# Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 18th July 2025

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.



### CHRISTIAN VALUE OF THE TERM: HONESTY



### Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers.

As we reach the end of another school year, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership throughout the year. It has been a year full of learning, growth, and wonderful achievements, and I am incredibly proud of all our pupils.

From exciting class projects and school trips to sports days and musical performances, our children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and resilience. Their hard work, creativity, and kindness have shone through in so many ways.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff team, who go above and beyond to create a nurturing and inspiring environment for all of our children. Their commitment makes our school a truly special place.

A special mention to Mr Smith, Mrs Forse and Ms Banwell who are leaving our staff team this year. They have all contributed so much to St John's and we will miss them next year. I am sure you will join us in wishing them the very best for their next adventures.

To those families who are moving on - especially our Year 6 leavers - we wish you all the very best in your next steps. You will always be part of the St John's family.

I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved, restful summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year ahead.

Mrs West-Gaul

### **Dates For Your Diary**

### September

1st INSET DAY 1 2nd INSET DAY 2 3rd Children return to school 9th Year 3 Swimming starts 24th and 25th Individual and sibling photos 18th Meet the Teacher after school 19th PTA EYFS New parents coffee morning at

25th PTA AGM at 3:15pm - everyone is welcome to attend!

27th PTA Outdoor Family Cinema Evening 30th Little Acorns Stay and Play - Open Day for Reception 2026

### Extra-Curricular Clubs - Terms 1 & 2

Please note, all clubs will commence the week beginning 8th September.

Thank you for your kind donation of £60. We really appreciate it.

Your donation will support vital helplines, provide life-saving information and maintain online peer support services for people when they need it most. With your donation, we can continue to campaign and protect the rights of people with mental health problems

Mental health isn't hidden anymore. It's on the front pages. On the political agenda. Spoken about by royalty. For millions of people, mental health is now something to be honest about not ashamed of

With the support of people like you, the Mind community has been at the heart of this

Here are some of the things we're proud of from our latest impact report:

In one year

- Mind responded to over 128,000 queries to our support and information helpline
   our mental health information was accessed 21.4 million times
- almost 2 million people had a conversation about mental health as a result of Time to Talk

But we know there's much more to do.

Thank you again for your valuable support. With your help, we will not give up until everyone experiencing a mental health problem gets the support and respect they deserve.

## **Awards and Achievements**

Well done to all our pupils who have achieved an award.



**End of Year Awards** 

Certificate of Sporting Excellence Frank

Jane Hughes Award Certificate of Music and Drama **Lucy** 

The Lisa Rupprecht Award Memorial Cup for Endeavour Rocco

Certificate of Achievement Harry and Seth

The Progress Award Frankie and Nyla

The St John's Values Award Sidney and Noah R

The Personal Development Award Kara and Isabelle

doodle maths

**Top Doodling Class** 

HAZEL

Well done!

### Sport at St. John's

We will be working with Ignite Sport from September who will be offering after-school sport clubs.

Please see the letter to parents with a link for booking sessions.

### Out of School Achievements

Congratulations to Stephen, in Acorns, who won first prize for his entry into the Midsomer Norton Fayre competition!

Well done!





### **Hot Chocolate Friday**











There are now spaces available for guitar lessons starting in September, places are limited so if interested please find more information from this link'

https://wema.org.uk/music-hub/young-people-families/learn-to-play/

# **Reading in Acorns**

This term we have loved exploring lots of story and information books linked to our topic 'Down at the bottom of the garden'. We have found out all about different plants and animals that we might find in our gardens and we particularly enjoyed watching our caterpillars grow and change into beautiful butterflies!



# Reading in Nursery



This week, the children at Next Steps have been enjoying story books all about starting school.

The children have particularly enjoyed listening to 'The Colour Monster Goes to School' and have been laughing lots about the unusual items Colour Monster wants to take with him (including moon boots and bat repellent!). Colour Monster tries to guess what school might be like, and the adventures he will have once there. Colour Monster experiences a range of emotions throughout his day, and we have been able to use this to talk about our own feelings when things seem uncertain or new.

This story is the transitional text for our pre-school children who are joining St John's. It will be re-shared with them when they start school in September, and their new teachers will work with them to enjoy lots of creative and playful activities based upon the book.

# Learning in Year Five

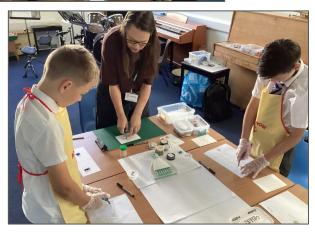
After a fantastic workshop earlier this term with a visiting glass artist, Year Five (Pine and Rowan classes) were thrilled to finally take home their fused glass bugs this week.

Each unique creation, complete with painted eyes, is part of the class's colourful army of bugs. The children loved designing their creatures and were so proud to see the finished results after firing in the kiln!











# **Sports Coach**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Ignite Sport is very excited to be coming to St. John's C of E Primary School from September.

Through positive experiences of PE, after school sports clubs and holiday sports camps, our coaches will strive to engage and inspire as many children as possible at St. John's to be **active**, **healthy** and **fulfilled** for life.

I founded Ignite Sport in November 2024 following a 22-year career in the education, sports coaching and charity sectors. From 2014 to 2024, I designed and directed Bristol Sport Foundation's Forever Sport programme from the ground up and a team of two to a team of over 50 coaches.

I was fortunate to have a very active childhood with lots of opportunities to play sport and I firmly believe that early access to a broad array of sports is a key ingredient for children to build a positive long-term attitude towards sport and physical activity.

**Ignite Sport's** clubs and camps will provide safe, inclusive, fun and active opportunities for the children at St. John's to take part in sports activities at the end of the school day and during the school holidays.

Sport and exercise develop skills for life – from collaboration and courage to teamwork and determination. **Ignite Sport** believe that most importantly it should be fun and challenging for everyone, regardless of the level of competition and participation. We look forward to teaching and coaching your children next year.

We have extended your after school sports clubs to 75 minutes to ensure that the children enjoy a full hour of physical activity and sport. Our term 1 clubs are now live for bookings!

Please find the link to our booking page here - <a href="https://www.abler.io/shop/ignitesport">https://www.abler.io/shop/ignitesport</a>.

Best wishes,

Tom Monks
Ignite Sport's Managing Director and Founder

# **New Payments Systems**

Please be aware that from the end of this school year, St John's Primary School will no longer be using ParentPay as our payments system.

This will be replaced by two systems:

#### **Arbor Parent Portal**

From 1st September, we will be using Arbor Parent Portal to take payments for all trips, breakfast club, after school nursery care, costs associated with clubs and any other general activities/items.

Once the items have been made live, you will be able to see these on the portal, so that you can book sessions and make payments as necessary.

You should already have accessed your Arbor Parent Portal, but if you have not, or are having any issues, please contact the school office.

If you need to book breakfast club or Nursery after school club for the first week of the school year, please email the school office and we will add your child to the register and add any charge to the system.

Please ensure that any ParentPay debts are cleared at your earliest convenience in order to help with a smooth transition from ParentPay to Arbor.

#### SchoolGrid

All school meals will be ordered and paid for via a new system called SchoolGrid from September.

Please look out for an email from SchoolGrid (this will be sent to the child's 1st priority contact, as per the details held on Arbor), which will be sent to your inbox in the next week. It is really important that you follow the instructions in the email to set up your account. Once you have, you will be able to start ordering and paying for your child/ren's school meals for September onwards.

School meals will continue to be ordered and paid for via ParentPay until the end of this term. Any credits/debts in the school meals accounts will be transferred to your SchoolGrid account.

#### **Nursery Fees/Invoices**

For those of you who are expecting to pay for nursery fees during the Summer - this is the only item that will continue to be payable via ParentPay. This is due to the nature of the invoicing system. Your July and August invoices will be added to ParentPay. Please ensure that your balances are cleared at your earliest convenience, to ensure a smooth transition to Arbor payments in September.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact the school office.

### **PTA NEWS**

**Dear Parents and Guardians** 

St John's PTA are delighted to announce a new event for Term 1 of the next academic year.

We will be hosting a Family Outdoor Cinema Night.I on Saturday 20th September.

But we need your help to decide on a film! Please vote on the attached so we can see what is most wanted.

Please fill in this form: FORM

More details of the event to follow but for now save the date!

Thanks PTA



#### **Autumn Invitation**

#### Dear Y6,

It has been great watching you progress through your time at St John's School. We will miss you!

But moving up to secondary school doesn't have to mean goodbye, St John's is still your parish church and we would love to know how you are getting on!

After the summer, why not join us for our Tower Tours between 2-5pm on Saturday 20th September?

Or better still why not come to our **Y7 drop-in** after school in the church between 3.30-5pm on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October**. It will be a time to catch up with some old friends and enjoy some refreshments and possibly some cake! So make a note in your diary, we would love to see you.

Have a wonderful summer and a great start at secondary school. We hope to see you in the autumn!

Best wishes from Guy, Philip and all at St John's Church.







### Second Hand September

In September St John's School Council will be holding a number of second hand events.

Friday 12th Sept: Second Hand

**Uniform Sale** 

Friday 19th Sept: Second Hand

**Book Sale** 

Friday 26th Sept: Second Hand

Toy Sale

Everything will be sold for a contribution and all proceeds will be spent by the School Council members on ways to improve our school!

If you have any contributions, please pop in the blue bin outside the main school office.

Watch this space for more details.



### **Shape Your High Street**

This summer, the heart of Midsomer Norton will be transformed into a vibrant celebration of creativity and collaboration with the launch of Shape Your High Street – a weekend-long free high street trail of creative works by four local artists.

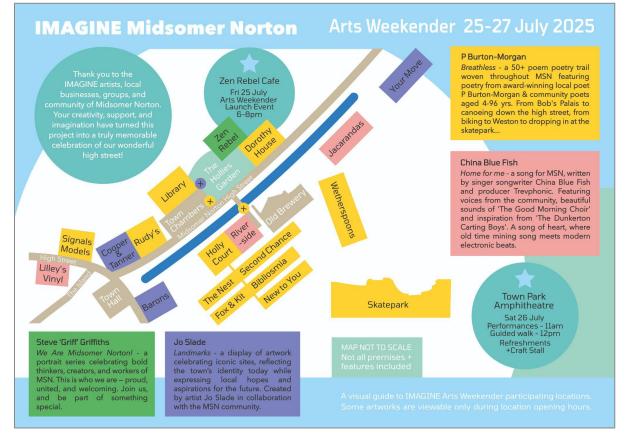
Each artwork, created in collaboration with the community of Midsomer Norton, celebrates the town's culture and identity and expresses hopes for its future.

The trail can be explored at your own pace throughout the weekend, or there are a series of free events and performances which you can find out about here:

https://www.44ad.net/imagine-midsomer-norton.html







### **Bikeability Learn to Ride**

BANES has launched the summer programme and still have places available for the Bikeability Learn to Ride summer training.

This module is for children who can't ride a bike, <u>aged between aged between 7 to 16 years old</u>.

To reserve\* a place, parents or guardians can fill the form <u>HERE</u>

Course	Learn to ride training
Cost	£15 per rider
Duration	Two sessions of 45 minutes
Bike & helmet loan	Available and free of charge
Location	Odd Down Sport Ground cycle track Chelwood Road, Bath BA2 2PR
Dates available	<ul> <li>Wednesday 30 and Thursday 31 July</li> <li>Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 August</li> </ul>
Time slots available	<ul> <li>10:00-10:45</li> <li>11:00-11:45</li> <li>13:00-13:45</li> <li>14:00-14:45</li> </ul>

\*Please be aware that we operate on a first-come, first-served basis. If a place is reserved for your child, we will email you payment instructions to secure your booking.

### Free bus travel

We have been informed by B&NES that during the summer holidays, under 16 year olds (5 - 15) can travel for FREE on buses across WECA.

Further details are available on the website:

https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/news/kids-go-free-on-the-wests-buses/





