



St Mary's CofE Primary School

"I can do all things"

Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation

Thursday 2nd April 2026

Newsletter 09

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



Forest School

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. 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.

Following the successful afternoon we had, we are launching Forest School Thursdays! Starting in Term 5, we will be meeting every Thursday at 1:30 PM to enhance our outdoor learning space. We would love for you to join us, please bring along your tools and help us develop this wonderful area for the children.

Thank you for your continued support!



Dance Umbrella

Wow what a night! Foxes put on a wonderful show in the **Dance Umbrella**, dancing to the song "Stargazing" as they became cave people from the Stone Age, which linked nicely to our History topic this term. There were a few nervous children backstage but their confident performance on stage was fantastic and there were smiles all round afterwards. We couldn't be prouder of the Foxes, they worked so hard on this dance and even choreographed sections of it themselves. Well done Foxes, you were absolutely brilliant!

House Points Winners

A huge congratulations to **Topaz** for being crowned this term's champions! As a reward for their hard work and dedication, all members of **Topaz** were invited to wear non-uniform clothing this Thursday.

Well done to all our house teams! We are incredibly proud of the effort every student has put in this term.

Attendance Winners

Well done to our weekly attendance champions, each week the class with the highest attendance is rewarded with an extra afternoon playtime and they get to keep the trophy in their classroom for the week!

- Week 22 Rabbits
- Week 23 Ducklings
- Week 24 Badgers
- Week 25 Foxes

**MOMENTS MATTER,
ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

How are we doing?*

Badgers	96.91%
Eagles	96.06%
Foxes	95.42%
Lions	95.25%
Rabbits	94.16%
Ducklings	93.05%
Whole School	96.5%

*Class attendance percentages for this academic year so far

Outside Achievements



Pippi and Rachel have walked MILES! Raising money for The Brain Tumour Charity they have helped raise £1500 for research and support for those suffering with Brain tumours or who have lost loved ones. We are so proud of them.

What a talented group of children we have at St Mary's both in and out of school they shine! Well done children, we love you sharing your achievements with us every week. We've had awards and trophies for swimming, football, darts and gymnastics.



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, Safeguarding Leads Miss Woods, Mrs Purnell & Mrs Parsons.

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 or 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

Christian Values Awards



The children recognised for demonstrating our Christian Values during term 1:

Compassion	Donald M, Vinnie P, Maggie M
Creativity	Mila H, Amelie P
Courage	Theo H, Cleo P, Esme R, Harry S
Koinonia	Tilly-Faith C, Emily R, Vinny J, Jacob F
Truthfulness	Sophia B, Violet L
Service	Maggie M, Shay BD, Sofia Y, Roux T





PTA NEWS



Well that's another term completed!
This week the PTA had our first collaboration with St Mary's Church and hosted a really lovely evening together at Conygre Hall.



25 creative guests made some really beautiful Easter Wreaths using locally sourced greenery along with Easter inspired decorations such as daffodils, chick's and eggs.



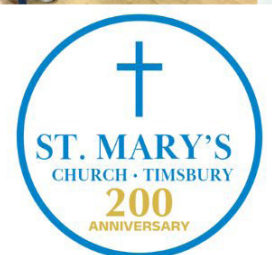
We would also like to say a huge thank you to Richard Fox at Radford Mill Farm for very generously allowing us to harvest an enormous bundle of willow that was used to make the hoops for our wreaths.



We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who took part in the planning, gathering of greenery and equipment and on the evening. We have had some great feedback from participants and are now thinking about our next collaboration!



A JOINT FUNDRAISER WITH PROCEEDS GOING TO ST MARY'S SCHOOL PTA & ST MARY'S CHURCH - CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF OUR CHURCH IN TIMSBURY



Headteacher's Award

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

Class	Wk22	Wk23	Wk24
Ducklings	Ray	Sienna	Rosie
Rabbits	Dakota	Henry	George
Badgers	Shay	Donald	Tallaugh
Foxes	Spencer	Liam	Olivia
Lions	Freddie	Robin	Martha
Eagles	Zach	Eliza	Maggie



Hedgehogs



Class News:

The Hedgehogs have enjoyed learning about Spring during the last few weeks. We have been out on walks looking for signs of spring. It has been lovely being outside as the weather gets warmer.

The children have enjoyed learning about Easter and have explored the texts, "We're going on a bear hunt" and "My First Easter". We have been printing Easter cards and crafts and enjoyed going on an Easter egg hunt.

The children have been den-building together and showed resilience and great team work. They have developed their climbing skills with the ramps and tubes. They have loved their scientific explorations with cause and effect, rolling different shapes to their friends.

Have a lovely Easter holiday everyone. See you next term.

Team Hedgehogs



Ducklings



Class News:

What a wonderful term learning about People who help us. We loved welcoming Sergeant Palmer into school last week to talk to us about being a police officer. We really loved seeing a police car up close. This week we have invited in our friend from the RNLI to talk about water safety. Thank you to all of our visitors.

We have continued to explore 3D shape and this week we are recapping and revising our understanding of doubles. We have related this to odd and even numbers and worked hard with our Spiderman Maths games. Ask the children to play it with you.

In Literacy, we have been learning about the Easter Story. The children worked hard to

create lovely Easter cards and used their best letter formation. They have been revising their phonic knowledge and common exception words and have put these to good use in their writing.

In PE we have been learning the fundamentals of balance, space and movement. We have been enjoying the good weather and have begun to plant some plants and herbs in our outside area.

We say goodbye to Miss Brookes, our Norland Nanny. It has been lovely having you work with us.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter holiday.

Mrs Gillard



Rabbits



Class News:

It has been a fantastic term in Rabbits! We have been incredibly busy with our learning and a variety of wonderful events.

In English, we have created our own "Ten Little" stories. Imagination has shone through, with mermaids, robots and even puppies!

In Maths, we began our new unit on *place value to 50*. The children have been exploring tens and ones with numbers to 50 and using part-whole models to partition two digit numbers.

In PSHE, we focused on healthy lifestyles. We discussed how to make positive choices, identified which household objects are safe to use and practiced road safety skills.

In Science, we thoroughly enjoyed our unit on *plants*. A highlight was our parent workshop, where we planted seeds and explored various activities together. The children also loved investigating our playground and forest school area to identify different wild and garden plants.

Have a wonderful Easter break everyone!

Mrs Roberts & Miss Tolfree

Badgers



Class News:

What an amazing final couple of weeks Badgers have had this term. Our Class Assembly went off without a hitch and I was incredibly impressed with how confidently Badgers spoke and presented their learning to our school community. Thank you to everyone who came to watch our performance and who took part so enthusiastically in the parent workshop that followed. I know that all of the children had a fantastic morning.

In Maths, we have continued our learning on shape. Badgers have been exploring how to sort 2D and 3D shapes by their number of vertices, edges, and faces.

In English, we have been writing our own narratives based on *"The Bear and the Piano"*.

In PE, we have enjoyed sessions with both a Rugby coach and a Cricket coach. Badgers have had great fun learning new games and developing their ball skills.

In DT, we have been learning about levers and using our new knowledge to create moving pictures and our own scissors made from lolly sticks.

In Science, we have been observing change over time. We buried different types of paper in the ground and watched how each sample changed week by week. When we brought the paper back into the classroom, we drew our conclusions about how it had changed and presented our results in a table using JTI5.

Miss Heath



Foxes



Class News:

It's been an incredibly busy and productive end of term in Foxes. In English, we have been writing persuasive texts about how we can protect the environment as we do not want a world like our class text this term *"The Tin Forest"*. The Foxes have impressed us with their use of writing features such as rhetorical questions, imperative verbs and emotive language as they get their point of view across.

In RE, we very much enjoyed having a visit from Rev. Blewett and his colleagues to talk to us about the Easter Story. The children sang songs and asked questions and had a very enjoyable and informative afternoon. They were also thrilled to plant seeds to represent growth and new life and are looking forward to seeing their flowers grow over the next few weeks.

In DT, we have been constructing

castles. Thanks to all of you who attended our parent workshop to help with the initial design process, the designs were incredibly detailed. The construction process began with making a net, a 3D structure from which to build the castle. This needed care and attention to detail in the cutting and folding stages and resulted in some amazing designs.

We loved our time in Forest School, toasting marshmallows and making dens, it was lovely to be outside enjoying the sunshine.

Finally - the highlight of our term, **Dance Umbrella**. Wow what an evening! The Foxes were fantastic and every one of them danced their socks off! We hope you enjoyed the show - we are so proud of them all!

Have a wonderful Easter break!

Mrs Brown



Lions

Class News:



We have reached the end of a very busy Term 4, in which so much has happened. With events such as **Bikeability**, **World Book Day** and **British Science Week**, there has been much to get excited about over the last six weeks.

Thanks to everybody who was able to come along to last week's Pupil Progress Meetings. It was great to be able to speak to you about how your children are doing and to celebrate their wonderful achievements and the superb progress they have all made since last September.

Recently, we enjoyed another Forest School afternoon. We always enjoy the opportunity to explore and to create our own fun within the school's natural environment. Our class shares these sessions with the Y1 Rabbits and we have had a great time interacting with these younger pupils.

Our sessions with Bath Cricket and Bath Rugby have now come to an end. We really enjoyed taking part in the fun activities provided by the visiting sports coaches.

Finally, we have been working hard to create an entertaining performance to celebrate Easter with you in St Mary's Church. The children have worked collaboratively in groups to prepare information on a wide variety of subject matter, ranging from religious

themes (Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, Lent, Betrayal, Crosses and Easter Sunday) to more general Easter topics (Easter Food and Easter Traditions Around The World). It has been the most brilliant team effort putting this Easter Service together. We hope you enjoyed it.

It has been brilliant to see everybody continue to read so regularly at home and two of our Lions have now completed the School Reading Challenge which is quite an achievement. Do try and keep the reading going over the holidays.

Everybody is in need of a well-earned rest and totally deserves the chance to switch off and relax for a couple of weeks.

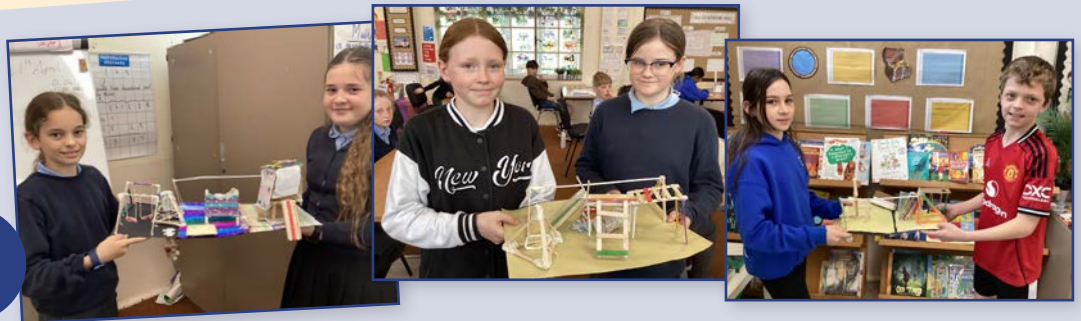
I couldn't be more proud of all of our Lions for your hard work, commitment and continued enthusiasm. Great job, everyone! Have a super Easter Holidays!

Mr Daniels



Eagles

Class News:



We have finally reached the conclusion of a long but immensely productive Term 4. Once again, Eagles have worked relentlessly toward their personal targets, consistently demonstrating their very best effort across all areas of learning.

In Maths, we have tackled some of the more complex corners of the Year 6 curriculum. The children showed great resilience when facing problems involving ratio and proportion, especially when applying these concepts to real-world scenarios like scaling recipes.

Eagles also took a deep dive into statistics, mastering dual bar charts, pie charts and line graphs. Most impressively, they have conquered the concept of averages, an area that has previously proven tricky in practice SATs papers. They are now true experts, fully prepared to take on any three-mark questions that come their way!

In Reading, we have reached the gripping conclusion of *"Pig Heart Boy"*. This powerful narrative served as the perfect springboard for some truly fantastic writing. The Eagles crafted suspense narratives, skillfully blending

dialogue, action and description to bring their characters to life. They also switched gears to journalism, producing newspaper articles reporting on the groundbreaking (and controversial) porcine heart transplant featured in the story.

Our DT sessions saw Eagles finalising the prototypes for their playground designs. Their teamwork and commitment throughout this project have been nothing short of exemplary. The level of detail in their physical models is outstanding - keep a look out for photos on Seesaw!

In PE, Eagles have enjoyed both Rugby and Cricket. These specialised coaching sessions allowed the children to hone new technical skills while putting their teamwork and sportsmanship into practice. Their behavior during these sessions was a credit to the school; they truly led by example and supported one another through every over and try.

I look forward to seeing everyone back, refreshed and ready for an equally exciting Term 5!

Miss Woods

Thought of the Week

'Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay.' (Psalm 16:9-10 NIV)



'Risen Christ', Estcourt James Clack (1955), on display at Wells Cathedral

So Easter. What's it all about?

The word Easter doesn't even have anything to do with Resurrection. The naming of the celebration as "Easter" seems to go back to the name of a pre-Christian goddess in England, Eostre, who was celebrated at the beginning of spring. The only reference to this goddess comes from the writings of the Venerable Bede, a British monk living in the seventh and eighth centuries.

It's probably for this reason that some Christians refer to Easter Sunday as Resurrection Sunday. Although the weekend starts with a difficult and distressing death, by the middle of the weekend, there's this happy and joyous event.

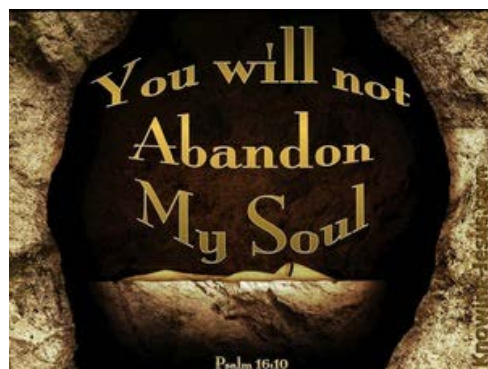
For many people, the whole concept of the resurrection can be difficult to grasp. The idea that someone who was brutally killed on Friday can walk out of his tomb on Sunday doesn't seem very likely.

Many people over the years have tried to disprove these events. All sorts of things have been suggested, one being that Jesus wasn't actually on the cross and that it was someone else. Another is that Jesus was on the cross but he didn't actually die. A third idea is that Jesus did die but then his disciples took his body from the tomb and hid it so everyone would believe that he came back to life.

The point is when you look into it, none of these ideas really stand up. Firstly, the Jewish leaders who wanted him killed recruited someone who had been with Jesus for the last three years to identify him. They must have got the right man. Also, the Romans were one of the most brutal communities of all time. They knew how to kill someone. The Bible suggests that Jesus died relatively quickly and they stuck a spear in his side to make sure. In fact they were so sure he was dead, they didn't even need to break his legs (which is what they often did to speed up the crucifixion process).

The idea that the disciples could have organised themselves to hide his body is also extremely unlikely. These were men who ran away at the first sign of trouble when Jesus' was arrested and who, apart from John, were all non-existent at his crucifixion. They spent all of the Saturday in hiding and whenever Jesus actually mentioned rising on the third day, they didn't seem to pay him any attention. If this had been a big conspiracy, they certainly weren't in on it.

Many of the people who do believe in the resurrection are sensible and rational human beings, who haven't been brainwashed or manipulated into believing it. Even if it does seem a bit unbelievable, that's why it's considered a miracle. Surely we could all benefit from one of those. Happy Easter!



Dates for your Calendar - Summer Term 5 & 6

Date	Event
20.04.26	Start Of Term 5
22.04.26	Field to Food Trip - <i>Lions</i>
22.04.26	Parent Workshop 9.00am - <i>Rabbits</i>
24.04.26	Wear Blue for Autism
30.04.26	National Justice Museum - <i>Lions</i>
04.05.26	<i>Bank Holiday School Closed</i>
06.05.26	Parent Workshop 9.00am - <i>Badgers</i>
08.05.26	Non-Uniform: Bring Something For The NEST Project
11.05.26	KS2 SATS Week Commences
11.05.26	Book Fayre
18.05.26	Class Photos & Yr 6 Individual Photos
19.05.26	Parent Workshop 9.00am - <i>Lions</i>
19.05.26	Parent Workshop 2.00pm - <i>Foxes</i>
20.05.26	Parent Assembly & Workshop 9.00am - <i>Ducklings</i>
20.05.26	Sex Education Meeting With Parents 3:30pm
21.05.26	Parent Workshop 2.00pm - <i>Eagles</i>
21.05.26	PTA Bake Sale - World Bee Day
22.05.26	Last Day Of Term 5
01.06.26	Start Of Term 6
05.06.26	NSPCC Childhood Day - Move A Mile
09.06.26	New Reception Class Parent Meeting 5:30pm
11.06.26	Parent Workshop 9.00am - <i>Ducklings</i>
11.06.26	SS Great Britain Trip - <i>Badgers</i>
16.06.26	Poetry Slam Yr3 - Yr4
17.06.26	Sports Day
18.06.26	Parent Workshop 2.00pm - <i>Eagles</i>
25.06.26	Parent Workshop 2.00pm - <i>Badgers</i>
26.06.26	Volunteer Afternoon - Forest School
29.06.26	Parent Workshop 2.00pm - <i>Lions</i>
30.06.26	Parent Assembly & Workshop 9.00am - <i>Rabbits</i>
30.06.26	Year 6 Performance 6:00pm - <i>Parents and Carers</i>

01.07.26	Year 6 Performance 2:00pm - <i>Parents and Carers</i>
02.07.26	Shuffle Up Day
03.07.26	Non-Uniform: Bring Something For The Summer Fayre
06.07.26	Year 6 PGL Residential
06.07.26	Parent Workshop 9.00am - <i>Foxes</i>
09.07.26	Trip To Noah's Ark - <i>Ducklings & Rabbits</i>
10.07.26	Non-Uniform: Rainbow Day & Summer Fayre
14.07.26	Nursery Leavers Event - <i>Hedgehogs</i>
15.07.26	Volunteers Brunch
15.07.26	Party In Pavilion - Reading
16.07.26	Leavers Service In The Church
17.07.26	Last Day Of Term 6
20.07.26	School Closed - <i>Inset Day</i>
21.07.26	School Closed - <i>Inset Day</i>

Next Thing

EASTER 2026

The WOW Camp

Activities shown: LASER TAG, VIRTUAL REALITY, ANIMAL WORKSHOPS, SCIENCE, ROBOTS, STREET DANCE, MINECRAFT.

STEM. Creativity. Physical Play
All in one camp

www.nextthing.education

HMRC TAX-FREE CHILDCARE ACCEPTED

HAF PLACES AVAILABLE

EASTER CAMPS 2026

Tech-powered camps, packed with WOW experiences!

Example camp activities
Camps run 9 am - 4 pm

- ROBOT LAB
- LEGO ENGINEERING
- ELECTRIC INVENTIONS
- 3D CREATIONS
- ANIMATION
- COOL CIRCUITS
- CRAZY CODING
- MOVIE MAKING
- MINECRAFT REDSTONE
- VIRTUAL REALITY

NEW FOR EASTER - WOW EXPERIENCES

- ANIMALS
- STREET DANCE
- SCIENCE
- LASER TAG

Activities vary by location. Please visit our website to see what's running at your venue.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
Blending hands-on tech exploration with unforgettable WOW experiences, we inspire children to invent, create, and discover. Led by DBS-checked, friendly and supportive instructors, kids build confidence while diving into exciting activities, challenges, and real skill-building adventures.

AGES 5-11, £45 PER DAY OR £162 FOR 4 DAYS

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HOLIDAY ADVENTURE CLUB

5-11 year olds

7th-10th April & 16th-17th April
10am - 3pm

Greyfield Wood, High Littleton
£35 p/child p/day £25 p/sibling p/day



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Get wild — den building, rope swings, woodland crafts, combat archery, hammocks, capture the flag, and more. **Basecamp hangout** — inflatables, slip 'n' slide, Nerf, Swingball, circus toys, riot painting, sports, comics, arts and crafts...



With play at its heart, for ages 4-11.

Letting kids be kids, we play all day — always led by what your child wants to do, forever inventing and co-creating engaging, fun experiences.

KIDS KINGDOM

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Festival vibes — wacky games, inflatables, disco parties, messy play, water fights, crafts, circus skills, talent shows, toys galore, and more! **Get outside** — climb trees, splash in streams, build dens, hunt for treasure, make bug hotels and magic wands!

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