

Our School Christian Vision - 'Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring.'

Rooted in Matthew 7 24 – 25 'Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.'

Message from the Headteacher

So many festive delights have taken place this week including carol concerts, Christmas baking, crafts and of course our Christmas dinner day on Wednesday. Thank you to our wonderful catering team for cooking up such a wonderful spread.



We would also like to say a big thank you to our PTA team for purchasing the digital pantomime *Aladdin* which all of the children have enjoyed watching today. Thank you also to the PTA for providing all of the children with a little gift from Santa. It was been lovely to see all of the children dressed in Christmas Mufti today. Thank you for all of your contributions to the PTA which go towards allowing the children to have these experiences.

Well done to Kelston (Yellow house) who were the winners of this terms house points. Harris came in 2nd place then Maine and Sperring. Pupils in Kelston have won themselves a free mufti day on Friday 7th January.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our staff for their hard work this term and to all of our parents for your continued support.

From all at St John's we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Mrs West-Gaul

Term 2 Christian Value: Peace

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9)



Stars of the week

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Acorn class | Finn Emily H |
| Ash class | Bella |
| Birch class | Tommy H |
| Chestnut class | Ava |
| Elm class | Avery |
| Holly class | Finn |
| Hazel class | Esme |
| Maple class | Ella |
| Oak class | Freddie |
| Pine class | Sam |
| Rowan class | Ella |
| Sycamore class | Imogen |
| Willow class | Dom |

New Office post-box

A new post-box has been fitted to the right of the school front door. Please use this to drop off any school trip forms, letters, PTA tickets etc. rather than giving these directly to the office staff. This will help to minimise the number of people coming to the office door. The box is locked and will be emptied daily.

Dates for your diary

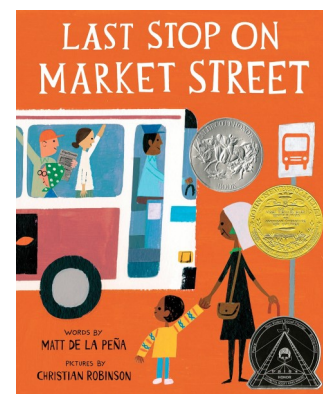
Tues 4th & Wed 5th Jan - INSET Days.
Thurs 6th Jan - First day of term
Fri 7th Jan - Mufti for Yellow house
Mon 11th Jan - Term 3 clubs start

Year 1 - Reading

This term in Year 1 we have been reading 'Last Stop on Market Street' by Matt De La Pena. During English we have enjoyed retelling this story through drama and our writing.

We have been sharing stories based around Christmas, this has also included the Nativity story.

Mrs West-Gaul and Mrs Monks visited us to share one of their favourite Christmas stories as well!



Admissions Consultation 2023/24

We are currently undergoing a 6-week consultation period for our admissions policy for 2023-24. The consultation period is to last for 6 weeks from 16th December 2021 to 27th January 2022.

If you would like to read or receive a full copy of the proposed admission arrangements, please visit the MNSP website (<https://www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/>) or contact the school office (office@stjohnsmsn.co.uk) and provide your contact details.

If you would like to make any comments on the proposed admission arrangements please contact the school office (office@stjohnsmsn.co.uk).

Term 3 information

Forest School - Lessons will begin from week commencing Monday 11th January for classes Acorns (Friday), Ash (Thursday), Elm (Monday), Holly (Tuesday), Hazel (Friday), Oak (Thursday), Pine & Rowan (Wednesday) and Willow (Friday).

Pupils should come into school dressed in forest school clothes and bring with them wellies and waterproof clothes. Please ensure that pupils have long sleeved clothes and trousers and a coat as we encourage pupils to go outside whatever the weather!

PE Kits - please send children in Years 1-6 with these each Monday to be kept in school all week.

Swimming lessons - Year 3 pupils will have swimming lessons on Tuesday mornings from next term. Please ensure that all pupils come to school with their swimming kit.

After School Clubs - These will begin on Monday 11th January 2022.

School dinner booking - Please book and pay for school dinners by midnight on the Thursday of the week before via ParentPay.

INSET Day - Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th January 2022 are INSET days. School returns on Thursday 6th January.

School Dinners - please book your child's school dinner for the first week of term by Thursday 30th December.

Lost Property - Any unnamed items remaining in lost property after today will be disposed of after today. Please ensure all items are named so that they can be returned to your child's class.



KS1 Christmas performances

Well done to all of our pupils in Key Stage 1 who have performed their Christmas productions over the past fortnight. The children and their teachers have been working really hard.



Reception Pupils performed 'Angel Express'



Year 1 started in 'Busy, Busy Bethlehem'

Year 2 performed 'Carols by Candlelight'.



Year 4- Learning

Year 4 have been creating salt dough decorations this term. They enjoyed measuring and baking the dough in the cookery room before decorating their creations.



Citizenship and Character Award

Christmas is now upon us and we have two whole weeks to relax, recuperate and enjoy the festive season. We hope that you will all find the time during the holidays to do the things that you love and possibly even seek out new hobbies. Here's a few suggestions, which will contribute towards your Citizenship and Character Award.

1. Make a meal for someone (Physical Me) - Why not use the Christmas leftovers to prepare a post-Christmas dish for a member of your family?
2. Trace your family tree (Local Me) - Many of you will visit family members over the next two weeks. Why not take the time to ask your elderly family members about their parents and grandparents, and learn about your own family history?
3. Create something (Wellbeing Me) - Why not try to learn a new art and craft skill this holiday? Have you ever tried crochet, embroidery, knitting, quilting, scrapbooking or photography? Why not give one a go!

Remember to provide a small piece of evidence to show what you have achieved towards the Citizenship and Character Award. This could simply be a photograph, a short review, a certificate, a sketch or even an artefact. Your teachers are really eager to find out about all of the wonderful things that you are achieving, discovering and taking part in. Merry Christmas everyone!

Athletics

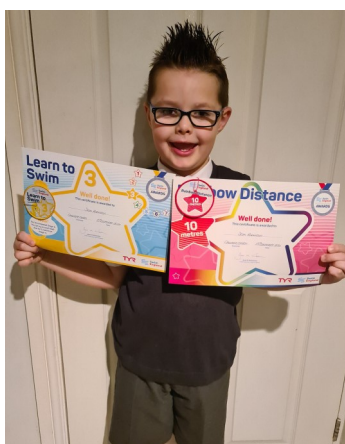
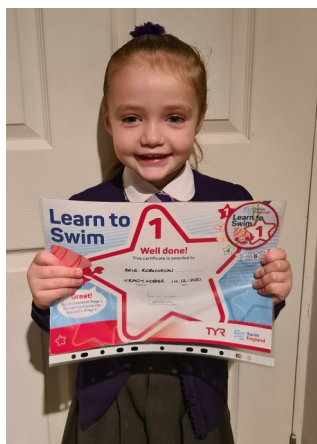
Children from Year 5 and 6 competed in an Athletics event on Monday at Wellsway school.

The events involved relay racing, javelin throw, long jump, triple jump and speed bounce. The children enjoyed competing in different activities and tried really hard!



Out of School Achievement

Well done to Brie in Birch class for achieving her Stage 1 in swimming and Seth in Hazel class who was awarded his Stage 3 Swimming and 10 Meters certificate.



RotaKids Carol Service

Devon Marriott (Pine class) attended the Rotary carol service tonight as the President of Rotakids, where she delivered a reading in front of the whole congregation.



Reporting absences

Please can we remind parents that they should report their child absent from school due to sickness by 8.30am either via ParentMail or by leaving a message on the school answerphone. Please indicate the exact reason for absence including symptoms so that these can be recorded accurately.

Absences for holiday in term time should be requested by submitting a student absence request form.

[https://www.midsomernortonschoolpartnership.com/uploads/pdf-files/404-](https://www.midsomernortonschoolpartnership.com/uploads/pdf-files/404-Student Absence Request Form.pdf)

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Holidays during term time can not be authorised by the Head Teacher unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Midsomer Norton Methodist Church

On Christmas Eve we normally welcome many families to the church for our Christingle Service. Many people say it is the start of their family Christmas where, with the help of an orange, cocktail stick, sweets and candle we make our Christingle whilst also singing carols and Christmas songs. This year we have had to adapt our plans due to the Covid pandemic.

We will be offering TWO times for the Christingle Service as we have to limit capacity to 85 per service. The services will take place at 5pm and 6.30pm. You also need to BOOK in advance by Thursday 23rd December at 9am. Contact 07957414970 or bookings@msnmcc.org and give a contact name and number along with how many you are booking for.

Doodle Maths

This week's top doodlers are:

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|--------------------|
| Reception - Myka |
| Ash - Charlie |
| Birch - Dorothy |
| Chestnut - Poppy W |
| Elm - Ceejay |
| Hazel - Mason |
| Holly - Corbyn |
| Maple - Issac |
| Oak - Charlie |
| Pine - Devon |
| Rowan - Rebecca |
| Sycamore - Melissa |
| Willow - Daksha |



O' Come All Ye Faithful

Christmas Services at St John the Baptist Church Midsomer Norton

Sunday 19th December 6pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service
Christmas Eve 11:30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 8am Holy Eucharist
Christmas Day 10am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 26th December 10am Parish Eucharist.

