

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 10th October 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: LOVE



Message from the Headteacher

This week has been full of celebration and reflection at St John's. On Monday, we marked National Teacher Day — a big thank you to everyone who contributed sweet treats for the staffroom; they were greatly appreciated by all!

On Wednesday, we held our Harvest Festival, a wonderful occasion to give thanks for God's creation and to welcome our new Reception children into the St John's family. It was lovely to see the whole school community come together in gratitude and joy.

In Collective Worship this week, we continued exploring the theme of Black History Month. The School Council selected several inspiring figures for us to learn about, and today we focused on the life and music of Bob Marley, discussing his message of peace, unity, and equality.

Families with children starting school in September 2026 are warmly invited to our next Stay and Play session on Tuesday 14th at 9.30am.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

Warm regards,

Mrs West-Gaul

Dates For Your Diary

October

14th	Little Acorns Stay and Play - Open Day for Reception 2026
21st & 22nd	Parents' Evenings
23rd	PTA Disco & Non Uniform Day
24th	INSET Day

November

3rd	Children return to school
4th	Open Evening for prospective parents



School Photo Orders

You should by now have received a proof/order form for your child's individual school photo (and sibling photos if appropriate). Please make any orders online preferably (instructions are on your order envelope) or by cash/cheque in the envelope via the office, by Thursday 16 October.

Parents' Evenings - 21st & 22nd October

A reminder that Parents' Evenings may be booked via the Arbor Parent Portal. If you are having difficulty using the system, please contact the School Office and we can arrange a time for you. Please note ALL teacher-led after-school clubs will be cancelled this week.

Awards and Achievements

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



	Star of the Week	Star Reader
Acorns	Floella Hugo B	-
Ash	Bonnie	Ariella
Birch	Phoebe	Florence
Chestnut	Tommy	Zac
Elm	Ronan	Lily
Hazel	James	Fletcher
Holly	Amelia	Harlowe
Maple	Matilda	Myla
Oak	Bella	Harry
Pine	Oscar	Amelia S
Rowan	Max	Thomas
Sycamore	Charlie	Elliot
Willow	Jude	Ralphy

Top Doodling Class



MAPLE

Well done!

PE Achievements of The Week

Sycamore - Eden (Terrific teamwork) and Bo (Excellent Effort)

Willow - Henry (terrific teamwork) and Harler (Amazing ability)

Rowan - Darcey (calm and confident) and Jack B (Amazing ability)

Pine - Zena and Daisy (Independent Learners)

Oak - Noah (Calm and Confident), Rosie and Imogen (Terrific teamwork)

Maple - Sophie (Caring and Kind) and Freddie (Amazing Ability)

Holly - Arya (Amazing ability)

Chestnut - Jacob (amazing ability) and Serena (Playing fair)

Elm - Freddie White (Huge Helper)

Ash - Sofia (Caring and Kind), Ariella (Calm and Confident) and Alex (Terrific teamwork)

Birch - Delilah (Really Resilient) and Freddie (Caring and Kind)

Out of School Achievement

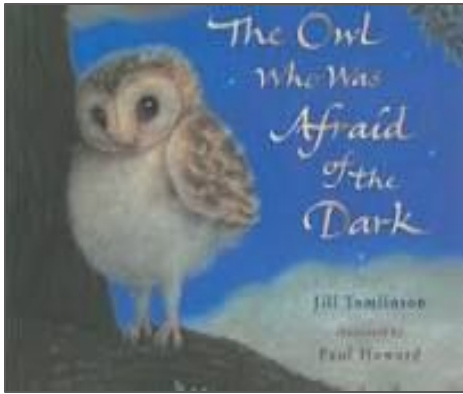
Well done to Jack who has participated in a walk from Bath to Midsomer Norton (13.3 miles) and raised £226 for Time is Precious. Jack was the youngest person to do the whole walk.



Hot Chocolate Friday



Reading in Year Two



Our text focus in reading and literacy has been 'The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson. The story follows an owlet called Plop as he overcomes his fear of the dark.

This week we have been using our senses to describe settings for stories similar to the book. As a year group we ventured up to the woods for inspiration.



We have also focused on Plop's experience of watching fireworks for the first time and produced our own artwork around this.



Pupil Premium



What is Pupil Premium?

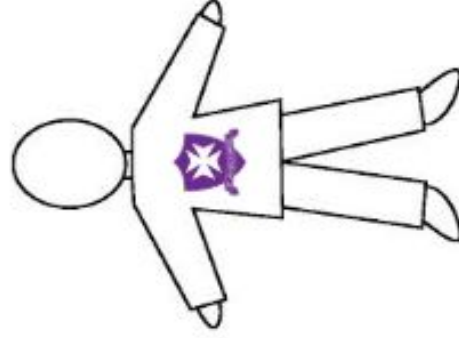
Did you know that registering for Pupil Premium means that your child's school could get extra money?

Pupil Premium is additional funding that the Government gives to mainstream and special schools in England to help children from low income families. The Pupil Premium Grant must be spent to help eligible pupils reach their full potential, both academically and socially, and the school will decide how best to spend this.

Who is eligible for Pupil Premium?

Your child is eligible for benefit-related free school meals (and therefore, their school will receive the **pupil premium**) if they are attending a state school in Bath and North East Somerset, and you are receiving one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (if your annual net earned income is £7,400 or less, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, **without any Working Tax Credit**, and an annual household income of £16,190 or less (as assessed by HMRC - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- **Four-week run-on Working Tax Credit** (paid for four weeks after you **STOP** qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999



Supporting the
Whole Child
Academic,
Enrichment,
Engagement &
Wellbeing

How the funding will be used?

School trips and Visits

- School will contribute 25% of the cost of school trips and visits and residential trips.

School Uniform

- Help to purchase school uniform for some families. Second hand uniform shop available all year round.

Enrichment and clubs

- Pupils are encouraged to attend lunchtime and after school clubs - in some cases school will contribute 25% towards the cost of these.
- Free breakfast club places provided for some pupils offering a healthy breakfast and a smooth transition into school each day.

Additional Support in school

- Individual and/or small group support where needed. This may be to support learning or wellbeing needs.
- Staff have up to date relevant training to ensure pupils are supported effectively.

How do I apply for Pupil Premium?

Click on the link below to see if you are eligible.

<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Early Help - What is it?

Early help is support for families and children to address difficulties as soon as they emerge, before they can become more serious. It is a voluntary service that aims to help families build on their strengths and develop the confidence to manage future challenges.

How early help works

- The right support at the right time: This voluntary service works with you and your family to provide extra support when it is needed. It is a partnership between families, communities, and local agencies to identify needs and prevent issues from escalating.
- Team Around the Family: Often, an Early Help Assessment (EHA) is used to work with you to understand your family's needs and build a support plan together. This assessment ensures that multiple services can coordinate and work together, so you don't have to repeat your story to different people.

What kind of help is available?

Early help can assist with a wide range of issues, and the exact services available will vary by local area.

Examples of support include:

- Parenting support: Guidance on topics such as managing challenging behaviour and improving family relationships.
- Child health and development: Access to services like health visitors, school nurses, and speech and language therapy.
- Emotional and mental health: Support for both children and parents, including counselling and therapeutic services.
- School issues: Help with poor attendance, behaviour problems, or special educational needs.
- Practical concerns: Assistance with financial, housing, and employment issues.

How do you get early help?

If you feel your family could benefit from some support, you can access early help in a few ways:

- Talk to a professional: You can discuss your concerns with a professional you and your child already know, such as a teacher, health visitor, or GP. They can then complete an Early Help Assessment with your consent.
- Self-refer: In most areas, you can also contact your local authority directly to request an assessment yourself.
- Access universal services: Many early help services, like drop-in sessions at children's centers, are universally available and don't require a formal referral.

What it's not

Early help is not the same as social services intervention. It is designed to provide support at a lower level of need to prevent problems from escalating to the point where more intensive intervention is required. It is a collaborative, voluntary process that keeps you, the parent, in the driver's seat.

General Notices

ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT ST JOHNS

Every school day counts!

Children are required, by law, to attend school for 190 days of the year.

The government state that children's attendance should be at least 95%.

We are here to support you!

If you need support getting your child to school, please speak to a member of staff who will be willing to help.

100% EXCELLENT	4 - 7.5 days absent = 22-41 hours of lost learning
98% Good	9.5 - 17 Days absent = 52 - 93.5 hours of lost learning
95% REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT	19 - 27 days absent = 104.5 - 148.5 hours of lost learning
90% PERSISTENT ABSENTER	28.5 - 38 days absent = 155.5 - 209 hours of lost learning
85% CRITICAL CONCERN	

MNSP
MOMENTS MATTER.
ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

01761 412019
WWW.STJOHNSMSN.CO.UK

St John's
C of E Primary School

WILL YOUR CHILD BE STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026?

COME AND SEE WHAT MAKES ST JOHN'S A SPECIAL PLACE TO LEARN AND GROW

Open evening
Tuesday
4th November
6pm - 7pm

- Presentation by the Headteacher
- School tours by Year 6 pupils

STAY & PLAY SESSIONS

TUESDAY 14TH OCT 9:30

TUESDAY 18TH NOV 9:30

TUESDAY 16TH DEC 9:30

CONTACT US:
EMAIL: OFFICE@STJOHNS.MNSP.ORG.UK
WWW.STJOHNSMSN.CO.UK

ignite sport

after school sports clubs
St John's C of E Primary School

Final places

Years 1 & 2 Football Monday

Years 3 - 6 Football Tuesday

Years 1 - 3 Dodgeball Wednesday

BOOK ONLINE HERE!

SCAN ME

why join...?

Whether your child is new to the sport, or an experienced player, our sports clubs provide an environment that is engaging for all. We believe in providing children with lots of individual time on the football, or with the dodgeball in hand, to improve their skills and confidence, as well as tailored games to improve their game understanding, tactical awareness and teamwork.

For more information check our website

www.ignite-sport.co.uk

ignite sport

Years 1 - 6

09:00 - 15:30

OCTOBER CAMPS

St John's C of E Primary School, Redfield Rd, BA3 2JN

football camp Monday 27th Oct

halloween camp Tuesday 28th Oct

www.ignite-sport.co.uk

PTA NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

Preparations are well under way for the upcoming Christmas Fete on Saturday 29th November - more details to come soon.

We are asking for bottle donations to bring the ever popular Bottle Tombola to the fete. Please can we ask for donations on the non uniform day of Thursday 23rd October. All bottles are welcomed!

Collection by the pottery room at drop off.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!

PTA Team



🇬🇧 🇪🇺 Disco Tickets on Sale 🇪🇺 🇬🇧

📍 Tickets will be for sale at 3pm on Mon 20, Tues 21 and Wed 22 October at school by pottery room

Or available via payment link - please provide name and class <https://square.link/u/Vl4nS4yl?src=sheet>

🇬🇧 Disco Tickets £3

🍷 Tuck shop - all items 50p

🌟 Glow Sticks and Light up Rings 50p

Games and Entertainment during the Disco 🇪🇺

📅 Thursday 23rd October

🕒 YR, Y1, Y2, Y3 - 5-6pm

🕒 Y4, Y5, Y6 - 6.30pm-7.30pm

Please drop off and collect

Community Notices

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c October 13 2025

Here's what is happening in your Libraries this week

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via Social Media or via the blog.

Bath Central Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme
Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.

10.30 - 11.00am
Every Wednesday
(term-time only)

Board Game Saturdays
Drop in. Suitable for all ages.

Every Saturday
12.30-4.00pm
*subject to exhibition room being available

Keynsham Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme
Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.

9.30 - 10.00am &
10.30 - 11.00am
Every Tuesday
(term-time only)
Anytime

Jigsaw Drop-In

Storytime
Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.

10.30 - 11.00am
Every Thursday
(term-time only)

Midsomer Norton Library

Baby Bounce & Rhyme
Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.

10.30 - 11.00am
Every Monday
(term-time only)

Storytime
Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.

10.30 - 11.00am
Every Wednesday
(term-time only)

Board Game Saturday's

Every Saturday

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library may stop near you! Pop in for a visit, return your books, collect a reservation & choose something new to read. You can do all this & more with your B&NES or LibrariesWest library card.

For the Route Timetable, please visit:
<https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/mobile-library-service>

Cosy Up with a good children's library book this autumn. How about trying:

How to train your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

The Edge of the silver sea by Alex Mullarky

Ten Ways to Build a brilliant brain by Nicola Morgan



Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives



FAMILY PLAY SESSIONS

Come and be part of a welcoming space, where families with primary aged children and siblings can grow, play, and connect through planned activities and free play with their child(ren).

Free drinks and snacks provided!

Through shared play experiences, families can:

- Build confidence
- Support with wellbeing
- Develop social skills
- Strengthen bonds
- Meet other parents/carers
- Feel a real sense of belonging and community

**Orchard Vale Community Hall
Midsomer Norton,
Radstock
BA3 2RA**

**POP ALONG TO
PLAY OR SCAN TO
REGISTER YOUR
INTEREST HERE**



**Thursday's 3.30-4.45pm
(excluding school holidays)**

Football Fun & Development For children 5 - 12 years old



scan
Here!

Register For a 3 Week Free Trial
www.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk

The perfect environment for children to play Football!



Our weekly training programme for 5-12 year olds offers a combination of technical training, fun games and matches for boys and girls of any ability level.



scan Here
to book!



**SASS Helpline open
every Wednesday morning
9am-12pm throughout the year**

01761 412 198

**or email us to ask for a call:
sass@fossewayschool.com**



**Specialist
Autism
Support
Service**

Member of the team always available ● Advice and Support ● For Professionals
For Families ● Child or Young Person must be living in B&NES, with a confirmed
diagnosis of Autism, between the ages of 0-18, or 0-25 for those with an Education,
Health and Care Plan (EHCP) ● If you're not sure whether we can help, please call us!



**REDUCING YOUR CHILD'S
LOST PROPERTY IN SCHOOLS/PTAS**



24% of every order will be donated to our PTA/School!
Just use our school ID on the checkout.



www.MyHametags.com

School ID: **31825**

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like 'It's not that bad' or 'You're okay' may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



The National College

X @wake_up_weds

f /www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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