

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 13th February 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

What a fantastic end to the term! It has been an incredibly busy and purposeful week here at St John's, filled with unique learning experiences that have challenged the children both intellectually and emotionally.

On Monday, our Year 6 pupils travelled to the STEAM Museum in Swindon. They stepped into the shoes of WWII evacuees, gaining a poignant and hands-on understanding of history.

Throughout the week, all classes have engaged in meaningful activities centered around mental health. It's been wonderful to see the children discussing their feelings and supporting one another with such empathy. We were delighted to welcome Holly Reynolds on Wednesday for specialised mindfulness sessions. These workshops provided the children with practical tools to find calm and focus.

On Thursday and Friday, the school was buzzing with energy as children took part in sessions with the Happy Puzzle Company. These workshops were a highlight for many, brilliantly promoting critical thinking, resilience, and teamwork through complex (and fun!) problem-solving.

It has been a joy to see the children embrace these opportunities with such enthusiasm. I hope you all have a wonderful, restful half-term break, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed for the new term.

Warm regards,

Mrs West-Gaul

Dates For Your Diary

February

- 23rd Children return to school
- 26th Year 2 Trip to SS Great Britain

March

- 3rd SEND Coffee Morning, 8.45am
- 5th World Book Day
- 10th - 17th Book Fair
- 12th STEM Fair
- 18th Year 6 Parents SATS meeting, 3.15pm
- 18th PTA Easter Chocolate Family Bingo
- 31st Parents Evening

April

- 1st Parents Evening
- 2nd Easter Services (further details to follow)
- 2nd PTA Non-Uniform Day, End of Term

Feast of St David
Come and join us for our next family service!



10am, Sunday 1st March,
St John the Baptist Church,
Midsomer Norton.



with retiring collection for
cancer care



All are welcome!

Awards and Achievements

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



	Star of the Week	Star Reader
Acorns	Lily Rosalia	Corey Elijah
Ash	Fraser	Frankie
Birch	Millie	Molly
Chestnut	Hudson	Ava
Elm	Lily	Riley
Hazel	James	Poppy
Holly	Jasper	Amelia
Maple	Matilda	Jennifer
Oak	Aeris	George
Pine	Isaac	Reuben
Rowan	Leah	Bella
Sycamore	James	Grayson
Willow	Jack D	William

Top Doodling Class

ACORNS



Well done!

Hot Chocolate Friday

Well done to all of last week's 'Stars of the Week' who enjoyed a hot chocolate treat.



Thank you to Beth at Pickle Print for her donation of new hi vis jackets - we are going to look super smart on our school trips now!



PE Achievements of The Week

Year 6 Sycamore - Leo (Excellent Effort), Elliot (Calm and Confident) and Carly (Amazing Ability)

Year 6 Willow - Lottie, Texa and William (Going above and beyond)

Year 5 Pine - Dorothy, Soraya and Caiden (Calm and Confident)

Year 5 Rowan - Darcey and Bella (Calm and Confident)

Year 4 Oak - Finn and Amelia L (Really Resilient), Lucas and Sonny (Calm and Confident)

Year 4 Maple - Sophie and Senna (Excellent Effort)

Year 3 Holly - Alfie and Poppy-Rose (Terrific Teamwork)

Year 3 Hazel - Hugh and Casey (Terrific Teamwork), Libby (Really Resilient)

Year 2 Chestnut - Charlie and Taylor (Fantastic Focus)

Year 2 Elm - Katie (Really Resilient), Hugo (Fantastic Focus)

Year 1 Birch - Lexi (Playing Fair), Millie (Huge Helper), Jesse (Caring and Kind), Daisy and Finley (Fantastic Focus) and Presley (Amazing Ability)

Year 1 Ash - Freddie and Woody (Terrific Teamwork) Ruby R and Ariella (Playing Fair)

Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Week



Theme: This Is My Place

This week we marked Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Week, focusing on the theme This Is My Place and exploring what helps us feel safe, calm and that we truly belong.

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors proudly re-launched our Achievosaurus, reminding everyone of the positive learning behaviours that support resilience, reflection and kindness across our school community.

Each year group explored the theme in thoughtful and creative ways:

- Reception focused on recognising emotions and facial expressions. Children explored how different feelings look and feel, and took photographs of their own faces to show a range of emotions, helping them to develop emotional awareness and empathy.
- Year 1 created Happy Places through construction activities, designing spaces where they feel calm and secure. This led to meaningful conversations about belonging and what makes a place feel special.
- Year 2 built daily mindfulness into their routine. Children wrote and illustrated places where they feel they belong and created positive affirmations for one another, strengthening kindness and connection with in the class.
- Year 3 used the story Fox Tailor and Sons to explore emotions and identity. By designing tails for different animals, children reflected on what it feels like to be listened to, understood and accepted.
- Year 4 designed imaginative maps of their own islands, carefully including places where they feel a strong sense of belonging, encouraging thoughtful discussion around identity, safety and community.
- Year 5 built in additional story times, recognising the importance of slowing down, connecting and using stories as a safe space to explore feelings.
- Year 6 have enjoyed creating 'Belonging Islands'

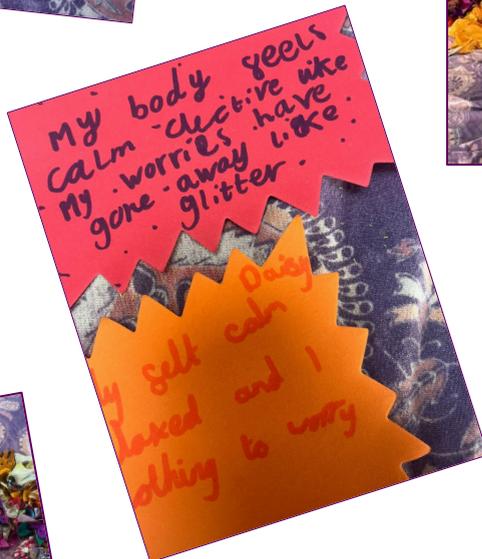




On Wednesday, Years 2-5 enjoyed workshops with Holly, where children explored mindfulness strategies and practical ways to feel calm in their own special place. These sessions gave pupils simple tools they can use both in school and at home.

Throughout the week, learning was captured in floor books and shared displays, celebrating excellent discussions and thoughtful reflections from across the school.

We are incredibly proud of the openness, empathy and care our children showed throughout the week, and how they continue to support their own wellbeing and that of others every day.



Year Six Trip to STEAM



On Monday, Year Six travelled to the STEAM Museum in Swindon to discover more about life as evacuees in World War Two. More photos of their trip can be viewed on our Facebook page.



Out of School Achievements

Well done to Harry in Rowan Class who took part in the Writhlington Gymnastics annual competition.

He was super pleased to place 1st in floor routine, 2nd in vault, 2nd in trampette and 2nd overall.

Additionally, he was then awarded Boys Development Gymnasts of the Year!



Well done!



Mila in Hazel class competed in her 1st gymnastics competition last weekend. She did really well and came second in her competition.

Reading



📖 Help Us Build Our Dream Libraries 📖

To celebrate National Storytelling Week and gear up for World Book Day, we are giving our class libraries a major glow up and we've put the children in charge!

🌟 How You Can Help 🌟

We want to turn these designs into a reality. If you would like to support our mission to foster a lifelong love of reading, please take a look at our booklists below.

Want to donate a book? Simply follow the link below to browse the titles our children have requested. Every donation will go directly into our class libraries or the main school library for all to enjoy!

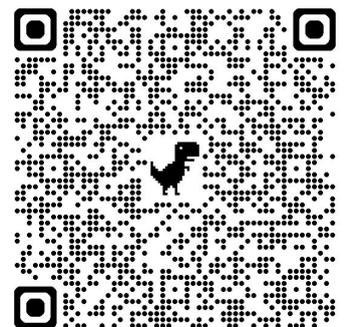
Thank you for helping us make our school a place where stories truly come to life!



St John's Wishlists



Thank you to everyone who has donated so far!



General Notices

NO Crossing Patrol - Monday 23rd February

Please note there will be NO School Crossing Patrol outside the school gates on Monday 23rd February. Please ensure you make suitable arrangements for supervising the children when crossing here both in the morning and in the afternoon.

NSPCC Number Day

Thank you to everyone who supported the NSPCC Number Day last week. We are pleased that we have been able to raise some money for this charity. There is still plenty of time to support this and donations may be made at our [Just Giving Page](#).

Year 5 - Bikeability Training

You would have received an email notifying you what date and group your child will be doing their Bikeability training.

This is just a reminder of the groups and dates:

Group 1	25th & 26th February
Group 2	4th & 5th March
Group 3	11th & 12th March

School Meals

Just a polite reminder if your child is absent from school please can you cancel their school meal.

Zone 5 - Spare Shoes Required

A reminder that if children choose to play on Zone 5 at lunchtime, it is essential that they change into different footwear as this area can be wet and muddy at the moment and we would like to avoid this being brought into the school corridors and classrooms. Could we please therefore request that spare shoes/trainers are provided for this.

Thank you for your co-operation.

After-school Clubs for Term 4

A reminder that all of the St. John's teacher-led clubs continue as per term 3, up to the Easter break. There are also after-school clubs offered by Ignite Sports.

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
tom@ignite-sport.co.uk
www.ignite-sport.co.uk

ignite sport
after school sports clubs term 4
St John's C of E Primary School

NEW! Years R - 4 Dance Monday	Best Seller! Years R - 3 Football Monday	NEW! Years 1 - 6 Nerf & Archery Tuesday	Years 2 - 6 Evasion & Invasion Sports Wednesday
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BOOK ONLINE HERE! **SCAN ME** **why join...?**

- Inclusive for all Abilities - activities are adapted so every child can join in and shine!
- Safe, Supervised, and Structured - every session is led by qualified coaches with years of experience!
- Smiles every Session - children leave buzzing with energy and stories to tell!
- Fun Guaranteed - fun, games based sessions with plenty of action!

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



St John's



SEND

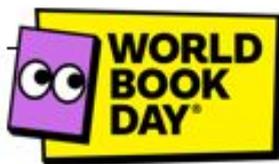


Coffee Morning

Our SEND coffee morning offers a supportive environment for parents or carers of SEND children to relax and talk with others.

There will be information regarding local services who may be able to offer support.

**Tuesday March 3rd 2026
at 8.45am**



World Book Day Thursday 5th March 2026

We are delighted to be involved in World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The whole day will be dedicated to reading and book related activities.

World Book Day's mission is to offer every child the opportunity to experience choosing and owning a book for free. As part of the event every child in school will receive a book token.

Research tells us that there are 6 elements which support a child to read for pleasure.

- Being read to regularly
- Access to books at home
- The ability for children to choose what they want to read
- Having trusted adults and peers sharing and recommending books
- The reading experience being enjoyable
- Designated time to read

Dressing Up (optional)

All children are invited to dress up as a book character on World Book Day. This could involve a full costume or just a prop / hat (or similar) relating to a favourite book or character. If your child is a non-fiction fan, tabards or t-shirts with top facts or illustrations are a good alternative. We are always impressed by the amazing and inventive ways the children dress on the day. We would like to thank you in advance for your support with this.

If possible please bring the book that relates to your book character to share with your class. Many thanks.

Children will enjoy a range of activities on the day including:

- Sharing recommended reads with friends
- Talking about stories and characters
- Role-playing book characters
- And most importantly having time to snuggle down with a book

Reading Inspiration

If you have some free time and would like to come in to classes and read stories to the children, please let the school office or your child's class teacher know and they can arrange this.

World Book Day tokens all children will receive a £1 book token as part of the World Book Day event. This can then be used as part payment for a more expensive book, or they can be exchanged for the specially published £1 books. You can view the books available to buy on the website and also find a list of booksellers who stock the books.



<https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>

More about the World Book Day website

The World Book Day website is full of ideas for celebrating WBD itself and for enjoying reading every day of the year. Here is a taster of what they have to offer:

World Book Day Live digital events These special events can be watched through the website or on the WBD YouTube channel (and they'll remain on YouTube for you to watch at any time).

Website: YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQQAGnEAE784xIU2muBw4Jg>

We are really looking forward to the opportunity to fully immerse ourselves in book-related fun!
Happy Reading!

Mrs Haigh and Mrs Monks



Is my child too ill for school?

With the recent poor weather and dull days, we have seen a rise in the number of children being kept at home for colds, headaches and other minor ailments and injuries, all of which could be managed well in school.

Consistent school attendance makes a huge difference to a child's education... here is why:

- * **Academic Momentum:** Concepts build on one another. Missing one day can create a "gap" in understanding that makes the next day's lesson feel like a puzzle with missing pieces.
- * **Social Connection:** School is where children learn to navigate friendships, resolve conflicts, and build a sense of belonging. Frequent absences can make a child feel "out of the loop" with their peers.
- * **Life Habits:** Reliability is a skill. By prioritising attendance now, you are teaching your child the importance of commitment: a trait that will serve them well in their future.

Timeliness matters too

Arriving at school just a few minutes late could mean that your child feels rushed, embarrassed and stressed at the start of their day. Any later, and your child may miss the initial introduction to the day from their teacher, and may feel unsettled for the whole day. Arriving into class with their friends, and having the time to settle and organise themselves before learning starts, puts them in the right frame of mind for learning and sets them up for a good day. Your help in ensuring they arrive in school on time and ready to learn is very much appreciated.

Working together

We know that life happens. Illness, medical appointments and family emergencies will always be a factor. If an absence is truly unavoidable, we will help to support in any way we can. If a child has an illness that is contagious, we would of course aim to protect the rest of the class from infection and ask that they stay at home. However, please note the illnesses that do not require that a child stays home (on the following graphic). If you need anything clarified, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support and for everything you do to get your child to school, on time and ready to learn each morning.



Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Thought of the Week

Thought of the Week

'Love is patient, love is kind...It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.' (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Recently a friend of mine was speaking to her hairdresser about faith. The hairdresser wanted to understand what made her choose to become a Christian. My friend was quite clear on this and felt that there were three things that they wanted to share that helped them to make this decision.

The acronym was HAL, which for any sci-fi fans out there will know is the name of the artificial intelligent character and main antagonist in the Space Odyssey films. Apart from the same letters being used, there is no other connection here, but it might help you remember the acronym after reading this page.

So the H stands for Hope. Everyone needs hope. We need to believe that things are going to either stay good or get better. As Friedrich Nietzsche said, "He who has a why to live can bear almost any how." If there is no purpose, no meaning in life, we ultimately struggle. My friend was clear that for her, having a belief and relationship with God gives her life meaning and purpose and ultimately hope.

The A stands for Acceptance. Brené Brown said, "True belonging doesn't require us to change who we are; it requires us to be who we are." Knowing we are accepted for who we are makes all the difference. It means we don't have to conform to other people's expectations of us. It also means we don't have to try and be someone else. We can enjoy being ourselves. If God made us then surely he made us well. Psalm 139:14 says that we are 'fearfully and wonderfully made' and that God's 'works are wonderful'. Again, hope, purpose and the knowledge that you are accepted.



Finally the L stands for Love. There are so many different understandings of the word love, but the one that is usually associated with God's love is agape - selfless, unconditional love. This is the kind of love that doesn't depend on your actions, looks, or status. It's caring for someone simply because they're a person, not because of what they do. That's the sort of love that my friend was referring to.

She ended the conversation by saying surely everyone wants these three things in their lives and the hairdresser had to agree.

What about you? Do you agree?

WORLD BOOK DAY 5TH MARCH 2026



- ★ Hidden inside of 450 bars are 225 winning 'golden' and 'purple' tickets.
- ★ Winning tickets are for prizes ranging from books to vouchers and special school prizes!
- ★ There are 5 golden tickets and 220 purple tickets.

Slips to be returned to the PTA box with £2.50 per bar by Friday 13th February.

Community Notices



VAG
Victoria Art Gallery

February half-term at Victoria Art Gallery

Find out what's on

- Visit the Poster Power! exhibition with sit-on train and farm play area
- Design a Bath travel poster at Mini Makers (£5)
- Get creative with pastels at Create and Colour (free)
- Explore the Upper Gallery with a Kids in Museums trail (free)

Exhibition tickets free with Discovery Card*

*Valid with B&NES Residents' Discovery Card



Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives



THE ROMAN BATHS
BATH

February half-term at The Roman Baths

Find out what's on

- Meet costumed Roman characters (free)
- Grab a children's audio guide (free)
- Follow our family trail and learn how Romans lived (free)
- Make a Roman-style decoration (free)
- Dig for ancient artefacts at Archaeology Adventures (paid)

Free Roman Baths admission for Discovery Card holders*

*Valid with B&NES Residents' Discovery Card



Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

HALF TERM TREAT - ZENITH YOUTH THEATRE 18 - 21 FEB 2026



Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

© Disney

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* comes alive on stage in a spectacular new musical adventure from Zenith Youth Theatre Company. With huge dance numbers, sparkling costumes, and all the songs you know and love — like "*Be Our Guest*" and "*Beauty and the Beast*" — it's the perfect show for kids, families, and anyone who believes in happily-ever-afters.

Zenith Youth Theatre Company has been delighting Bath audiences for over 60 years with award-winning musicals performed entirely by young people.

Friday & Saturday MATINEE — you can even meet the cast in costume after the show for photos and a chance to say hello to your favourite characters!

BOOK AT WWW.ZENITHYTC.CO.UK

TICKETS
Fri & Sat Eve £15 / Wed & Thurs £14 (£12 Conc) Fri & Sat Mat £12
FAMILY TICKET (4 tickets max 2 adults) Wed & Thurs £42
TIMES Wed & Thurs 7:30pm, Fri & Sat 2:30pm & 7:30pm
Kingswood Theatre, Fonthill Rd, Lansdown, Bath BA1 5RG



This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. Europe All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.MTIShows.co.uk

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

B&NES LIBRARIES
FESTIVAL OF LIBRARIES
7 - 21 FEBRUARY 2026

Half Term Fun at Your Local Library

Library	Event	Time
Bath Central Library	We're Going on a Lion Hunt Presented by DragonBird. Immersive stories for under-5s and their grown-ups. Storytime	Monday 16 February 11.00 - 11.50am & 2.00 - 2.50pm
	Baby Bounce & Rhyme	Tuesday 17 February 10.30 - 11.00am
	Crafting Day Enjoy making a bookmark, mini book or Library card holder	Wednesday 18 February 10.30 - 11.00am
	Draw along with Fergal Pop along to Bath Library and learn how to draw me, Fergal, with author Robert Starling	Friday 20 February 10.00 - 3.00pm
Keynsham Library	Baby Bounce & Rhyme	Saturday 21 February 12 noon
	Crafting Day Enjoy making a bookmark, mini book or Library card holder	Tuesday 17 February 9.30 - 10.00am & 10.30 - 11.00am
	Storytime	Wednesday 18 February 10.00 - 3.00pm
Midsomer Norton Library	Baby Bounce & Rhyme	Thursday 19 February 10.30 - 11.00am
	Storytime	Saturday 21 February 10.00 - 12noon
	Crafting Day Enjoy making a bookmark, mini book or Library card holder	Monday 16 February 11.00 - 11.30am
		Wednesday 18 February 10.30 - 11.00am
	Thursday 19 February 10.00 - 3.00pm	

Festival of Libraries:
This is our programme of free events for everyone to enjoy over this half-term. There are:
Jigsaw Days
Board Game Fun
Crafting Days
Pop into your local library for a programme or look out on our social media.

Festival of Libraries:
In Our Community Libraries:
Paulton Community Library
Story Rhyme Tuesday 17 Feb
& Colouring 10.00-11.00am
0-4 years
Radstock Community Library
Crafting Tuesday 17 Feb
10.00 - 11.30am

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives



Could you tell if your child was being exploited?



Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer **Andri Nicolaou**

18 March 7:00 - 8:30pm **30 March** 10:30am - 12:00pm

Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/exploit children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the **Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page** or scan the QR codes below

18 March



30 March



Half Term Holiday Activities



17, 18 and 19 February 2026, 10.30am–3.30pm

Marvel at the medieval masterpieces of Wells Cathedral, discover the people and stories that made them, then make your very own souvenirs to take home!

Tuesday 17 February

Masons' Marks

Find signatures in stone left by the Cathedral builders, then design and carve your own maker's mark in soap.

Wednesday 18 February

Stories in Stitches

Discover the stories behind brilliant embroideries and altar frontals then stitch your own story or create a collage.

Thursday 19 February

Wondrous Windows

Explore the Cathedral's beautiful windows then try out stained glass themed crafts.



Admission included with 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 Half Term 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.



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