St Mary's CofE Primary School



"I can do <u>all</u> things" Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving <u>God's Creation</u>

Friday 4th April 2025

Newsletter 13

Our core Christian Values: Compassion, Koinonia (Community), Courage, Creativity, Service, Truthfulness

Thank You, Volunteers!

A huge *thank you* to all the wonderful parents/ carers and extended family who joined us Wednesday afternoon for our Forest School *Spring Clean*! Your hard work clearing leaves, tidying paths, cutting back brambles, and preparing wood for our fire pit has made a big difference for our children. Thanks to your time and effort, the Forest School is now ready for lots of exciting outdoor adventures this term.

Following your fantastic feedback yesterday, we're delighted to announce that this will now be a regular monthly event! *Watch this space for the next Forest School Tidy*—we'd love to see even more of you there.

A special mention goes to *Miss Woods and the Eagles* for their fantastic hard work—we truly appreciate your effort, and we hope you'll join us again for the next Forest School Tidy!

It's moments like these that remind us what a *wonderful community* we have, where everyone comes together to make our school the best it can be. Thank you for your continued support!

House Points Winners

Term 4 House Point Winner's are **Topaz**, they came to school on the last day of term in non uniform!

Well Done Topaz

Attendance Winners

Congratulations to **Ducklings** for this week having **95.71%** attendance.. Last week **Lions** were top of the attendance board for having **99.3%**, so close to 100%.





Netball Team

Our Year 5 netball team took part in a tournament hosted by Downside School last week. The team put in some great performances, with several decisive victories and a couple of very narrow defeats. Their results put them into the playoff for the Tournament Plate and they won their match decisively, winning the Downside Under 10 Netball Festival Plate 2025. A huge well done to Phoebe, Emily, Pippi, Maggie and Molly. Special mention goes to Phoebe who won a netball in recognition of her performance in every netball position that she played.

Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to all the children who received a Headteacher Award - keep up the great work!

Ducklings	Cleo, Sid
Rabbits	Shay, Lilly
Badgers	Olivia, Sienna
Foxes	Joe & Evie, Martha & Florence
Lions	Pippi, Tilly
Eagles	Matilda, Stanley





Outside Achievements

This newsletter we would like to celebrate the outside achievements of **Bear**, **Noah**, **Bea** (both weeks!), **Olivia**, **Harrison & Ben**. Cricket, Football, Gymnastics and more!

Hedgehogs

Class News:

We have been having so much fun outside in the sunshine for the past two weeks. We have been enjoying our woodland area, the nursery garden and the big playground. We have been practicing our gross motor skills by climbing, swinging, running, jumping and much more! We have enjoyed some of our snack times outside in the shade as well. In our woodland area we have been very excited to see some frogs as well as lots of bugs and insects as always.

Our focus book this week has been 'We're going on an Egg Hunt' by Martha Mumford and Laura Hughes. This has been a very popular book with Hedgehogs who have enjoyed counting the eggs on each page and lots of them very quickly memorised the story which they could recall back to us. We have extended this interest by incorporating toy Easter eggs into our play using lots of counting and sorting games with baskets. The children have also

enjoyed sharing what they enjoy about Easter and what they are looking forward to doing over the Easter holidays with their families.

After Easter we will ask the children if they want to share anything from the holidays with us and help them to recall what they have done since they last saw us. They are welcome to bring anything in to show us in the first few days back (that is not delicate).

Thank you again for all your support this term. We hope you have a lovely Easter!

Mrs Harrison & Miss James







Ducklings



Class News:

What a wonderful term we have had learning about People who help us. Many thanks for all of the visitors we have had. We have asked lots of questions and learned about different jobs and skills that we would need for certain careers. It was great to learn about the RNLI this week and learn what all of the different beach flags mean to help us stay safe. We got to dress up as a lifeguard and learn some top tips for safe water play.

In Literacy we have been reading the Easter story and writing Easter cards. The children have shown incredible creativity writing and painting their Easter and Mothers Day cards.

It was lovely to have so many of you at the parents workshop



last week. We have loved the many cooking experiences we have had this term, making bread, cakes and biscuits.

In Maths we have been learning about 2D shapes and how they relate to 3D shapes. We have also been continuing a repeated pattern and challenging our friends to copy our own patterns.

As the weather improves, may I remind you to send your child with a hat and sunscreen applied. The children have continued to enjoy the outside area, especially the water wall and team games using the parachute.

Have a wonderful Easter holiday. We look forward to seeing you all next term.

Mrs Gillard



Rabbits

Class News:

It has been a fantastic term in Rabbits. We have been very busy with all our learning and the many different events.

In English, we have finished writing our innovative stories based on the book 'Man on the Moon'. Rabbits have really impressed me with their creative ideas and great use of vocabulary. They were very excited to share their writing with you all during the Parent Meetings.

In Maths, we have started our new unit on *multiplication and division*. So far, we have learned to recognise equal groups, add equal groups and to explore arrays. We have used sentences like '2 groups of 3 is equal to 6' to explore the early stages of multiplication.

Rabbits have also been learning all

about *being healthy* in PSHE. We have been learning about how we can make healthy lifestyle choices, which household objects are safe for us to use and how to cross a road safely.

Finally, we really enjoyed learning *all about plants* in Science this term. We planted seeds at the start of the term and have been taking care of them over the last 5 weeks. Our morning routine has started with watering our plants to help them grow. The whole class was very excited when we noticed one of the plants growing! Rabbits are looking forward to taking these plants home, where they can continue to watch them grow.

Have a wonderful Easter break everyone!

Miss Tolfree

Badgers Class News:



What a super couple of weeks it has been for Badgers!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Class Assembly. Badgers really enjoyed rehearsing and performing to the whole school. Everyone spoke so clearly and confidently in the performance and should be so proud of how well they did. Thank you to those who also joined us for the morning and helped Badgers create their lovely Mother's Day gifts.

In Maths, we have started our new unit on *multiplication and division*. We have been working on making equal groups to help us with our division and using arrays to help us solve multiplication problems. Badgers have also begun working on their times tables this week in school. This is five minutes of daily practise every afternoon. If you would like to work on this at home with them, they are currently focusing on their 10s, 5s and 2s.

In English, Badgers have just finished editing a narrative inspired by the story 'The Bear and the Piano'. I have been really impressed by all of their hard work in their unit of work, with everyone challenging themselves to uplevel their work through their word choices and their punctuation.

In Art, Badgers have designed and are working on creating their own houses from clay. In PE, we have continued with our unit on invasion games, practising our accuracy with dribbling, throwing and catching. Badgers have also conducted lots of interesting investigations in Science, burying paper to see how it changes over time, conducting surveys and building tally charts outside.

Miss Heath







What a great term it has been for Foxes. In English we have finished writing our flashback narrative stories based on our class text, '*The Butterfly Lion*'. This has required use of many complicated grammar and writing skills such as using speech correctly, asking rhetorical questions and changing the setting from present to past. The children have enjoyed reading their stories aloud to each other and there has been some fantastic writing happening.

In Maths, we are working on fractions, looking at equivalent fractions as well as unit and non-unit fractions. We are also continuing with our daily times tables and the children are really enjoying seeing how much progress they are making as they work through the tables!

In Geography, we have continued to learn about the USA and have been looking at patterns of population distribution. The children are becoming skilled at analysing graphs and charts to understand what the data is showing them, in this case, understanding areas of the USA that are densely populated and areas that are

sparsely populated.

In PE, we have continued with our weekly swimming lessons and now have children swimming much further distances and learning some key water safety skills. We are looking forward to seeing how much further they can go next term! On Friday's the Foxes have also really enjoyed their Rugby coaching with Bath Rugby, learning skills such as accurate throwing and passing and also developing teamwork and resilience.

Finally, the absolute highlight of the term was the class performance in **Dance Umbrella**. The children were incredible and banished all nerves, producing a wonderful performance in front of a huge audience of parents and family members. The number of children who left the stage saying they wanted to do it all again was fantastic and we are so proud of every single one of them.

Well done on a fantastic term Foxes - wishing you all a very Happy Easter.

Mrs Brown



What a busy end of term we have had in the Year 5 Lions classroom!

Having the responsibility of leading this year's **Easter Service** at St Mary's Church meant that we have spent a lot of time preparing and rehearsing for this important event in the school's calendar. The children have worked brilliantly in groups to link their learning in English and RE to create play scripts for each part of the Easter story. In RE, we have learnt about what the Bible says happened and studied an associated piece of artwork depicting each scene. Our groups then wrote play scripts, having learnt about the structure and the key features required, before giving these to a different group for them to perform. It ultimately all pieced together to create quite an impressive drama performance that you may have been able to enjoy if you attended our service.

Our other main project recently has been to finish making our stuffed toys in this term's Design Technology Textiles unit of work. Having learnt and mastered blanket stitch, we were able to sew the different parts of our designs together, add details, appendages and decorations and stuff them to create our finished products which have ranged from cats to doughnuts!

We were delighted to welcome representatives from Doodle Maths to come and run a workshop for children and parents this week. If you were able to attend, hopefully you found this interesting and useful and will be able to support your child's learning on this platform at home during the Easter holidays.

Finally, we have been having a lot of fun in our PE sessions. Bath Rugby have run some very enjoyable sessions for us, teaching us a lot of new skills and helping us to become more effective rugby players, through using evasive techniques and safe tackling practises. The children have also worked brilliantly in pairs during our Dance sessions to create Rock 'n' Roll routines, which have included step kick actions, hand jives and a variety of spins.

The children have worked so hard this term and thoroughly deserve a nice well-earned rest.

Have a great Easter holiday, everyone!

Mr Daniels



It has been a busy end to the term for the Eagles. We have been working relentlessly on mastering new concepts in Maths, writing instructions in English, and, most recently, finishing our class chapter book, *'Warrior Boy'*, in Guided Reading.

In Maths, we are nearing the end of the Year 6 curriculum and have been focused on reinforcing our knowledge of statistics, shape and ratio—some of the trickiest topics for Year 6 pupils. Eagles have embraced the challenge of solving 2-step problems in these areas, carefully breaking down questions and showing their working to ensure accurate answers.

In Reading, we've been working hard to finish our chapter book, 'Warrior Boy'. This has been a fantastic opportunity to recall what we learned about Kenya in Year 5, while also tackling VIPERS comprehension questions to help prepare us for SATs week. The Eagles have thoroughly enjoyed this text, often asking when we would read the next chapter. They have been so eager and enthusiastic—such a joy to teach! As a testament to their enjoyment, the class broke into applause when we reached the end of the book.

In Writing, we've linked our work to 'Warrior Boy' by writing instructions on how to successfully visit the Maasai Mara. To ensure our work meets Year 6 standards, we have focused on using colons and semicolons—punctuation marks that were once challenging for the Eagles to use accurately.

On Fridays, Eagles have been thoroughly enjoying their Rugby sessions with Coach Jack. They've been excited to learn a new sport through a series of fun games, with "Jungles on Fire" being a firm favourite. Each week, Jack has commented on their enthusiasm for PE and has truly enjoyed taking the Eagles for these sessions.

Enjoy a restful Easter Holiday

Miss Woods

Internet Safety

Online Safety Webinar for Primary School Parents and Carers

Date: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, 20th May Hosted on Microsoft Teams Join the Webinar Here

Led by: Megan Haldand, Cyber Protect Officer

In this informative session, parents and carers will learn key tips and best practises to keep their children safe while using the internet. Megan Haldand, a Cyber Protect Officer, will guide participants through the latest threats online and how to protect their families.

Topics Covered:

- Cybersecurity basics for families
- Recognising online risks (e.g., cyberbullying, privacy concerns)
- Parental controls and monitoring tools
- How to talk to your children about online safety



St. Mary's Vegetable Patch -Request for Assistance

We are excited to announce our plans to repair and expand the vegetable patch at the front of St. Mary's School. Our goal is to create a more vibrant and sustainable space where students and the local community can engage in gardening, learn about food production, and enjoy the fruits of their labor.

To make this possible, we are looking to purchase additional railway sleepers to repair and hopefully expand the existing raised beds. If you are interested in supporting this initiative by helping us fund the

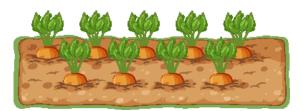
Eco Team -Request for Help!

The Eco Team would like to dig a new flower bed in the Key Stage 2 playground to provide a nectar cafe for butterflies and bees. To do this, we would love any donations of plants that are bee and butterfly friendly. Suggestions would be:

Hardy herbs, lavender, primroses, grape hyacinth, salvia, bluebells - but any other plants that attract insect life would be very welcome. If you have anything spare, it would be greatly received by the Eco Team members! purchase of these materials or volunteering your time, we would love to hear from you!

Please contact the school office for more information on how you can get involved and contribute to this exciting project.

Thank you for your support in making our vegetable patch bigger and better!



Forest School Tidy -Friday 9th May 2025

Building on the recent success of our Spring Tidy in the Forest School, we would like to request some further help from our parents, older siblings, grandparents and carers!

Our Forest School needs a regular team of volunteers to help build on the excellent start we made this week.

Helping in the Forest School will now be a monthly volunteering opportunity on the following dates:

- Friday 9th May 2025 1:30pm-3:30pm.
- Friday 6th June 2025 1:30pm-3:30pm.
- Friday 27th June 2025 1:30pm-3:30pm.

Please complete the form if you are able to help us!

https://forms.gle/JZKxd6KGxr68jmZM7

REMINDER School Uniform Summer Term

There is an expectation that children will wear school uniform. The school colour is blue and children should wear:

General Uniform

- Navy blue, grey trousers
- Navy blue, grey skirts or pinafore dresses
- Light blue polo shirts
- Navy blue jumper or cardigan with or without the school logo embroidered on it
- Navy, grey, black or white socks
- Navy, grey, black tights
- Shoes should be plain black low heeled or flat and sturdy for outdoor play.
- An appropriate school coat for all weathers

Summer Uniform



- Navy blue, grey or black tailored shorts
- Blue and white checked / striped dresses

PE Kit

To be kept in school at all times in a PE Bag

- Plain white T-Shirt with no logo
- Navy blue or black shorts
- Plain black daps or trainers

Additional options

• Wellington boots, any colour

Staple items such as trousers, tops and plain jumpers can be purchased anywhere. However, if you wish to have items with our logo embroidered on, then you will need to purchase these online from Mapac.

Parents can view all available products by visiting the company's website. There is a separate sheet in the pack explaining how to register with Mapac.

http://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/ stmarystimsburyBA2

The school does not purchase any items of uniform or keep items here. From time to time, the PTA sell "pre-loved" items of uniform. Pre loved items are also available at Timsbury Library for a small donation.

We are keen to encourage independence and responsibility. Your child is responsible for his/her belongings and the school cannot be held responsible for any losses. We discourage children from bringing personal/valuable belongings into school; this avoids things being lost or broken.

Please help us by ensuring that ALL items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name. We require all children to have a full PE Kit in school at all times, clearly labelled and in an appropriate bag.

Hairstyles

Long hair should always be tied back, particularly during PE. Children should not be sent to school with extreme haircuts or hairstyles. Hair bands must be white/black or blue, and fashion accessories including large bows are not acceptable.

Shoes and accessories

Shoes should be smart black school shoes and appropriate for school. Black trainers should not be worn as shoes. For safety reasons, children must not wear shoes with an excessively high heel to school or trousers with an excessive flare. Equally, only stud earrings are allowed and children should wear no other jewellery. All earrings must be removed before PE. Nail polish is not permitted at school.

Please Don't Idle: Protect Our Children's Health

We kindly ask parents and guardians to turn off their engines while waiting outside the school. Idling may seem harmless, but it releases harmful pollutants into the air, which can negatively affect children's health. Young lungs are especially vulnerable to air pollution, increasing the risk of asthma, allergies, and other respiratory issues. Idling also contributes to climate change and wastes fuel. By simply switching off your engine, you can help create a cleaner, healthier environment for our students. Let's work together to make our school a safer place for everyone!

A note about safeguarding...

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our pupils, please contact the school office and ask to speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Thomson, or any of our Deputy Safeguarding Leads, Mrs Parsons or Mrs Purnell.

The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.

During the school holidays if you have a concern about a child, please contact BANES Social Work Services

You can raise your concerns in any of the following ways:

- Call our Children's Social Work Services on 01225 39 61 11 or 01225 47 79 29 (weekdays, 8.30am to 5pm, except Fridays when we're closed from 4.30pm)
- Drop into the **Keynsham One Stop Shop** and ask for the duty children's social worker

- Discuss your concerns with someone who works with children and families:
- Health visitor Social worker
- School nurse Teacher
- Out of office hours
 - If you think a child is in immediate danger please BANES Emergency Duty Team on 01454 61 51 65

Tell us immediately about any of the following and open the relevant option for details on how to report your concern:

- A child is suffering significant harm
- You want to protect a child from abuse or serious neglect
- You feel the child requires urgent or short-term care (acute services)

Or you can contact the NSPCC

NSPCC Contact Us

Dates for your Calendar 2024/2025 - Term 5

Date	Event
22.04.25	Start of Term 5
25.03.25	Easter Bonnet - PTA
28.04.25	Bikeability Commences
01.05.25	Class Photo's & Year 6 Individuals
02.05.25	Wear Blue for Autism
05.05.25	Bank Holiday
07.05.25 - 09.05.25	Book Fayre
09.05.25	Forest School Tidy
13.05.25	Badgers Parent Workshop 9:00am
16.05.25	Rabbits Parent Workshop 9:00am
19.05.25	Lions Parent Workshop 9:00am
20.05.25	Foxes Parent Workshop 2:00pm
21.05.25	Ducklings Parent Workshop 9:00am
22.05.25	Eagles Parent Workshop 9:00am
20.05.25	Year 3 Maths Event at Somervale School
20.05.25	Online Safety Webinar for Parents and Carers 7:00pm (Teams Meeting)



ST MARY'S SCHOOL PTA EASTER CRAFTING SESSION

Monday 14th April : 10am - 12pm Conygre Hall, Timsbury

£5 per Child Adults must stay with their children.

We will provide everything you need to create & decorate an Easter bonnet/hat or you can get creative and make a bunch of daffodils or create Easter pictures, you just need to bring your imagination!

Refreshments also included. Book your place via this link: https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/Q67Z29GQ

All Stars Cricket is the best cricket experience for 5-8 year-olds

all starts w

All kids are guaranteed to develop new skills while having fun and making friends

backpack of goodies including a bat, ball and t-shirt!

1 ka

Participants receive a personalised

Sign up today at allstarscricket.co.uk

Calling all 8-11 year olds!

Whether a graduate from All Stars or new to the sport, Dynamos Cricket is an exciting way for kids to play, learn cricket skills and make new friends.

Participants receive a personalised New Balance shirt with their name and chosen number.







Dr Bike & Cycle Day at Grow Timsbury



Join Us for FREE:

- Dr Bike appointments follow the link below for tickets
- Kids' balance bike drop-ins no booking needed
- Adult e-bike taster drop-ins no booking needed

Saturday 26th April

Conygre Hall, North Road, Timsbury

Book your Dr Bike Slot: www.theactivewaybathnes.co.uk/events-calendar

Balance Bikes, E-bikes, Helmets Provided



Timsbury Library

Cuppa & Chat	2.30 - 4.00pm	Every Monday
Story & Craft Easter Themed	from 10.30am	Saturday 5 April

Radstock Community Hub

Lego Club - Drop in (*parents must accompany children): Every Wednesday 3.30 - 5.00pm (term time only)

Board Game Club (*parents must accompany children) 3rd Saturday of every month

Knitting and Crochet Group: First Tuesday of every month



Thursday 17 April

Family Easter Craft Event 10.30am - 12 noon Easter Egg Hunt in the Orchard from 12 noon

April 2025

https://baneslibraries.co.uk/visit-ourlibraries/community-run-libraries/



- Bike checks and maintenance with Dr Bike (bookable on eventbrite)
- E-bike trials & info (drop-in)
- Childrens' balanceability course (drop-in)

www.growtimsbury.org.uk - for market info www.theactivewaybathnes.co.uk - for bike activities & health checks info or scan QR

Family Holiday Activities

at Wells Cathedral

Easter Excitement

7, 9, and 11 April 2025

Get ready to celebrate the joy of Easter with our seasonal trail, and crafts to make and take home! **Monday 7: Cross Creations**

> Collect beads on our Easter crosses trail and make a necklace or keyring Wednesday 9: Glorious Gardens





Friday II: Card Crafts Follow our Easter story trail and make a card or decoration

FREE with adult entry. No need to book - simply drop in on the day!



Sessions in the Education Room / Wells Cathedral



World Heritage Day

WATER SAFETY

Saturday 12 April

11:00 until 15:00

Bath Fire Station

Cleveland Bridge BA2 6PU

Learn about water safety within the fire service through free fun activities for all!

> No onsite parking is available please arrive on foot or travel via public transport

> > Scan here to

access free tivities befor the day

OPEN D



Saturday 12 April 2025, 11am - 3pm

Free activities for all in the World Heritage Centre, Bath Abbey and Bath Medical Museum

www.bathworldheritage.org.uk











PRIMARY CHOIR DAY - HOLIDAY COURSES

Monday 7th April and / or Wednesday 9th April

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to invite your child to join us for a Junior Choir Day Monday 7th April or Wednesday 9th April 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity to join with other children in the area and have fun singing in a choir under the guidance of our highly skilled West of England Music and Arts teachers.

Did you know that singing in a choir is not only fun but develops musical skills, helps build social skills, improves self-confidence and relieves stress.

To be able to join this Junior Choir Day your child must be in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6.

WHERE AND WHEN:

Monday 7th April Haywood Village Academy, Whitney Crescent, Weston-super-Mare, BS24 8ES

Monday 7th April Unity Oldland Methodist Church, West Street, Oldland Common, BS30 9QS

Wednesday 9th April St Peter's Church, between Church Road North and Church Road South, Portishead, BS20 8EN

You may attend a Monday and Wednesday course if you wish. You will need to apply for both separately.

TIME: 9am - 3.30pm. Parents / Carers are invited for a short performance at 3.15pm.

WHAT TO BRING: packed lunch and drinks for the day

WHAT TO WEAR: comfortable clothing

COST: £25 for the day. No charge if your child is eligible for pupil premium.

HOW TO SIGN UP AND PAY: https://wema.org.uk/Easter-Sing

Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis so early booking recommended. Bookings will close on 3rd April or earlier if all the places have been filled.

I do hope your young musician can join us for this exciting opportunity.

If you have any further questions, please email: music@wema.org.uk

Best wishes

Alice Bodiley

Programme Leader: Groups and Courses

West of England Music and Arts

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