

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 23rd 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

Last Sunday, World Religion Day, was celebrated all over the world. The aim of this is to promote understanding and peace between all religions and to encourage people to learn about other faiths and worldviews.

On Monday we marked the day starting with our Ethos Committee leading worship about the day. Then each class chose to explore a religion or belief that the children had not yet studied. This ranged from Islam in Acorns to Shinto in Year 6, Humanism, Buddhism and Taoism. The children took part in lots of activities and enjoyed exploring different views of the world.



On Tuesday some of our children took part in a gymnastic competition. Seeing our children embrace new ideas and physical challenges with such enthusiasm has been a highlight of the week.

I hope you have a lovely weekend

Mrs West-Gaul

Dates For Your Diary

February

- 6th NSPCC Number Day
- 9th Children's Mental Health Week
- 9th Year 6 Trip to Steam
- 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

Come and join us at our next Family Service...

Candlemas

**The Feast of the Presentation of Christ
in the Temple.**



**Sunday 1st February at 10am
St John the Baptist Church,
Midsomer Norton**



All are welcome

Awards and Achievements

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



| | Star of the Week | Star Reader |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Acorns | Elijah Hugo H | Remi Milo |
| Ash | Sofia | Alex |
| Birch | Leo | Rebecca |
| Chestnut | Aidie-lan | Oliver |
| Elm | Eva | Oscar |
| Hazel | Lexi | Libby |
| Holly | Alice | Jesse |
| Maple | Samantha | Corey |
| Oak | George | Thea |
| Pine | Ezra | Kobe |
| Rowan | Reggie | Jessica |
| Sycamore | Charlie | Bo |
| Willow | Eva | Texa |

Top Doodling Class

ELM

Well done!



Hot Chocolate Friday

Well done to last week's Stars of the Week who enjoyed a Hot Chocolate treat!



PE Achievements of The Week

Year 6 Sycamore - Aoife (Excellent Effort), Josh (Fantastic Focus) and Anna (Going above and Beyond)

Year 6 Willow - Ava (Calm and Confident), Jack D (Fantastic Focus) and Josh (Excellent Effort)

Year 5 Pine - Flynn (Excellent Effort), Amelia S (Terrific Teamwork), Tommy H (Fantastic Focus)

Year 5 Rowan - Josh (Fantastic Focus), Reggie (Independent learner), and Evie (Terrific Teamwork)

Year 4 Oak - Eva (Playing Fair) and Imogen (Terrific Teamwork)

Year 4 Maple - Auriella (Really Resilient), Jake (Calm and Confident) and Kara (Playing Fair)

Year 3 Holly - Eric and Harlowe (Terrific Teamwork)

Year 3 Hazel - Ted and Daisy (Terrific Teamwork)

Year 2 Chestnut - Hudson (Fantastic Focus), Lyra (Excellent Effort), Jack (Amazing Ability)

Year 2 Elm - Riley (Fantastic Focus), Katie and Lottie (Excellent Effort)

Year 1 Birch - Oliver (Caring and Kind), Pheobe (Excellent Effort) and Alex (Playing Fair)

Year 1 Ash - Bonnie (Calm and Confident), Alex (Really Resilient) and Chester (Playing Fair).

Reading in Year Six

This term, our Year Six pupils have been fully immersed in the enchanting world of 'The Water Horse' by Dick King-Smith. This heart-warming tale of Kirstie and Angus discovering a mysterious egg on a Scottish beach has captured imaginations and sparked some truly exceptional comprehension work and narrative writing.

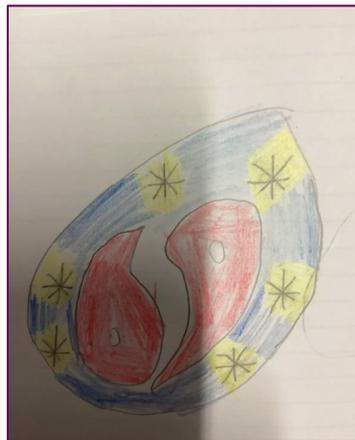
The children have been using the book's rich descriptions to craft their own atmospheric stories, focusing on building suspense and developing complex characters. It has been wonderful to see their creativity flourish as they imagine what it would be like to raise a mythical Kelpie in secrecy!

The children are now exploring a variety of non-fiction texts, including informational reports of rationing, the Blitz and the build up of the Second World War, and practicing:

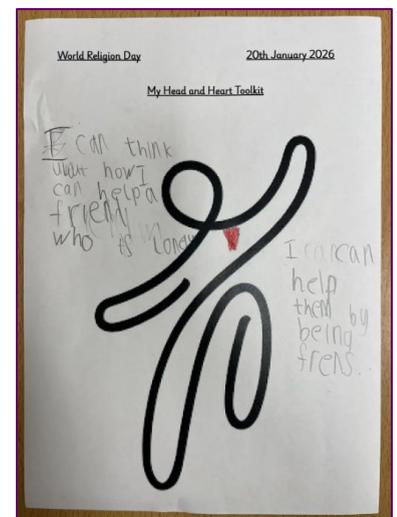
- Skimming and scanning: Quickly finding key dates and facts within dense historical reports.
- Structural analysis: Understanding how subheadings, glossaries, and captions help organise information.
- Cross-referencing: Comparing previously read fictional stories with historical facts found in their research.

We are incredibly proud of how the children have navigated this shift from the magical to the historical and are looking forward to discussing topical matters in greater depth within our History lessons.

World Religion Day



Here are a few more photos showing class activities exploring religion and beliefs to celebrate World Religion Day.



General Notices



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!

SCAN ME



why join...?

- **Reception - Year 2 Football**
Packed with loads of ball time to sharpen skills and boost confidence, plus fast paced small-sided games that fire up game sense, tactical smarts, 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 hero!
- **Years 3 - 6 Evasion & Invasion Sports**
From Jallbreak to Tag Rugby, Danish Longball to Ultimate Frisbee and Vash, Dodgeball and Football. We have a fun-packed club for everyone to enjoy!

For more information check our website

www.ignite-sport.co.uk



ignite sport

EVASION, INVASION & NERF COMBAT

WEDNESDAYS, 15:00 - 16:15

GET READY TO DODGE, DUCK & DOMINATE!

ST JOHN'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

BOOK NOW!

SCAN ME



St John's C of E
Primary School


ignite
sport

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM CAMPS

Monday - Friday
09:00 - 15:30

One epic week of action-packed holiday fun.
Being active, boosting confidence, building
friendships, and creating memories!

YEARS
R - 6

£24.00
per day

Mon

Football Camp

Tues

Dodgeball & Archery Camp

Weds

Nerf Combat Camp

Thurs

Musical Theatre & Dance Camp

Fri

Friday Play-Day



SCAN HERE

tom@ignite-sport.co.uk

www.ignite-sport.co.uk



Thought of the Week

Thought of the Week

'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, to equip the man of God for every good work.' (2 Timothy 3:16)

Some research carried out by Christian publisher SPCK found that Bible sales were up 134% since 2019. Data from Nielsen BookScan, a service that compiles the sales data of books across the globe, was analysed and it was found that these sales were the highest since records began in 1998. In 2025, the total sales of Bibles in the UK reached £6.3 million, which is £3.61 million up on 2019 sales.

Most of these Bibles seem to have been purchased by younger people with no Christian background whatsoever. Previously people bought Bibles because they came from a church upbringing or went to a church school, but it seems that many younger people with no affiliation are seeking spirituality. "They want to understand the world and themselves better," says Aude Pasquier, the retail sales director at Church House bookshop near Westminster Abbey.

Many believe this is due to young people following specific online personalities, like Jordan Peterson, a Canadian psychologist and media commentator. Although not a Christian, Peterson influences people by promoting individual responsibility, self-improvement and meaning-making. He has reintroduced biblical stories and frames Jesus as the archetypal hero who overcomes chaos. (adapted from ['It's younger people seeking some sort of spirituality'](#), *The Guardian*, 10th January 2026)

Some people see this search for meaning and openness to spirituality as a rejection of the new atheism that many of these people's parents would have "signed up for" about 20 years ago. It is also likely that as many of us are finding it harder to believe and trust in our leaders, governments, and even democratic systems, that we are searching for something else to believe in instead.

It does surprise me that when it comes to religion and belief, our society seems to swing one way or the other. About half of the UK population attended church during the Victorian age. Attendance declined during the 20s and 30s and dropped again significantly during the war, but there was a rise again to about 20% during the 50s and 60s. The interesting thing to note is that by this time, people were looking elsewhere for spiritual enlightenment, which included pagan movements like wicca and neo-druidry. There was also a rise in "unconventional" Christian movements, like the Children of God, now known as The Family International, which went on into the 70s.

There was a definite drop in spirituality during the consumerist 1980s, but then by the 90s, people were open to exploring their spirituality again with the post-New Age movement. The sharp rise in atheist beliefs may have been as a reaction to this, with about 30% answering no religion (or spiritual belief) in the 2021 census.

It now looks like the pendulum is swinging back the other way. And throughout all of this, church attendance and answers on the census, don't necessarily give us the real truth about where people are in terms of their spirituality. More and more people seem to be searching and are turning to God and the Bible for answers.

Today's verse states that "all scripture is God breathed", that although it is a collection of different books written by many different authors, that it has been designed, influenced and directed by God himself. Many people today would still view this with suspicion and doubt, but this book and what it has to say has never gone away. The man who claimed he was God and said he died to save the world is still influencing our world today. And looking at the most recent sales of Bibles, people are still taking notice of his example and what he said. Maybe it's worth a look?



PTA NEWS



St John's PTA
School Disco
Thursday 12th February

YR, Y1, Y2 & Y3 - 5pm-6pm
Y4, Y5 & Y6 - 6:30pm-7:30pm

All Tuck Shop items 50p
Entertainment £3 a ticket (or £3.25 online)



Non-Uniform Day Friday 13th February

Chocolate Donations Needed!

As we get ready for our Family Chocolate Bingo, we are asking for donations of chocolate to help us create egg-citing prizes and Easter hampers.

All donations will support the PTA in their fundraising for school activities and resources.

Any chocolate—big or small—would be hugely appreciated!
Donations can be brought into school.

Your continued support and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Let's make this Easter event extra sweet!



Community Notices

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c January 26 2026



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)

Board Game Saturdays

Drop In. Suitable for all ages

Every Saturday
12.30 - 4.00pm

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 - 12.00pm

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>

Festival of Libraries:
We've got a jam-packed, two week programme full of free events for everyone to enjoy! This includes:

Crafting Day

Drop-In crafting sessions at the Libraries.
Pop along and enjoy some creative time whilst having a go at making your very own library card holder, bookmark or mini book to take home.
All children must be accompanied by an adult.
Dates & locations below:

Dates & Locations:
Wednesday 18 February – Keynsham Library, 10:00am – 3:00pm

Thursday 19 February – Midsomer Norton Library, 10:00am – 3:00pm

Friday 20 February – Bath Central Library, 10:00am – 3:00pm



Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

GO
ALL
IN.

UNIT 54

GRFT | TRAINING CLUB.

JOIN OUR mini GRFTERS



TRAINING SESSIONS

for kids

For ages 8-11. Designed with fun in mind, these classes are structured on building confidence and keeping the energy high. Developing coordination and using your bodyweight to your full advantage. Whether its skills or games, this class really helps develop and understand movement whilst finishing with a little sweaty workout!

FIRST SESSION FREE

Bristol Road,
PAULTON.

EVERY THURSDAY 4.15 - 4.55pm.

Please book via website
WWW.UNITS4GRFT.COM
or scan the QR code



MUSICAL THEATRE HOLIDAY CLUB!



COME JOIN US FOR A DAY OF SINGING,
DANCING & DRAMA!!

TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2026
8.45AM - 3.15PM

ST VIGOR & ST JOHN CHURCH SCHOOL

AGES: RECEPTION - YEAR 6

£25 PER CHILD PER DAY
(SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE.)



TO BOOK PLEASE FOLLOW LINK -

[HTTPS://WWW.SPARKLEANDPOPPARTIES.CO.UK/GENERAL-8](https://www.sparkleandpopparties.co.uk/general-8)

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY FURTHER INFO PLEASE CONTACT
CATHERINE ON 07808 195 177

CLUB RUN BY CATHERINE GIBSON & EMMA
CAMBOURNE - QUALIFIED TEACHERS
DBS CHECKED & FIRST AID TRAINED

MUSICAL THEATRE HOLIDAY CLUB

FURTHER INFORMATION -

CHILDREN TO BRING: PACKED LUNCH, MORNING & AFTERNOON
SNACK & DRINK.

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR CHILD WITH COMFORTABLE CLOTHES
THAT ARE SUITABLE TO DANCE IN PLUS WARM/WET WEATHER
CLOTHES THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR OUTSIDE PLAY.

30 SPACES AVAILABLE. IF SPACES ARE FULLY BOOKED PLEASE
CONTACT US IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE WAITING
LIST.

IF WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH NUMBERS TO RUN THE CLUB YOU
WILL BE INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IF YOUR CHILD IS ILL AND CANNOT ATTEND THE CLUB PLEASE
INFORM US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE CAN OFFER THE
PLACE TO ANOTHER ON THE WAITING LIST.

TO BOOK PLEASE FOLLOW LINK -

[HTTPS://WWW.SPARKLEANDPOPPARTIES.CO.UK/GENERAL-8](https://www.sparkleandpopparties.co.uk/general-8)