

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 5th December 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: PEACE



Message from the Headteacher

I am thrilled to report that Christmas has officially begun at St John's! The school is buzzing with festive cheer, and it has been a truly fantastic week packed with special events.

First, I must offer a huge thank you once again to our amazing PTA. They have truly outdone themselves, raising another staggering amount last weekend at our spectacular Christmas Fête. The money raised directly benefits all our children, and we are so grateful to everyone who volunteered their time and supported this wonderful event.

The festive spirit continued this week with our special Christingle Service at the church. Our dedicated Ethos Group did an absolutely amazing job creating the Christingle on Tuesday, it was a moving and beautiful way to reflect on the meaning of Christmas.

Another highlight of the week was our incredible Year One Nativity performance, 'A Boogie Woogie Christmas'. They delivered an energetic and unforgettable show that filled the hall with joy and laughter. Well done to all the children and staff involved for putting on such a memorable performance!

Wishing you all a very happy and festive weekend.

Mrs West-Gaul



Dates For Your Diary

December

10th	Year Two 'Carols by Candlelight', 3.15pm, St. John's Church
11th	Acorns Nativity. 1.30pm
12th	PTA Elfridges
17th	Christmas Dinner Day
18th	Christmas Services at St. John's Church: 9am: Acorns, Ash, Chestnut, Hazel, Maple, Pine, Sycamore 1.45pm: Birch, Elm, Holly, Oak, Rowan, Willow
19th	PTA Non-Uniform Day



Awards and Achievements

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



	Star of the Week	Star Reader
Acorns	Rory Monty	Bella Mom
Ash	Leo	Eli
Birch	Tallulah	Alex
Chestnut	Serena	Aden
Elm	Albie	Eva
Hazel	Aubrie	Libby
Holly	Harlowe	Alfie
Maple	Lola	Jaxon
Oak	Finn	Myka
Pine	Tommy G	Zena
Rowan	Harry	Charlie
Sycamore	Chloe	Henry
Willow	Will.i.am	Elsie

Top Doodling Class

ACORNS



Well done!



Hot Chocolate Friday



Well done to last week's Stars of the Week who, before their hot chocolate treat, helped to decorate the Christmas Tree in the School Foyer area.

PE Achievements of The Week

Year 5 Pine - Sophie and Reuben (Fantastic Focus), Rhodri (Amazing Ability)
Amelia L (Really Resilient)

Year 5 Rowan - Todd (Really Resilient), Lola (Amazing Ability), Olivia (Calm and Confident), and Harry (Fantastic Focus)

Year 4 Maple - Emilee (Calm and Confident) and Betsy (Playing Fair)

Year 4 Oak - Sonny (Fantastic Focus) and Kallie (Caring and Kind)

Year 2 Elm - Isla and Hugo (Super Safe), Stanley (Playing Fair) and Baya (Amazing Ability)

Year 2 Chestnut - Oliver (Independent Learner) and Elsie (Playing Fair)



General Notices

Little Acorns 'Stay & Play'

Our next Little Acorns 'Stay & Play' session will be on Tuesday 16th December at 9.30am.

If you have a child who will be starting school next September, please do join us for an introduction to our school, including a play session and a tour of the school.

Please contact the school office for more information and to book your place.

Term 3 Ignite Sport Clubs

The After-School Clubs offered by Ignite Sports for Term 3 are now available to book.

All clubs will run 3pm - 4.15pm and cost £4 per session. Please see the advert below and the website for more details: www.ignite-sport.co.uk



St John's C of E Primary School logo

JOIN OUR LITTLE ACORNS

Will your child be starting school in September 2026?

Join us for our new 'Stay and Play' sessions to introduce you to our school.

Included:

- Play session led by experienced early years teacher
- 'Open Day' tour of the school
- Refreshments

TUESDAY
16TH
DECEMBER
9:30am

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



ignite sport

after school sports clubs term 3

St John's C of E Primary School

Best Seller! Years R - 2 Football Monday

NEW! Years 1 - 6 Archery Tuesday

NEW! Years 3 - 6 Evasion & Invasion Sports Wednesday

BOOK ONLINE HERE! www.ignite-sport.co.uk SCAN ME 

why join...?

- Reception - Year 2 Football: Packed with loads of ball skills, learn new skills and boost confidence, plus fast-paced small-sided games that fire up competition, plus lots of fun, energy, and teamwork.
- Years 1 - 6 Archery: Grab a bow, take aim, and see if you can hit the bullseye. Learn cool skills, play fun games, and cheer each other on while becoming a target-hitting pro!
- Years 3 - 6 Evasion & Invasion Sports: From Joustbreak to Tag Rugby, Dodgeball, and Football, we have a fun-packed club for everyone to enjoy!

For more information check our website www.ignite-sport.co.uk



5 - 11 Years Old

ignite sport

DECEMBER HOLIDAY CAMPS

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

Monday 22nd December
Christmas Party

Tuesday 23rd December
Nerf Combat, Dodgeball & Archery Camp

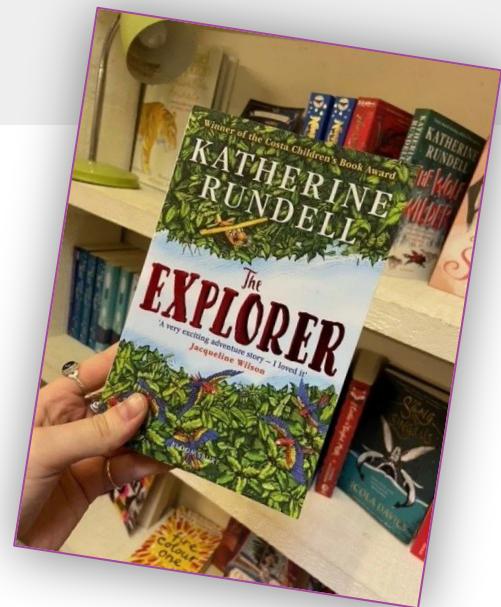
BOOK HERE SCAN ME 

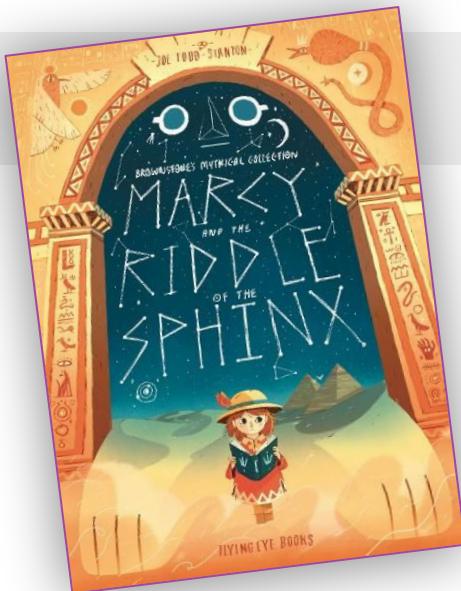
Reading in Year Five

This term, Year Five have been immersed in the thrilling world of *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. We've followed the incredible journey of four children who find themselves lost in the Amazon rainforest, facing the challenges of survival. It's been the perfect way to bring together our studies in Geography and English.

In Geography, we've learned about the layers of the rainforest and its unique ecosystems, and *The Explorer* has given us a vivid picture of the dangers and beauty of the jungle. From wild animals to torrential rainstorms, the book has deepened our understanding of what it's like to navigate such an intense environment.



In English, we've created our very own survival guides! Drawing inspiration from the characters in *The Explorer*, we've put our knowledge of survival skills to the test. Each guide is filled with practical tips on how to stay safe in the wild - from making shelter to finding food and staying calm in tricky situations. Our guides have been a fun and creative way to apply what we've learned from both the book and our geography lessons.

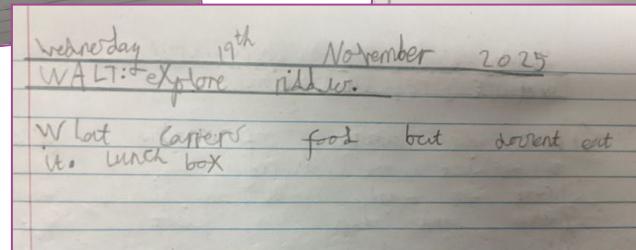
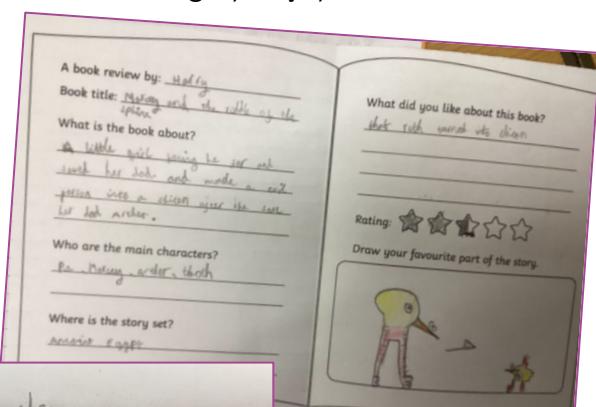
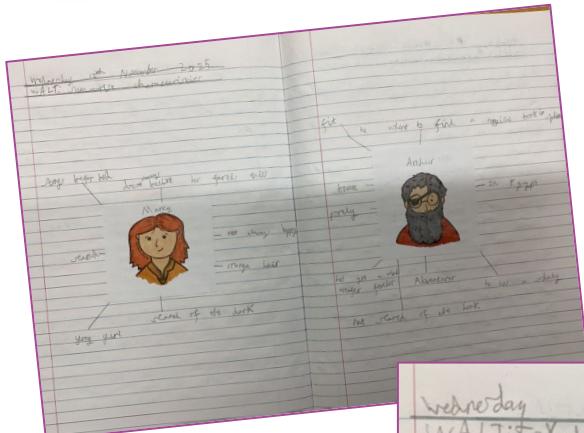


Reading in Year Three

This term in reading, we have explored a non-fiction text about Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx written by Joe Todd-Stanton.

The story is about a young girl called Marcy whose father goes missing. It is then up to Marcy to face her fears by travelling to Ancient Egypt and battling enemies along the way to retrieve him back to safety.

The book is filled with wonderful twists and turns and great facts about Egypt itself. We even had a go at writing our own riddles which the children thoroughly enjoyed.



Swimming Gala 2025

On Thursday this week, our swimmers did us incredibly proud at this year's Swimming Gala, showing remarkable bravery, determination, and infectious enthusiasm throughout the event.

It was inspiring to see how they encouraged one another at every stage, celebrating each success as a team. If there was a medal awarded for team spirit, we would have struck gold!

Their hard work paid off as we placed 3rd overall out of the 12 schools competing which is a fantastic achievement!

We were delighted to bring home 8 silver medals in the relay races and 3 bronze medals in individual events, but just as importantly, many of our children reached personal goals and completed lengths they had been striving for.

Well done to April, Henry, Poppy, Harry, Zena, Rhodri, Maisie, Amber and Finn. Every single one of you should feel immensely proud of your accomplishments and the wonderful spirit you displayed. I know I am.

Miss Moody



PTA NEWS



Thank you so much to all the parents, families, and teachers who joined us for the St John's PTA Christmas Fete on Saturday. Your enthusiasm, support, and generosity made the event truly special.

We are delighted to share that together we raised £2,248, which will go directly towards funding enrichment trips for every year group this academic year.



We also had a fantastic time at our wreath-making evening – a wonderful way to start the festive season. We're now looking forward to Elfridges next Friday where the children will have the joy of choosing gifts for their loved ones.

Thank you once again for helping make these events such a success. Your support makes an enormous difference to our school community.



Thought of the Week

Thought of the Week

'So Joseph also went up...to Bethlehem the town of David...He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.' (Luke 2:4-7)



The Nativity - Mike Moyers (2018)



A Sword Shall Pierce Your Heart II
- Daniel Bonnell (2005)



The Holy Night (The Nativity) -
Carlo Maratti (1650s)

Reading the Christmas story again the other day, I was reminded of just how difficult this whole thing was for both Mary and Joseph. Not only did they have to make the 90 mile journey to Bethlehem on a whim of the Roman leader, but they had to make this journey while Mary was heavily pregnant and in an extremely vulnerable position.

Many of the pictures of the Nativity that we see show a very cosy, bright and happy scene. The reality would have been far from this. Not only were they sharing their bedroom with cattle and sheep, but then Mary had to give birth in those filthy, smelly and noisy conditions. After the birth, they would have had to clean out the animal's feeding trough so Jesus had a place to sleep. You wouldn't want these sorts of conditions for anyone, let alone Jesus.



Virgin and Child -Jesus Mafa (1973)

For Christians this means so much. If God really did choose to come to earth as a baby then the humble conditions that he was born in speak of a God who was willing to reach down and meet us where we were and who still reaches out to us today. Rather than coming as the almighty, all powerful God, making everyone cower at the sight, he made himself accessible - someone who people could come to in faith.

This is the message of Christmas - not that we have to do our best to try and reach God, but that he did all he could to reach out to us.

Community Notices



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c December 08 2025

Here's what is happening in your Libraries this week

Bath Central Library	Library News:
Festive Baby Bounce & Rhyme Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.	10.30 - 11.00am Wednesday (term-time only) 10.30 - 3.00pm Saturday 13 December
Comic Book Saturday Stalls galore for your geeky needs this Christmas a great selection of things to buy.	The Reading Agency Winter Mini Reading Challenge is back. Story Garden has returned for the Mini Reading Challenge this Winter. Join online at: summerreadingchallenge.org.uk Read three or more books to complete the challenge and unlock badges and a certificates! All the information is online. Happy reading!
Keynsham Library Festive Baby Bounce & Rhyme Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.	9.30 - 10.00am & 10.30 - 11.00am Tuesday (term-time only) 10.30 - 11.00am Thursday (term-time only)
Festive Storytime Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.	10.30 - 11.00am Monday (term-time only) 10.30 - 11.00am Wednesday (term-time only)
Midsomer Norton Library Festive Baby Bounce & Rhyme Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.	10.30 - 11.00am Monday (term-time only)
Festive Storytime Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.	10.30 - 11.00am Wednesday (term-time only)
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

Bath & North East Somerset Libraries

Gift a Coat

Donate a coat to someone who might need it to keep warm this winter.

When can I donate?
Until Saturday 31 January 2026

Where can I donate?

- Midsomer Norton Library & Information Services
- Bath Central Library
- Bath Housing, Welfare & Advice Services
- Keynsham Library & Information Services

What can I donate?

- Coats, bodywarmers, waterproof trousers, hats, scarves or gloves that are new or as new. Your donation will go to people who need warm items over the colder months.
- Warm items for adults and children
- Please hand donations to a member of staff

For more information:
library_events@bathnes.gov.uk



Root Connections

KID'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT AFTERNOON

13TH DECEMBER
1 - 3PM

Calling all little crafters! Join us for a fun crafting session where you can craft natural wreaths, tree decorations, and other handmade gifts to take home.

Ages 4-10  **Only £10**
Festive snacks and drinks provided!

Scan the QR code to book your place!



More information can be found at www.rootconnections.co.uk/events

Manor Farm,
Stratton on the Fosse,
Radstock, BA3 4QF

Root Connections CIC: 11537595