

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 24th 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

As we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, I want to thank all our pupils, staff, and families for their continued hard work and support. This week has been full of memorable experiences, including Year 1's walk on Monday looking for signs of autumn (despite the wet weather!) and Year 2's local area field trip on Wednesday.

A special highlight this term has been receiving our **Silver Artsmark Award**, a fantastic recognition of our commitment to the arts and creativity across the curriculum. This achievement reflects the enthusiasm and dedication of our whole school community – a special thank you to Mrs Vu and Miss Wood for coordinating this achievement.

I hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved half term break. Have a restful and enjoyable week, and I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for another great term ahead at St John's.

Mrs West-Gaul



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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

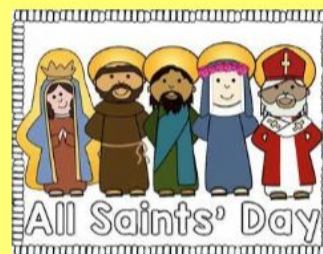
TUESDAY	TUESDAY	TUESDAY
14 TH OCT	18 TH NOV	16 TH DEC
9:30	9:30	9:30

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

Come and join us at the end of half-term as we celebrate the heroes of the Christian Church at our

All Saints Family Service
on **Sunday 2nd November at 10am**

at St John's Church, Midsomer Norton.



All are welcome!

If any our young friends from St John's School would like to help out and read some prayers please come early so we can give you a job!

Dates For Your Diary

November

3rd	Children return to school
4th	Open Evening for prospective parents, 6pm
11th	Remembrance Day - Wear Red for the Poppy Appeal
29th	Christmas Fete

St John's Primary School, Midsomer Norton

www.stjohnsmnsn.org.uk | 01761 412019 | office@stjohns.mnsp.org.uk

Awards and Achievements

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



Hot Chocolate Friday



Top Doodling Class



BIRCH

Well done!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT ST JOHNS

Every school day counts!

100%
EXCELLENT

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%**.

98%
Good

4 - 7.5 days absent =
22-41 hours of lost learning

We are here to support you!

95%
REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT

9.5 - 17 Days absent =
52 - 93.5 hours of lost learning

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

90%
PERSISTENT ABSENTER

19 - 27 days absent =
104.5 - 148.5 hours of lost learning

85%
CRITICAL CONCERN

28.5 - 38 days absent =
155.5 - 209 hours of lost learning



01761 412019

WWW.STJOHNSMSN.CO.UK

PE Achievements of The Week

Year 6 Sycamore - Reggie (calm and confident), Taylor (fantastic focus) and James (caring and kind)

Year 6 Willow - Eva (caring and kind) and Jacob (Amazing ability)

Year 5 Pine - Caiden (really resilient), Milli (fantastic focus) and Tommy G (calm and confident)

Year 5 Rowan - Reggie (playing fair), Jesse (terrific teamwork) and Olivia (going above and beyond)

Year 4 Oak - Orie (really resilient), Betsy and Matilda (amazing ability)

Year 4 Maple - Imogen (amazing ability) and Evelyn (really resilient)

Year 3 Hazel - Aubrie and James (fantastic focus)

Year 3 Holly - Charlie (fantastic focus) and Harlow (caring and kind)

Year 2 Chestnut - Sammy (caring and kind), Ayda (amazing ability) and Aden (fantastic focus)

Year 2 Elm - Leo and Lilly (really resilient)

Year 1 Birch - Presley and Daisy (playing fair) and Finley (Fantastic focus)

Year 1 Ash - Evie and Freddie (terrific teamwork)



Our 'Reading Champions' have been hard at work coming up with an Autumn Half Term Reading Challenge for you!

Send your photos in to the email address below and a winner will be announced next term!

Half term Autumn Reading Challenge

- 1: Read a spooky or autumn-themed story (e.g., "Room on the Broom" by Julia Donaldson).*
- 2: Find a book about autumn or Halloween and read a chapter or a few pages.*
- 3: Draw your favourite spooky character from the story you read.*
- 4: Read a poem about autumn or Halloween aloud to someone at home.*
- 5: Choose a non-fiction book about animals or nature in autumn and read a section.*
- 6: Retell the story you read to a family member.*
- 7: Pick a favourite spooky story and read it again or listen to an audiobook version.*

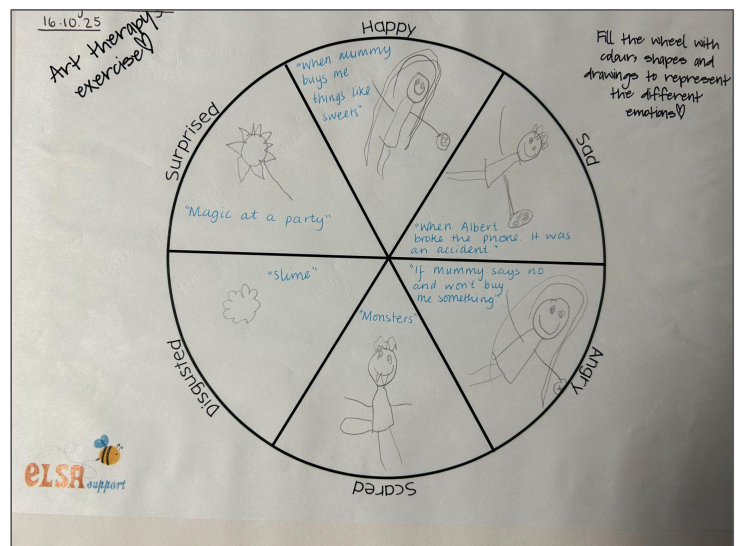
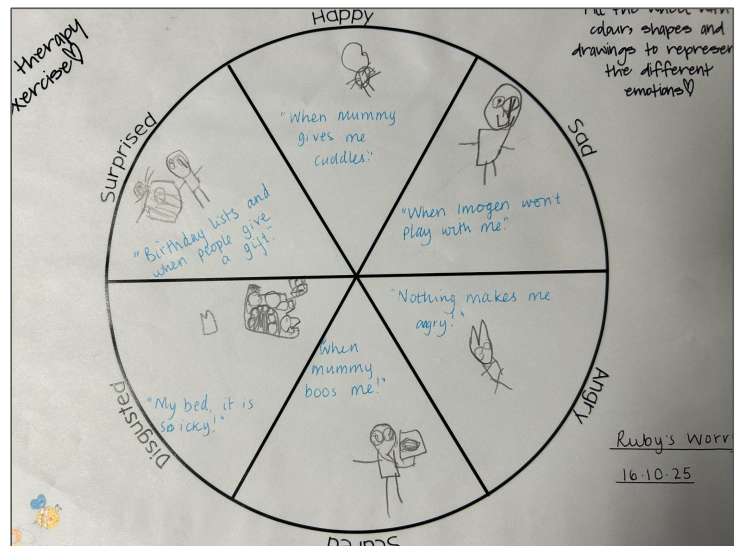
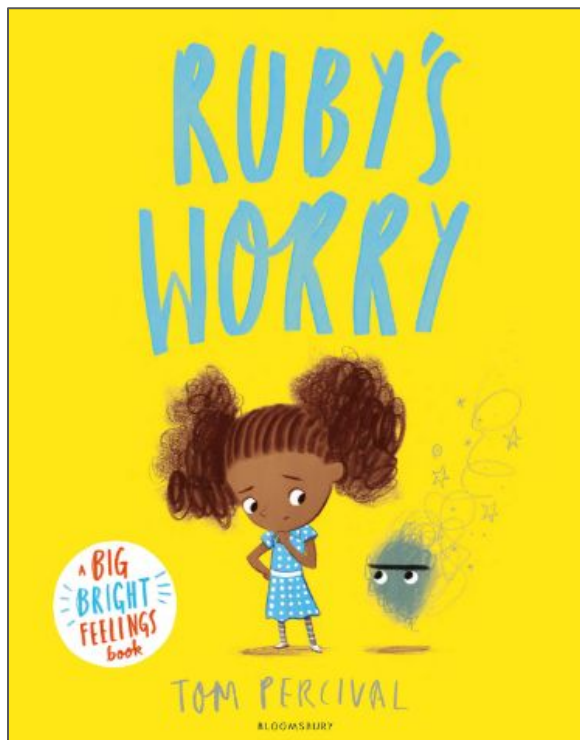
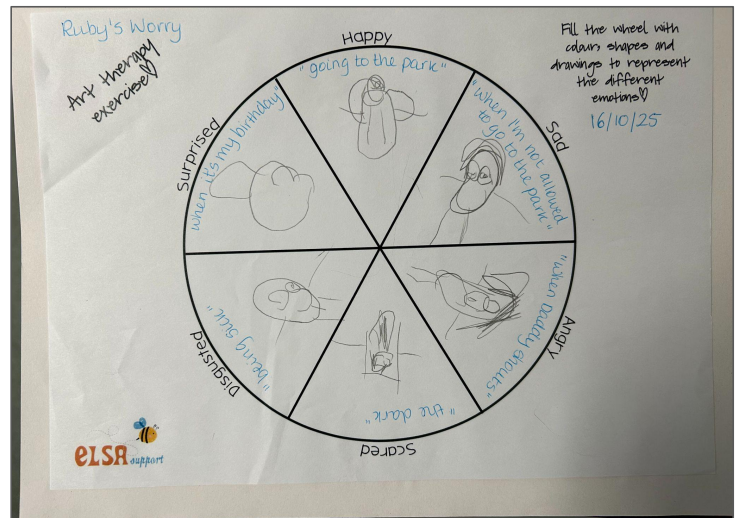
*Please send photos of your challenge to
office@stjohns.mnsp.org.uk*

Reading in Acorns

This week Acorns class have read the story of 'Ruby's Worries'.

We talked about our worries and then explored other emotions and what makes us feel happy and sad, angry and scared.

We have learnt that it is always good to talk about our feelings and often this can start to make us feel better.



Learning in Year Three – Diwali



This term, Year Three has been fully immersed in the vibrant and rich traditions of Hinduism as part of their exploration of Diwali.

The children have been discovering the significance of this special festival through a variety of hands-on activities that bring the traditions to life.

They've learned how to make traditional Indian sweets such as kheer and coconut ladoos, delighting in both the process and the tasty results! They've also embraced their creative sides, painting marble Bengal tigers, building their own miniature Taj Mahal models, and crafting beautiful rangoli patterns using colourful rice.

As part of their Diwali celebrations, they have even made charming diva lamp door handle decorations, adding a personal touch to their homes.

It's been an exciting and educational journey, and the children are truly proud of the beautiful cultural crafts they've created while deepening their understanding of this important festival.



General Notices

Ignite Sports After-School Clubs

Ignite Sports are pleased to share their after school clubs for term 2:

Mondays: Year 1 & 2 Football

Tuesdays: Year 1-3 Dodgeball

Wednesdays: Year 4-6 Dodgeball

These all run 3pm-4.15pm, starting w/o 3rd November and cost £4 per session. They are led by the PE Coaches from Ignite Sports - Mr Brixey and Coach Tom, who the children know well from activities in school time.

[Please click here to book your child's place for term 2](#)

School Dinners

Please could we remind you to ensure any bookings for school dinners made for planned absences (eg. hospital appointments) are cancelled. This is the responsibility of the parent/carer as these are included in the numbers of portions prepared. Please note uncanceled dinners will still incur a charge.

A reminder that school dinners for the week after half-term should be booked by **Thursday 30th October**. Where a school dinner has not been booked, please ensure your child is provided with a packed lunch from home.

Wear Red for the Poppy Appeal

To support this year's Poppy Appeal, we will be selling poppies any other small items from the Royal British Legion. We will also be wearing something **RED** on 11th November.



Please can we remind you that if your child attends breakfast club, to **please book your child's place at breakfast club via Arbor Parent Portal**.

If you are unable to because it is a last minute booking, or you are having issues with using Arbor, please contact the office to book in. There have been a large number of children arriving without places booked, which causes issues with staffing levels and the records that we have to keep.

Many thanks for your support,
Mrs Pritchard and Miss Whittles (Breakfast Club Supervisors)

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.

School ID: **31825**

www.MyNametags.com



School Council Notices

This year St John's school council is supporting the **Samaritans Purse Shoebox Appeal!** School council is asking the children in each year group to bring in a specific item that we can use to pack our boxes. If you have any shoeboxes (or know of a business who can supply some) or wrapping paper they would also be greatly appreciated!

Reception: Toys • Toy cars • Animal figures • Building blocks • Skipping rope • Tennis ball • Yo-yo • Spinning top • Mini frisbee • Fidget spinner • Finger puppets • Slinky • Travel games • Small musical instruments • Small puzzles etc.	Year 1/2: School supplies • Pens • Pencils & sharpeners • Crayons • Felt tip pens • Ruler • Eraser • Writing pads or notebook • Solar calculators • Geometry set • Glue stick • Pre-inked Stampers • Colouring books • Watercolour paint set (solid only) • Safety scissors • Craft kits
Year 3/4: Personal care items • Comb • Hairbrush • Toothbrush • Flannel • Bar soap (packaged and/or in a container) • Sponge • Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils (Fill an empty container with non-liquid items such as sunglasses or flannel to make use of the space) • Non-liquid lip balm • Nail clippers and file • Stick deodorant • Compact mirror	Year 5/6: Accessories and Other items • Hat • Gloves • Sunglasses • Cap • T-shirt • Socks • Flip-flops • Small backpack, handbag or drawstring bag • Hair bows or clips • Friendship bracelets (woven with yarn or embroidery thread) • Watch • Wind-up Torch • Necklace or bracelet • Stickers





School Council Notices

Please bring your item into class by Wednesday 4th November so that school council can get packing!

If you would like to also make your own box over half term and would like this included in our delivery then please bring it into school for collection by Friday 6th November.

A suggested donation of £5 is essential to cover project costs including collection, processing, shipping, project materials and training local churches to lead a safe, well-organised children's event where your shoebox will be given to a child in need.

Give online at Follow Your Box and you can print out a barcode. If you email the barcode into school we can ensure it is put into one of the boxes. This will enable us to tell you which country your shoebox gets sent to.

Step 1



Find a Shoebox

Start with a medium sized shoebox. If you want to wrap it, cover the box and lid separately. You can use your own shoeboxes or order our colourful [preprinted](#) ones.

Attach the [boy/girl label](#) to the top of your shoebox. Mark if your gift is for a boy or a girl and select an age category 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14.

Step 2

Fill it With Gifts

Fill your shoebox with a selection of fun toys, school supplies and personal care items. If possible, include one or two extra special items you know a child will love such as a doll, cuddly toy or deflated football with pump. See our [Gift Suggestions](#) below for more ideas.



Step 3



Make Your Project Donation

A suggested donation of £5 is essential to cover project costs including collection, processing, shipping, project materials and training local churches to lead a safe, well-organised children's event where your shoebox will be given to a child in need.

Give online at [Follow Your Box](#) and you can print out a barcode and place it inside your shoebox on top of the contents. This will enable us to tell you which country your shoebox gets sent to.



Tips for an autism-friendly Halloween



Halloween doesn't have to be too scary.

Check out our helpful Halloween tips.



Create your own Halloween fun

Have a spooky movie day and eat Halloween themed foods.

Dress up, stay indoors and get some glow-in-the-dark toys to play with.

Pick a costume that is comfortable

You don't always have to fit in with the 'scary' theme.

Choose a costume that is comfortable, or something you or your child is passionate about.

No tricks, just treats

If you or your child finds walking house-to-house in the dark challenging, buy your own sweets.

Stay at home and share out the treats to enjoy with no tricks!

Pre-arrange visits to a limited number of houses

If your child struggles with unexpected events, try pre-arranging visits to some houses in your neighbourhood.

This is a great way to collect the different parts of one bigger thing, like a LEGO model or small toys as part of a set.

Have a low-key Halloween

If you don't like trick or treating, why not place a 'polite' sign outside requesting that no trick or treaters knock on the door.

Instead, you could decorate the living room and carve pumpkins.

* It's important to remember that every autistic person is different so they must be involved in planning.

PTA NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

The most magical time of the year is fast approaching and we have some fabulous festive happenings to get you in the spirit.

Dates and Info for your diaries:

PTA Christmas Fete – Saturday 29th November – 11am – 2pm.

Free Entry – no booking needed

Raffle with lots of fabulous prizes – tickets coming home in bags soon – please return to the PTA white box outside of reception with payment included

Hot Food and Drinks along with a Bar and Refreshments available, Festive Games and Lucky Tombola's, The School Market with the opportunity to purchase your child's Christmas decorations, School Choir performance, Face Painting and Glitter Tattoos and Christmas Crafts, Cookie Decorating and Letters to Santa. We are also inviting some local businesses to share their crafts and gifts with us in a Market Stall room.

PLUS Christmas mini Photoshoot with Roxy K-B

Photography – please email

roxykingmanbowers@gmail.com to book and see our facebook pages



Passports for games on Sale 10th, 11th, 12 November and 24th, 25th, 26th November at 3pm outside of the pottery room

Santa's Grotto at the Fete - Saturday 29th November – 11am – 2pm

Come and enjoy a Christmas story with Santas elves in a cosy grotto, before meeting the big guy himself and receiving a special gift to take home.

£4 per child – booking required.

Grotto slots on sale 20th, 21st, 22nd October, 10th, 11th, 12 November and 24th, 25th, 26th November at 3pm outside of the pottery room or email stjohnsmsnpta@outlook.com to book your slot

Wreath Making – Wednesday 3rd December – 6pm – 9pm

We are delighted to be hosting Helen from Poppies of Paulton to help us create our own gorgeous wreaths with her expert guidance. All materials are provided. Bar is available – why not make it extra special and pre order a bottle of wine or prosecco!

£35 per person including a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie – booking required and limited spaces so please do not delay - <https://square.link/u/uz5cWqlr?src=sheet>

Elfridges – Friday 12th December – during school day

Children are invited to visit St Johns School PTA 'Elfridges' to choose a gift for loved ones – lots of brilliant gifts have been purchased for mums, dads, siblings, grandparents or anyone special to you!

Slips coming home in bags soon – please return to the PTA white box outside of reception with payment included by November 21st

Thank you in advance for all of the support!

The PTA Christmas Elves



**ST. JOHN'S PTA
ELFRIDGES**

A shop especially for Children to
choose a present for their special
person or people!

£3 Per Gift

Please return booking forms by 21st
November.

Children choose on 12th December



St John's PTA

Santa's Grotto

Saturday 24th November

11am-2pm

Enjoy a 1:1 meet and greet with
Santa and a present!

Email stjohnspta@hotmail.com to
book your slot!



**£4
Per Child**



CHRISTMAS MINI PHOTOSHOOT

ST JOHNS SCHOOL,
MIDSOMER NORTON

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

11:30AM - 2PM

WHATS INCLUDED?

- 10 minute slot
- 2 digital images
- An option to purchase
more photos and prints

£20

SEND ME A
MESSAGE TO BOOK

ROXYKINGMANBOWERS@GMAIL.COM



Roxy K-B
Photography



St John's PTA

WREATH *Making* WORKSHOP

Wednesday 3rd December 6-9pm

Includes Mulled Wine & Mince Pie

£35 Per Person

Bar will
be open!

Limited spaces available

Book here!



Community Notices

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c October 20 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

National Trust, Bath Abbey & American Museum & Gardens family workshop

Wednesday 29 October
2.00pm - 4.00pm
Drop In

Baby Bounce & Rhyme

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

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

Keynsham Library

Fashion Museum, Bath

Drop in. Hands-on design activities. A chance to hear about the museum's brilliant collection

Thursday 30 October
Friday 31 October
9.30am - 4.00pm

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)

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

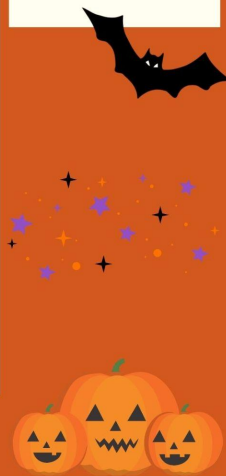
The Mobile Library may stop near you! Pop in for a visit, return your books, collect a reservation & choose something new to read. You can do all this & more with your B&NES or LibrariesWest library card.

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

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Spooky fun at B&NES Libraries during Half Term Week
In all B&NES Libraries join us for some festive fun with Halloween themed colouring and crafts in our children's area.
Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October. During opening hours.



SASS Community Choir 2025-26

NEW VENUE FOR 2025

for all autistic young people and their families in B&NES

*All are welcome: whether you are waiting for diagnosis, or self-identify as autistic, no formal diagnosis is needed.

Led by Tim Parker

The SASS team are excited to be working with Tim and WEMA for our community choir!



Time
4pm - 5pm
All ages

Upcoming Dates (Wednesdays)

Wed 10th December 2025
Wed 28th January 2026
Wed 11th March 2026
Wed 6th May 2026
Wed 24th June 2026

New Venue:

Midsomer Norton Library
The Hollies, High Street,
Midsomer Norton, BA3 2DP

*Free nearby parking available in Sainsburys, The Hollies or South Road Car Park



Music provides a unique way to connect with others with singing having many health and wellbeing benefits, so join us to enjoy some singing together within a fun, friendly and supportive environment!

Parents/carers will also have the opportunity to meet with members of the SASS team for general advice and support during the session.

A £1 voluntary donation per family is invited.
*Bookings welcome, otherwise just turn up!

For more information contact:
sass@fossewayschool.com
01761 412198

Families can arrive early if coming straight from school and enjoy the library, including access to the Sensory Space to support with transition.

Please scan the QR code below to familiarise yourself with Midsomer Norton Library before your visit with an introduction to the space and services.



Half-Term Holiday Activities: Art Adventures

27-29 October 2025, 10:30-15:30

Take inspiration from Wells Art Contemporary (WAC) installations in the Cathedral this half term with our creative drop-in workshops for families!

Monday 27 October

Branching Out

Explore relationships between humans and trees with 2D and 3D art

Tuesday 28 October

Willow and Windows

Create a willow-framed suncatcher

Wednesday 29 October

Decorate a Deck

Design a deck and create your own mini skateboard model



Admission FREE with adult entry. No need to book – simply drop in on the day! Plan your visit online at wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays

Standard adult admission tickets include re-entry for 12 months from date of purchase, so you can enjoy access to a number of seasonal events, including exhibitions and Family Holiday Activities beyond your initial visit. Please note that children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and only assistance dogs are allowed at these activities.



WELLS ART
CONTEMPORARY

MAD SWANS
IN THE MENDIPS



Golf is for girls

A RELAXED, PRESSURE-FREE SPACE FOR YOUNG WOMEN TO GET ACTIVE, SOCIALISE AND LEARN THE GAME

We'd love to welcome you and your class to the Putt Patch and Swing Barn - fun, laid-back spaces where everyone can join in, have a laugh, and try something totally new together.

No experience? Perfect! This isn't serious golf - it's all about good vibes, giving it a go, and enjoying the moment as a group.

To book or learn more, please contact
mendipsreception@madswans.com

Marsh Lane, Bristol,
BS39 6TS