

# Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 9th January 2026

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: WISDOM



### Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and joyful Christmas break.

As we begin this new term, our collective worship will focus on our Christian value of Wisdom. This week, we linked this theme to the story of the Epiphany. We explored the journey of the Wise Men, looking closely at the qualities they demonstrated: insight, willingness to succeed and trust to follow a greater light.

Throughout the term, we will be encouraging the children to think about how they can use wisdom in their own lives, not just by knowing facts, but by making good choices and showing understanding towards others.

We have an incredibly busy term planned, filled with opportunities for the children to shine, learn, and grow. Please do keep a close eye on the 'Dates for your Diary' section, as there is a lot happening! Some key highlights include:

**Young Voices:** Our choir is preparing for an unforgettable experience as they join thousands of other children in song.

**National Online Safety Day:** A vital opportunity for us to reinforce how to stay safe and respectful in the digital world.

**NSPCC Number Day:** We'll be celebrating all things maths while supporting a fantastic cause.

**Children's Wellbeing Week:** A dedicated week to focus on mental health and the tools our children need to stay happy and resilient.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs West-Gaul

### Dates For Your Diary

#### January

16th Young Voices Trip

#### February

6th NSPCC Number Day

9th Children's Mental Health Week

10th Safer Internet Day

12th PTA Disco

13th PTA Non-uniform Day

23rd Children return to school

#### March

5th World Book Day

18th PTA Easter Chocolate Family Bingo

# Awards and Achievements

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



	Star of the Week	Star Reader
<b>Acorns</b>	Milo Theo	Myla Rory
<b>Ash</b>	Alex	Mila
<b>Birch</b>	Stephen	Millie
<b>Chestnut</b>	Millie	Aiden Taylor
<b>Elm</b>	Katie Jamie	Halle
<b>Hazel</b>	Frankie	Harrison
<b>Holly</b>	Nancy	Daisy
<b>Maple</b>	Josh Shakai	Corey
<b>Oak</b>	Thea	Grace
<b>Pine</b>	Amelia S	Brie
<b>Rowan</b>	Freya	Josh
<b>Sycamore</b>	Lyra	Sophie
<b>Willow</b>	Finley	Harper

## Top Doodling Class

### 3A - HAZEL

Well done!



## PE Achievements of The Week

- Year 6 Willow: Blake (Excellent Effort) and Elsie (Calm and Confident)
- Year 6 Sycamore: James (Excellent Effort), Poppy (Calm and Confident) and Bo (Amazing Ability)
- Year 4 Oak: George (Fantastic Focus) and Eva (Terrific Teamwork)
- Year 4 Maple: Josh (Calm and Confident), Cory (Fantastic Focus) and Evie (Playing Fair)
- Year 2 Chestnut: Jack and Eleanor (Fantastic Focus)
- Year 2 Elm: Leo (Amazing Ability) and Betsy (Fantastic Focus)
- Year 1 Ash: Woody (Playing Fair), Dougie (Amazing Ability) and Ivy (Caring and Kind)
- Year 1 Birch: Phoebe (Huge Helper), Alex (Playing Fair) and Tallulah (Terrific Teamwork)

# General Notices

## Reception Applications September 2026

Please be reminded that the closing date for **on-time** Reception/Junior Transfer applications for September 2026 is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

## Term 3 Ignite Sport Clubs

The After-School Clubs offered by Ignite Sports for Term 3 are now available to book. Nerf Combat has now been added to the Wednesday session. All clubs will run 3pm - 4.15pm and cost £4 per session. Please see the website for more details and to book: [www.ignite-sport.co.uk](http://www.ignite-sport.co.uk)

## Breakfast Club Bookings

A reminder that all places for Breakfast club need to be booked ahead of each morning's session. This is to ensure that we have the correct levels of staffing. Please note Breakfast Club is limited to 25 children.

## Bikeability - Year 5

Please be reminded to register your interest in attending the Bikeability course by the end of January. Thank you.

## School Closures

A reminder that should the school need to be closed for any reason, e.g. bad weather, we will endeavour to notify you as early as possible via our Arbor messaging system and the school website. Please continue to ensure we have your correct and up-to-date e-mail addresses by checking your details on the Arbor Parent Portal.

## School Dinners

A reminder that if your child is on a school trip or is unwell, you should cancel any booked school dinners on School Grid or you will be charged for the meal ordered.

## SEND

Over the next fortnight, we will be sending home the latest **Individual Support Plans** for your children.

Once you receive your child's plan, please review it carefully. These plans are designed to help us work together to support your child's learning journey.

If you have any feedback or would like to discuss the goals further, please contact your child's class teacher.



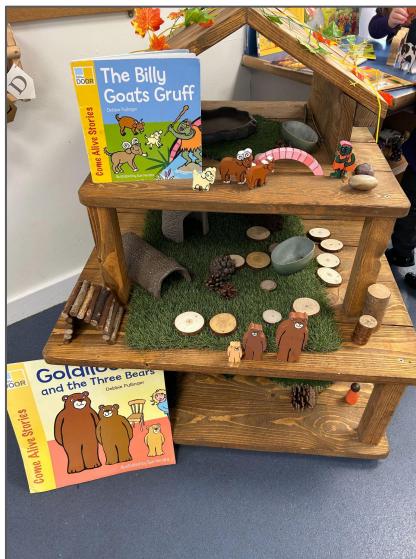
# Reading in Acorns



This term in Acorns our topic is 'Open the Book' so we will be exploring traditional tales.

We have started by reading the story of The Gingerbread Man and even had a surprise visit from him when we weren't there - he got our role play all set up and even made some gingerbread figures out of playdough!

We are looking forward to reading lots of different traditional stories over the next few weeks!



## Chess Tournament

Oakfield Academy will be hosting a junior chess tournament on the 7th February (10am-5pm). The tournament is being run by Oakfield's chess club and the Somerset Junior Chess Association.

The event is open to all young people under 18 and no prior tournament experience is required but children should be capable of playing a full day's chess. One parent/carer is welcome to stay and provide support. Light refreshments will be available from Oakfield Fundraisers, however participants are advised to bring their own lunch.

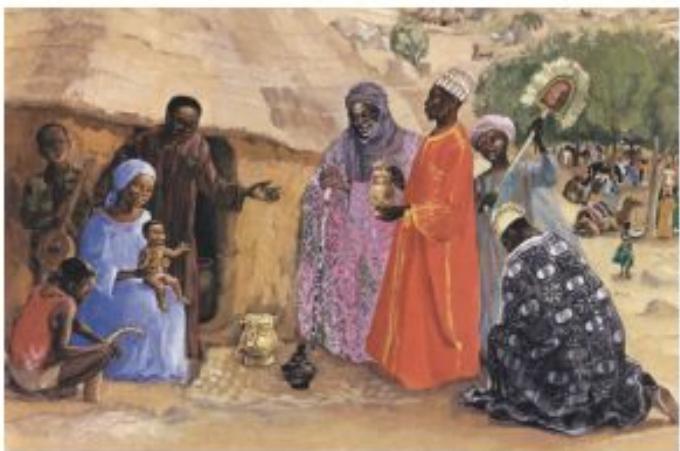
This will be a "Swiss Tournament" where players compete in all the rounds and no-one gets knocked out. There will be separate age prizes for the best U18, U11, U10, U9, U8 and U7 provided sufficient numbers participate in each group. Clocks will be used on all boards and all moves are to be played in 25 minutes for each player.

Entry is £15, payable via cash, cheque or bank transfer. Please sign up [via this link](#) by Friday 6th February. Any queries please contact [cshaddick@oakfield.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:cshaddick@oakfield.mnsp.org.uk)

# Thought of the Week

## Thought of the Week

**'When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.'** (Matthew 2:10-11)



Visit Of The Three Wise Men - Jesus Mafa (1973)

The gifts all held significance though and as people who studied the stars and read about prophecies from different ancient cultures, they would have known about a promised Messiah after studying the Old Testament texts.

Gold was one of the gifts. I suppose at least Mary and Joseph could have sold it to buy things they actually needed!

But giving Jesus gold was referring to him as the promised king.

Although Christmas is finished, early January is the traditional time when Epiphany is celebrated. In many countries around the world, the three magi or kings are remembered and people celebrate how a star led them to Jesus. 'Epiphany' comes from the Greek word 'to reveal' as it is seen as the time that Jesus was revealed to the world. Children often receive gifts during Epiphany to remind them of the gifts the wise men gave Jesus.

But what of those gifts? They seem a bit unusual, don't they? Not the sorts of gifts you'd give a child.

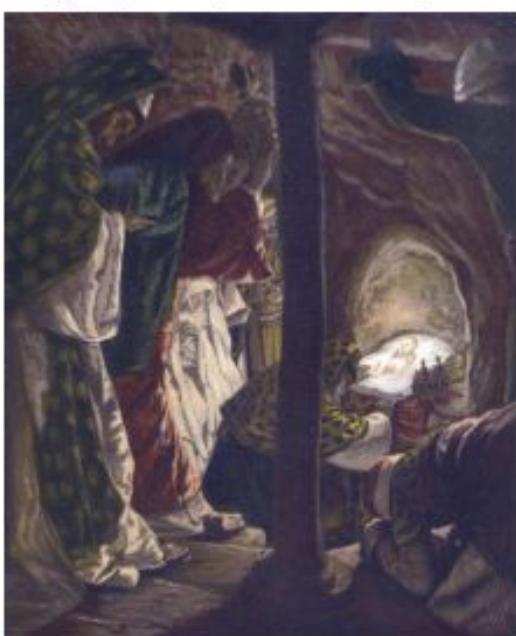


The Adoration Of The Kings - Zanobi Strozzi (1433-34)

Frankincense was an oil that was even more precious than gold. This oil could be made into a perfume which was said to have 'a heavenly scent' or a 'divine aroma'. This was meant to signify that Jesus was coming as a holy leader, or priest, guiding people towards God. It could have also meant that he was God himself.

Finally myrrh. This was said to have medicinal properties, but it could also be used to create an exquisite perfume. Myrrh, though, was used most commonly to anoint the dead. These wise men would have read the prophecies explaining that this promised messiah, king, priest and Son of God would also become a sacrifice, to take the punishment in place of everyday people.

This is why for Christians all over the world, the visit of the magi is so significant, because they gave gifts that explained so clearly who Jesus was and what he came to do.



The Adoration Of The Magi - James Tissot (1886-94)

# PTA NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your fantastic support of the PTA during Terms 1 and 2. Thanks to you, we've raised an amazing **£4,578** for our school!

## Funds Raised

- School Disco: £883
- Christmas Fete: £2,248
- Wreath Making: £175
- Elfridges: £624
- Cinema Night: £648

## How the Money Helps

- Funding an enrichment field trip for every year group this academic year
- Improving outdoor spaces, with plans underway to create a space that will provide sun and rain shelter for our children

## Dates for Your Diary

- Disco - 12th February
- Non Uniform - 13th February
- Easter Chocolate Family Bingo - 18th March
- Two more exciting events coming soon – one for parents and one for children!

## Get Involved

You don't need lots of time — every bit of help counts! Please speak to a PTA member or contact the school office if you'd like to get involved.

Thank you again for supporting our school community.

The PTA Team





# Community Notices



## DISCOVERY DAYS

at WEMA Music Centres

Our free-of-charge Discovery Days are the perfect chance to try out our Music Centres, meet new friends, and experience the fun of playing in an ensemble. Bring your enthusiasm and see where music can take you!

Ensembles available for a wide variety of instruments, ages and playing levels.



Sign up using the QR code or visit:  
[wema.org.uk/wema-music-centres](http://wema.org.uk/wema-music-centres)



## MIDSOMER NORTON DRAMA CLUB

Mondays @ The Somer Centre, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2UH

Fun • Games • Teamwork • Creative Skills

Show Making • Confidence Building • New Friends

### Ages

6 - 13 Year olds

### Time

4:30pm - 5:30pm

Free Trial  
for all!!



For more info:  
07861 222187  
[info@rachelcohen.org](mailto:info@rachelcohen.org)  
[www.rachelcohen.org](http://www.rachelcohen.org)



### EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c January 12 2026

Here's what is happening in your Libraries this week

#### Bath Central Library

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

10.30 - 11.00am  
Wednesday  
(term-time only)

Relaxed Storytime, with Booktrust  
Relaxed Storytime for children with autism or sensory needs. Held in our sensory space.

Thursday 15 January  
10.30 - 11.30am

Please book via eventbrite  
**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  
Tuesday  
(term-time only)

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

10.30 - 11.00am  
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  
Monday  
(term-time only)

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

10.30 - 11.00am  
Wednesday  
(term-time only)

#### Board Game Saturdays

Drop in. Suitable for all ages.

Every Saturday  
10.00 - 12.30pm

#### 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

**Library News:**  
On 18 January it is Winnie-the-Pooh Day. It has been 100 years since Winnie-the-Pooh was published. A book about a honey-lovin bear and all his friends in 100 Arce wood.

