

# Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 27th 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: HOPE



### Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to the start of Term 4! It has been wonderful to see the children return with such energy and enthusiasm, ready for the busy weeks ahead.

This term, our Christian value is Hope. In our recent Collective Worship, we explored what hope looks like in the world around us. The children shared some lovely observations of nature waking up, from the first brave snowdrops to the tiny green buds appearing on the trees.

We linked these signs of spring to the Parable of the Mustard Seed. We discussed how something as tiny and seemingly insignificant as a mustard seed can grow into a magnificent, sheltering tree. It's a powerful reminder for us all: even the smallest act of kindness or the tiniest spark of effort can grow into something enormous. Hope works the same way, it starts small and grows, little by little, until it fills our whole community.

We haven't wasted a moment getting back into the swing of things. A huge well done to our Year 2 pupils, who had a fantastic trip to the SS Great Britain this week. Their behavior was exemplary, and they did a brilliant job of stepping back in time to learn about Victorian engineering and life at sea.

It's wonderful to see the children's learning brought to life through these experiences, and I know they have returned to class with plenty of inspiration for their history and writing projects.

Thank you for your continued support as we begin this new term together.

Warm regards,

Mrs West-Gaul

### Dates For Your Diary

#### March

- 3rd SEND Coffee Morning, 8.45am
- 5th World Book Day
- 10th - 17th Book Fair
- 12th STEM Fair
- 17th Year One Trip to Wookey Hole
- 18th Year 6 Parents SATS meeting, 3.15pm
- 18th PTA Easter Chocolate Family Bingo
- 24th Dance Umbrella
- 26th Year Four trip to the Roman Baths
- 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
<b>Acorns</b>	Albion Isabella	Theo Violet
<b>Ash</b>	Isabelle	Ruby R
<b>Birch</b>	Isabella	Stephen
<b>Chestnut</b>	Jack	Millie
<b>Elm</b>	Dexter	Lottie
<b>Hazel</b>	Aubrie	Fletcher
<b>Holly</b>	Alfie	Eric
<b>Maple</b>	Corey	Betsy
<b>Oak</b>	Sam	Sophia L
<b>Pine</b>	Mrs Murphy	Mrs Murphy
<b>Rowan</b>	Indigo	Mollie
<b>Sycamore</b>	Taylor	Poppy
<b>Willow</b>	Henry	Fin

Top Doodling Class

**BIRCH**



Well done!

## Hot Chocolate Friday

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



## PE Achievements of The Week

Year 6 Sycamore - Taylor (Terrific Teamwork) and Charlie (Amazing Ability)

Year 6 Willow - Gabriel (Playing Fair) and Ella (Going above and beyond)

Year 5 Rowan - Indigo (Calm and Confident) and Thomas (Playing Fair)

Year 5 Pine - Oscar and Brie (Playing Fair)

Year 4 Maple - Darcey (Fantastic Focus), Jaxon (Playing Fair), Mckenzie (Terrific Teamwork) and Betsy (Calm and Confident)

Year 4 Oak - Finn and Albie (Terrific Teamwork), Sophia L (Really Resilient) and Grace (Amazing Ability)

Year 3 Holly - Zac and Nancy (Fantastic Focus)

Year 3 Hazel - Aubrie and Izzy (Really Resilient) and Melania (Calm and Confident)

Year 2 Chestnut - Zac (Amazing Ability), Eleanor and Ruby (Excellent Effort)

Year 2 Elm - Albie (Fantastic Focus), Betsy and Baya (Caring and Kind)

Year 1 Birch - Jesse (Excellent Effort), Alex and Daisy (Playing Fair)

Year 1 Ash - Ruby R (Fantastic Focus) Ruby H (Caring and Kind) Leo and Woody (Excellent Effort)

# Staffing Updates

## **We are delighted to share some wonderful news with you all!**

Just before half term, Miss Moody welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world. She has named her Robyn Elisse Dawkins.

Both mum and baby are doing well, and we are sure you will join us in sending Miss Moody and her family our warmest congratulations and very best wishes at this special time.



I am pleased to share that I have been appointed as the part-time Assistant Director of Primary for Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership. This role will involve supporting school improvement work in other Primary Schools across the MAT.

I want to reassure you that I will remain in my role as Headteacher of St John's Primary School. This new position is part-time and has been carefully planned to ensure that my commitment to our school, our children and our families remains my priority.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute more widely while continuing to lead and serve our wonderful school community.

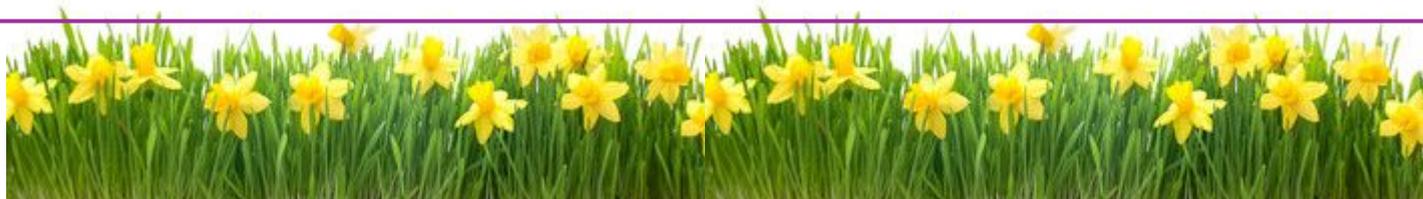
Mrs West-Gaul

After more than 20 years of dedicated service, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Murphy, who is retiring from her role as Teaching Assistant at St John's.

During her time with us, Mrs Murphy has supported children across every year group, both as a classroom TA and working 1:1 within children. She has made a lasting difference to countless pupils through her patience, nurturing nature and unwavering kindness.

Mrs Murphy brought creativity and joy into our school, especially through her much loved art projects, many children will proudly remember the beautiful pottery plates they created under her guidance. She has also worked tirelessly to ensure our school is a warm, welcoming environment for all.

We are incredibly grateful for her commitment and care over the past two decades. She will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike, and we wish her every happiness in the future.



# Reading in Year Three

In Year Three Reading, we have been linking our learning to our History topic on the Stone Age.

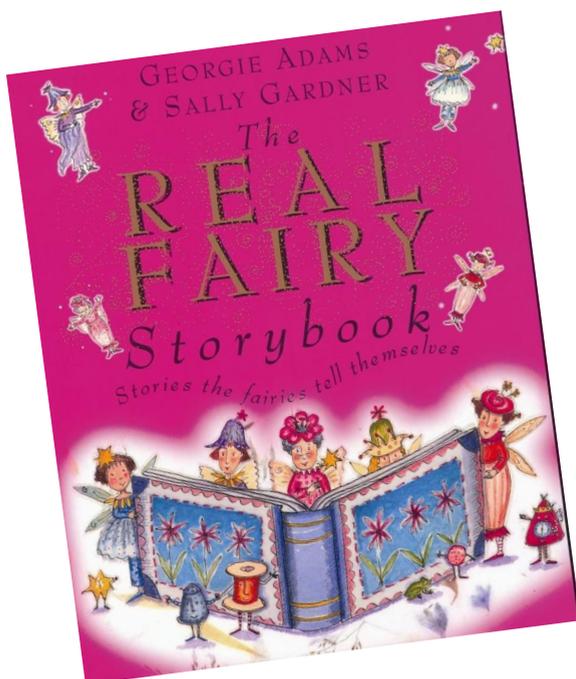
This week, we explored a range of non-fiction texts to help us discover what life was like during this fascinating period.

Over the next few weeks, we are excited to begin reading *Wild Way Home*, where we will use our inference and prediction skills to follow an adventure story set in the Stone Age.

Additionally, thank you so much to our Year 3 parents who have kindly donated books via our Amazon Wishlist - your generosity is greatly appreciated and helps to enrich our classroom reading experience.



# Reading in Year Two



This week Year Two has been diving into a new book for Whole Class Reading. The book is 'The Real Fairy Storybook' (Stories that fairies tell themselves.) Written and illustrated by Georgie Adams and Sally Gardner.

We have been practicing our prediction, retrieval, inference and general comprehension skills.

There are a variety of stories that we are excited to read. These are: 'The Seahorse and the Kelpie King', 'When I was a Tooth Fairy', 'Princess Curly Locks' and 'The Shoemaker and the Robber Elves'.

# Bikeability Training

The Bikeability sessions for Year Five have commenced this week and the groups have been making great progress practising their new cycling skills in the playground.



# 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.

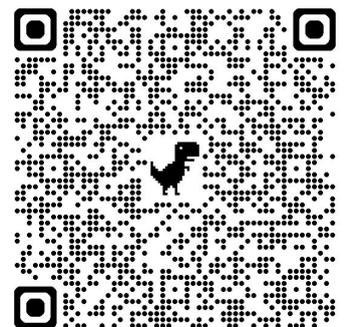
Want to donate a book? Simply follow the link below to browse the titles our children have requested. Every donation will go directly into our class libraries or the main school library for all to enjoy!

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

## Water Bottles

Please ensure that all pupils have a water bottle available every day. It is important that children are drinking regularly to keep hydrated, particularly if they are active with PE or lunchtime activities.

## Parents Poll: After School Care

Here at St John's we are considering options for our wraparound care provision for September 2026 and beyond. As part of this, we are trying to gauge if there is a need for regular, longer after school care sessions, which would replace our current partnership with Midsomer Norton Primary School. Please could you complete the form below - we would value your input and opinion on this matter.

[St John's after school care - parents poll](#)

## 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.

## Out of School Achievements

Well done to Hugo and Leo who received 2 amazing awards last weekend for Taekwondo!

Hugo's award was student of the year 2025 and Leo received the grading award!

They have also just achieved their red belt!



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

<b>NEW!</b> Years R - 4 <b>Dance</b> Monday	<b>Best Seller!</b> Years R - 3 <b>Football</b> Monday	<b>NEW!</b> Years 1 - 6 <b>Nerf &amp; Archery</b> Tuesday	Years 2 - 6 <b>Evasion &amp; Invasion Sports</b> Wednesday
--	---	--	--

**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](http://www.ignite-sport.co.uk)



# St John's



# SEND

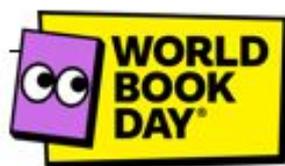


# Coffee Morning

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026  
at 8.45am**



### World Book Day Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> 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

**'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' (Ephesians 2:10)**



The Washing of The Feet - Ghislaine Howard (2004)

Often as children, we get excited about birthdays and Christmas and this usually has a lot to do with what we are going to get. Even as adults, we can look forward to buying something nice for ourselves, whether that is some new clothes, a new book or maybe even a new car.

As we mature and get older, we begin to see the benefits of giving as well as receiving. If we find a really suitable present for a loved one, we can sometimes relish the time that they will open it, and the joy we will get from seeing their face light up.

This joy of giving can also be experienced from other things we do for people. Maybe we prepare a nice meal for some friends when they come to visit, or maybe we spend some time with a family member who is struggling and our presence makes a difference to how they are feeling.

Our verse today is taken from a letter written by St Paul to the church in Ephesus and the rest of the Christian community. After reminding his readers that we are not saved by our works or the good things we do, he goes on to say that we have been created to do good things because we are God's 'handiwork'.

Christians believe that we have all been created by a loving God. Even if we don't believe in him or acknowledge him, Christians would say that all humans have been made in the image of God, meaning that humans are in the image of God in their moral, spiritual, and intellectual nature.

If this is the case, then surely it becomes clear why we get so much joy and pleasure from giving to others and making a positive difference in other people's lives.

So have we been created to do good things for other people? Whether this is true for you or not, why not spend some time

bringing some much needed joy to another...while at the same time bringing joy to your life as well.



God has made us what we are.  
He has created us in Christ Jesus  
to live lives filled with good works  
that he has prepared for us to do.

**EPHESIANS 2:10**

GOD'S WORD TRANSLATION | GODSWORD.ORG

# PTA NEWS

We are delighted to announce PTA Family Chocolate Bingo

Saturday 28th March  
School Hall  
Doors open 3pm  
Eyes down 3.30pm

Please book your space on the following link. £5 per player (transaction fee of 35p applies) this includes a Bingo Book of 6 games. Non playing children are free but please provide details for numbers as we have a capacity in the hall. Additional books will be available on the day if children do want to play.

<https://square.link/u/qN4u2A1c?src=sheet>

Thank you for all of the generous chocolate donations, we have been able to create lots of prizes to be won. There will also be a chocolate filled raffle on the day.

The kitchen will be open for food and drinks.

We look forward to seeing you.



# Community Notices

## 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**





## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c March 02 2026

The National Year of Reading 2026 

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

**BookTrust Storytime**  
 Free drop-in sessions for 0-5years. Vote for your favourite story. Each session includes craft and play activities.

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

**BookTrust Storytime**  
 Free drop-in sessions for 0-5years. Vote for your favourite story. Each session includes craft and play activities.

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

**BookTrust Storytime**  
 Free drop-in sessions for 0-5years. Vote for your favourite story. Each session includes craft and play activities.

**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

 **World Book Day**

It's World Book on **Thursday 5 March 2026**. Celebrate the joy of stories with books, on audio or on digital. You can collect your **free** book at all your local Libraries.

Also join us for a **special Storytime**. Come dressed in your favourite World Book Day costume, or pick one from our rail of costumes on the day.  
 Date: Thursday 5 March  
 Time: 10.30 - 11.00am  
 Location: Bath Library, Keynsham Library & Midsomer Norton Library

**Bedtime Stories at Midsomer Norton Library**

On Thursday 5 March Midsomer Norton Library invites you to come along with your pjs and listen to some bedtime stories from 6- 7 pm. Come in your pjs, don't forget to bring a mug for a hot chocolate.



<p>10.00 - 10.30 &amp; 11.00 - 11.30am Wednesday (term-time only)</p> <p>10.30 - 11.00am Tuesday (term-time only)</p> <p>9.30 - 10.00 &amp; 10.30 - 11.00am Tuesday (term-time only)</p> <p>10.30 - 11.00am Thursday (term-time only)</p> <p>10.30 - 11.00am Monday (term-time only)</p> <p>10.30 - 11.00am Wednesday (term-time only)</p>		
--	--	--

## Attention Parents

### Are you parenting a child with ADHD?

Join our **Parents Plus 'Children's ADHD Programme'** and meet other parents of children aged 6-12 in a supportive group to help your child reach their full potential.

**Supporting parents to:**

- Personally cope and manage stress
- Understand ADHD and how to help your child
- Problem-solve and deal with challenges
- Understand the role of medication

**Supporting children to:**

- Have a positive understanding of ADHD
- Gain confidence and self-esteem
- Navigate school and homework
- Manage feelings and build friendships

**When:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026 to 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (excluding Easter holidays)  
**Time:** 10:00 - 12:00  
**Where:** Keynsham Children Centre, 65 West View Road, Keynsham, BS31 2UE

For more information, please contact:  
 Louise Belson 07530-263259 [Louise\\_Belson@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Louise_Belson@bathnes.gov.uk)  
 or Joan Cooper 07875 488581 [Joan\\_Cooper@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Joan_Cooper@bathnes.gov.uk)







## EASTER Holiday Camps



St Benedict's Primary School  
 Midsomer Norton

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April  
 9.00-3.00

Multisports and Football Camps available

**£20** Per day

**10%** Whole week discount

**15%** Sibling discount

07494175299  
[hello@inspireschools.co.uk](mailto:hello@inspireschools.co.uk)

Booking for paid places available here  
<https://inspireschools.ipalbookings.com>

FREE Happy Healthy Holiday spaces available from 10.00am on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March here  
<https://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays>





# FROM SCREENS TO STREETS

MURDER MEDIA &  
INTERNET SAFETY  
WITH...



👂  
*Explores how social media, music and online content influence youth violence and real world risk. It equips professionals and carers with practical internet safety and safeguarding strategies to support young people effectively.* 🗣️

**LIVE**

**30<sup>th</sup> March**  
Professionals  
10:00-13:00  
16:00-19:00

**31<sup>st</sup> March**  
Parents/Carers  
18:00-21:00

## SOLVE

THE CENTRE FOR YOUTH VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT

🔍 [www.solvecyvc.com](http://www.solvecyvc.com)

**BOOK!  
NOW!**



## SOLVE

THE CENTRE FOR YOUTH VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT

**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026**  
Professionals

10:00-13:00

16:00-19:00



Shaq



**ORDER**

**NOW**

# FROM POTENTIAL TO PRISON

## Understanding Vulnerability, Violence and the Criminal Justice System

Unpacking pressure, vulnerability, poor decision-making and real-life consequence, the session combines frontline insight with lived experience to equip professionals with the knowledge and confidence to recognise warning signs early and respond effectively.

**Craig Pinkney**



**BIG  
ISSUE**

**SPRING  
KIDS COVER  
COMPETITION**

## What is the Big Issue Kids Cover Competition?

The Big Issue Kids Cover Competition is an opportunity for young people to design a cover for one of the UK's most iconic magazines. The competition has become an annual tradition, running for a decade at Christmas and Spring. One lucky winner will have their design featured on a special edition of the Big Issue magazine this Easter, which will be seen by thousands of readers. We will also be offering a special prize for the best group entry – from a school or nursery class or any other group of youngsters who send in a bundle of brilliant entries. We'll print as many pictures as we can squeeze onto our page!

**'Creativity is essential for the upbringing of children. I'm excited to be a judge and I'm looking forward to seeing the entries!'**

**Axel Scheffler**  
GUEST JUDGE

### Make PEACE!

Our popular Kids Cover Competition is back!

This year's theme is PEACE. What does it mean to you? It could be spreading a little love, or some happy animals playing together instead of preying on each other. The world looking harmonious; something funny about peace, love and understanding. Surprise us!

The winning cover will be on sale across Britain from Monday 30 March, in time for Easter.



The cover competition winner will receive this specially created exclusive artwork by Axel Scheffler!

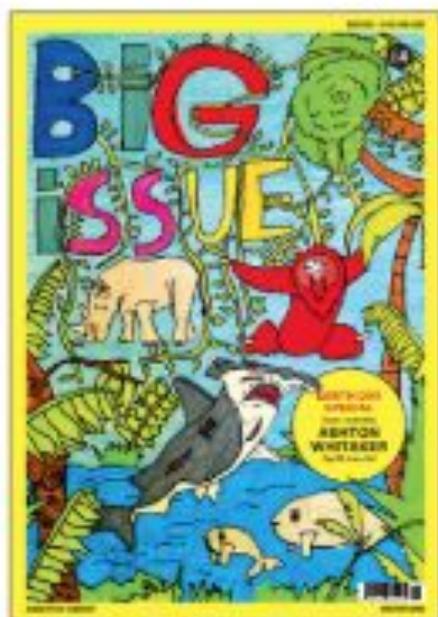
# BIG ISSUE

## SPRING KIDS COVER COMPETITION

### Ten facts about Big Issue

- 1** The Big Issue exists to create opportunity for the most vulnerable and marginalised people in the UK. Many of those people have experienced homelessness.
- 2** Selling The Big Issue is a job. We call the people who sell Big Issue our vendors.
- 3** Vendors buy copies of the magazine for £2.50 and sell them on for £5. In this way they earn a living.
- 4** Big Issue was launched in 1991. We celebrate our 35th birthday this year!
- 5** Over the last three decades Big Issue has sold more than 220 million copies in the UK.
- 6** More than 100,000 people have sold Big Issue – more than could fit into Wembley Stadium.
- 7** Altogether, our vendors have earned more than £150m by selling the magazine.
- 8** Big Issue is a “social business”, which means that it is not purely set up to make a profit. Instead it has a social goal – to end poverty in the UK.
- 9** Big Issue’s co-founder John Bird now sits in parliament, in the House of Lords. He uses his position to fight for vulnerable and marginalised people.
- 10** Big Issue has inspired more than 100 other street papers around the world. These magazines all work in the same way as Big Issue. We all offer “a hand up, not a handout”.

(Below) Christmas cover by Arnold Sam in 2023;  
(right) Ashton Whitaker's winning cover from 2025



#### How to enter:

To get involved, look out your pens, pencils, paints or graphic design apps and create a picture that will catch everyone's attention, help our vendors sell more copies, and who knows, even bring about world peace.

Please use an A4 or an A3 sheet and make sure the drawing is portrait not landscape (that means the drawing is tall rather than wide). Make sure to include the words: BIG ISSUE on the drawing and send it to us by 11 March.

The competition is open to anybody up to the age of 13. There will be an individual winner who will see their design on the cover, plus special recognition for the best group entry. There is no limit to the number of entries from a group but please note we are unable to return artworks, though we will print as many as we can fit on our pages!

Send all entries with a name, age, address and telephone or email contact to us by 11 March.

**Post:** Spring Kids Cover Competition, Big Issue, 43 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 1HW

**Email:** [editorial@bigissue.com](mailto:editorial@bigissue.com) and write KIDS COVER COMPETITION in the subject line. Make sure that your image is high resolution. Also drop us a note if you have any other questions about the competition or Big Issue!

