewisham Girls' World Cup tournament on Friday 3rd July. After a nail-biting penalty shoot-out, they made it to the semi-finals and went on to win a magnificent bronze medal. They were outstanding on and off the pitch, displaying the school values at the highest level.



Year 5 Cricket Team



On Tuesday 2nd June, the Year 5 cricket team, having won their Year 4 borough tournament, had an exciting opportunity to represent St Stephen's School at the London Cricket Finals at Kent County Cricket Ground, Beckenham.

Having won the group stages, we were then knocked out in the quarter finals against some tough opposition. We were, however, champions in demonstrating excellent teamwork, communication and our school values.



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World Cup Day!

World Cup Fever struck St Stephen's School on Thursday 2nd July, as we embarked on our own World Cup Day. We wore our team's colours, learnt fabulous football skills and competed against each other with excellent sporting spirits.



Sports Personality of the Year!

On Thursday 9th July we held our Sporting Awards Assembly. Congratulations to the two medal winners in each class for showing the best Sporting Spirits during Sports Day. A special award was given to our Sports Personality of the Year, Angelica, who has competed at the highest level in athletics, achieved a Silver medal in Netball and a Bronze medal in Football. And lastly, congratulations to the House Captains of Grace for leading their house to win the Sports Day Shield for the 2nd year in a row, with a whopping 281 points!

