

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 13th March 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

It has been another vibrant and busy week here at school, filled with creativity, discovery, and a shared love for reading. It is wonderful to see our pupils engaging so enthusiastically with the wide range of opportunities on offer.

We were delighted to welcome West End in Schools for a series of high-energy drama workshops. It was fantastic to see every child getting involved, building confidence, and exploring their theatrical side. The school was buzzing with imagination and performance!

Today, we held our Book Swap, and it was a joy to watch every child choose a new book to take home and keep. Seeing the excitement as they discovered their next great read was a real highlight.

Speaking of books, don't forget that Monday is the final day of the Scholastic Book Fair. Please do stop by to browse and purchase; every book bought helps us earn rewards to stock our own school library.

Our school hall was transformed this week for our Science Fair, and I must say, we were super impressed! The focus was on curiosity and the power of asking "Why?" and "How?". The quality of the projects and the depth of questioning from the children were truly remarkable. A huge well done to every student who took part. Your hard work and passion for discovery shone through. A special thank you to Miss George for her efforts in organising such a professional and successful event.

While the school has been a hive of activity, we have certainly missed our Year 5s who are currently on their trip to Athens! This trip is part of the Turing Scheme which offers pupils the opportunities for life-changing experiences abroad.

From the updates we've received, they are having a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience. They have been busy meeting children from local Greek schools and joining them in their lessons, taking in the breath-taking historic sights, and getting a real taste of Greek life. It sounds like an incredible adventure, and we look forward to hearing all about it when they return.

Thank you for your continued support in making these events possible.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Monks, Deputy Headteacher



Awards and Achievements

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



	Star of the Week	Star Reader
Acorns	Albie L Mila R	Max Rose
Ash	Eli	Ariella
Birch	Presley	Jeffrey
Chestnut	Elsie	Eleanor
Elm	Leo	Miley
Hazel	Hugh	James
Holly	Zqchary	Alice
Maple	Jaxon	Freddie
Oak	Rosie	Mason
Pine	Soraya	Matthew Caiden
Rowan	Jack B	Albie
Sycamore	Carly	Luca
Willow	Dilly	Henry

Top Doodling Class

ELM



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 - Sophie and Owen (Fantastic Focus)

Year 6 Willow - Jude (Huge Helper) and Isla (Calm and Confident)

Year 5 Pine - Soraya (Going above and Beyond), Caiden (Excellent Effort) and Sophie (Really Resilient)

Year 5 Rowan - Fleur and Evie (Amazing Ability)

Year 4 Maple - Freddie (Excellent Effort), Ariella and Samantha (Fantastic Focus)

Year 4 Oak - Bella and Thea (Calm and Confident)

Year 3 Holly - Alfie and Sofia (Fantastic Focus)

Year 3 Hazel - Shontae (Amazing Ability) and James (Excellent Effort)

Year 2 Chestnut - Jack (Playing Fair) and Ayda (Really Resilient)

Year 2 Elm - Lilly (Huge Helper), Hugo (Playing Fair) and Bella (Amazing Ability)

Year 1 Birch - Daisy and Phoebe (Calm and Confident), Presley (Fantastic Focus) and Lexi (Huge Helper)

Year 1 Ash - Ariella and Alfie (Fantastic Focus), Shaylum and Chester (Terrific Teamwork)

General Notices

Parent Consultation Evenings

Our next Parent Consultation Evenings will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday 31st March, 3.15pm - 7pm
- Wednesday 1st April, 3.15pm - 6pm

Bookings may be made via the Arbor Parent Portal **from 6pm on Monday 16th March**. Please ensure you have access to Arbor before this time and if necessary contact the School Office for assistance.

Please note if you are booking for a consultation for Acorns class, you will have the option make a booking from two Parent Evening sessions - this is because both teachers - Mrs Stone and Mrs Bradley, will be present. Please make **ONE booking for either session** at your chosen time and you will then be able to talk with whichever teacher is available at that time, as they will both be able to discuss your child's progress. The booking is not with a specific teacher.

Dates For Your Diary

March

- 17th Year One Trip to Wookey Hole
- 18th Year 6 Parents SATS meeting, 3.15pm
- 24th Dance Umbrella
- 26th Year Four trip to the Roman Baths
- 28th PTA Easter Chocolate Family Bingo
- 31st Parents Evening

April

- 1st Parents Evening
- 2nd Easter Services:
9am: Acorns, Birch, Elm, Holly, Oak, Rowan, Willow
1.45pm: Ash, Chestnut, Hazel, Maple, Pine, Sycamore
- 2nd PTA Non-Uniform Day, End of Term
- 20th Children return to school
- 23rd St. George's Day
- 27th - 29th Year Four Camp at Kilve Court

Mothering Sunday

Come and join us as we celebrate all who mother and care for us!



With posies courtesy of
St John's School.

10am Sunday 15th March 2026



All are welcome!

St John's Church, Midsomer Norton

School Book Fair

A reminder that the final opportunity to visit our Scholastic book fair will be Monday 16th March in the Studio. Remember, the more money we make, the more books we earn for the new school library... we look forward to seeing you at the book fair!

Board Games

Do you have any board games at home which you no longer play? We would love to increase the options of games we have here, particularly for our Breakfast Club. We would be very grateful for any donations - please drop these off at the School Office. Thank you.

Allergies and Intolerances

Please be reminded that you can update your child's allergies and intolerances on the Arbor Parent Portal and the School Grid food-ordering system. It is important that this information is kept up-to-date.

Year 4 Football Tournament Success

On Tuesday, our Year Four boys took part in a local football tournament against several schools from the surrounding area. The team represented the school brilliantly, showing excellent sportsmanship, teamwork and enthusiasm throughout the day.

They played four teams in the group stages, scoring some fantastic goals and working hard in every match. One of the highlights was an impressive 5 - 2 victory. In their final placement game, the boys battled well and secured a draw.

Most importantly, the team had a fantastic time and made the school proud with their positive attitude and effort. Well done, boys!



Out of School Achievement

Well done to Indigo who took part in the Baskerville Gymnastics competition on Sunday.

She collected gold and silver medals and achieved overall winner for a group with a trophy.



Reading in Acorns

Taking Flight with Helicopter Stories!

This term, our Acorn class has been buzzing with creativity as we dive into **Helicopter Stories**. Based on the work of pioneer Vivian Gussin Paley, this approach turns our students into authors, directors, and actors all in one session.

How does it work?

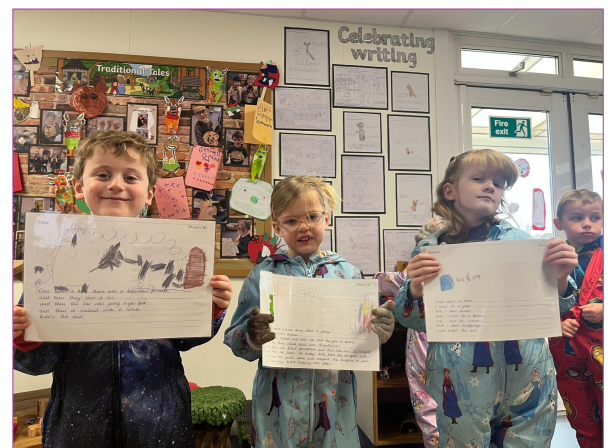
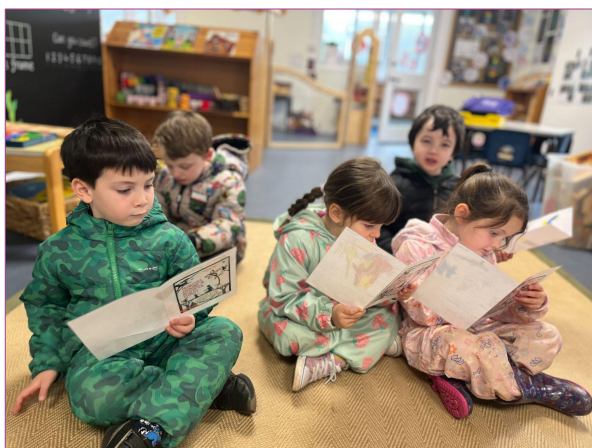
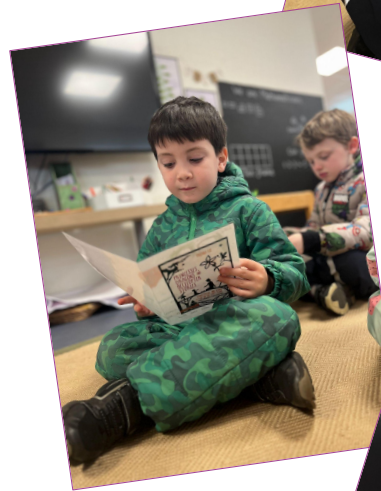
It starts with a simple "Scribing" session. A child dictates their story to a teacher, who writes it down exactly as it is told, word for word. There are no "wrong" answers; if there's a dinosaur at a tea party or a superhero in a grocery shop, that's exactly what goes on the page!

Next comes the **Story Acting**. We create a simple stage on the classroom floor, and the "author" watches as their classmates help bring the characters to life through movement and mime.

Why we love it:

- **Building Confidence:** It gives every child a voice, especially those who are still finding their feet with spoken English or formal writing.
- **Early Literacy:** Children naturally begin to understand story structure, character, and the power of the written word.
- **Community Spirit:** Sitting together to watch a peer's story builds empathy, listening skills, and a huge sense of pride for the young author.

We've turned the children's helicopter stories into little books and these pictures show our children enjoying them together.



Easter Holiday Activities with Ignite Sport

Join our Ignite Sport coaches for an amazing two weeks of holiday sports camps at St John's Primary School in Midsomer Norton. We have themes and sports to cater for every child's interests. Please see the Easter camp timetable below:

- Tuesday, April 7th - Football
- Thursday, April 9th - Nerf, Dodgeball, and Archery
- Friday, April 10th - Gymnastics
- Monday, April 13th - Football
- Tuesday, April 14th - Nerf, Dodgeball, and Archery
- Wednesday, April 15th - Musical Theatre
- Thursday, April 16th - Commonwealth Games Day
- Friday, April 17th - Gymnastics

[Click here to book your child's place](#)

It is still possible to book sessions for the Term 4 Sports Clubs

09:00 - 13:30 **ignite sport** **Years R-6**

EASTER HOLIDAY SPORT CAMPS
St John's C of E Primary School
 Redfield Rd, BA3 2JN

BOOK NOW!

Week 1
 Tues 7th April **Football**
 Thurs 9th April **Nerf, Dodgeball & Archery**
 Fri 10th April **Gymnastics**

Week 2
 Mon 13th April **Football**
 Tues 14th April **Nerf, Dodgeball & Archery**
 Wed 15th April **Musical Theatre**
 Thurs 16th April **Commonwealth Games**
 Fri 17th April **Gymnastics**

Bath & North East Somerset Council
HAF PLACES AVAILABLE

www.ignite-sport.co.uk

Thought of the Week

Thought of the Week

'...“Be still, and know that I am God.”...’ (Psalm 46:10)



I wonder how often during the day you are still. Not stopping work to check your messages or to look at your Instagram feed. Just being still.

It's something that many of us in society struggle with. We almost don't know how to be still. We always feel we need to check something or keep updated with our online "friends" or respond to a notification.

Having smart phones and watches that constantly inform us about what's happening or what we're missing out on stops us from being still and from resting. For a lot of us, we have grown up having 24/7 access to the internet and to a constant flood of news, information and

gossip. Because our brains change due to neuroplasticity, they are adapting to the constant internet access, which is changing how we remember, focus, read, and process information.

Rather than memorising facts, we instead remember where we can retrieve those facts (which isn't very helpful for those Year 11 students who need to memorise around 1000 facts for the combined science GCSE, for example). Rather than reading with deep understanding, we are more likely to scan and skim read. And many studies suggest that constant online environments are encouraging rapid task-switching, which leads to shorter sustained attention spans and difficulty focusing.

Maybe it's time to switch our phones and/or watches off or leave them in a drawer. For a few moments at first or maybe even an hour. Maybe we need to practice just being still and spending time away from the constant distractions. For many of us this might mean going outside and spending some time in nature - in a park or woodland, somewhere away from the noise. As we enter the season of spring, it's a perfect opportunity to go out and do this. Take some time to notice what we can see, what we can smell, what we can hear. Rather than just hearing the birdsong, take some time to listen!

For Christians, this is a call from God - to be still, and know that he is God.

"Whatever is worrying you or bothering you, you can put it aside and know that I am in control. I will sort it, you only need to be still in my presence and leave it with me."



This can be so life giving and life affirming. It really is worth taking the time to experience it. So if necessary, grab your phone and add it to your calendar!

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

MIGHTY SPLASH IS NOW AT FOSSE WAY SCHOOL!

PRE-SCHOOL AND SWIMTOTS
18 MONTHS TO 4 YEARS

CHILDRENS LESSONS
AGES 4+

ADULT LESSONS

WHY CHOOSE MIGHTY SPLASH?

- SMALL CLASSES (6 PER GROUP)
- WARM POOLS
- EXCELLENT TEACHERS
- PROGRESSIVE LESSONS

BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL NOW

SCAN THE QR CODE OR HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.MIGHTYSPLASH.COM

Language for Life Family Q&A Session

Do you have questions about the WellComm toolkit?
Your child's speech and language development?
Or ways you can support language development at home?

Please get in touch and book a space to ask any questions and chat with Speech and Language Therapists and the Early Years Service

LANGUAGE FOR LIFE
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

This online Q&A session is for parents and carers of children at an early years setting taking part in Language for Life

Wed 1st April 2026 – 12.00 – 1.00pm

Virtual Session on Teams

To book a place, please email us by 30.03.26
Email - languageforlife@bathnes.gov.uk

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES
w/c March 16 2026

The National Year of Reading 2026

Bath Central Library
Zine & Comic Fair
Meet local zine and comic book creators. Hosted by Bath Mini Con
Saturday 21 March 10.30 - 3.00pm

BookTrust Storytime
Free drop-in sessions for 0-5years. Vote for your favourite story. Each session includes craft and play activities.
10.30 - 11.00am Tuesday (term-time only)

Keynsham Library
Baby Bounce & Rhyme
Drop in suitable for parents & carers with children aged 0 - 5 years.
9.30 - 10.00 & 10.30 - 11.00am Tuesday (term-time only)

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

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

GO ALL IN!

National Year of Reading
2026 Lets Go All In with the National Year of Reading.
If you're into it, read it:
Just like me - Louise Gooding
Tintin in America - Herge
Adia Kelbara and the High Queen's curse - Isi Hendrix
All these books can be borrowed from your local libraries and many more.

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

Timsbury Theatre Group Juniors
presents

PETER PAN the Musical

AUDITIONS

For children aged 8+

Tuesday 31st March & Thursday 2nd April 2026
6:30-8:30pm

Auditions will take place at
St John's school, Midsomer Norton BA3 2JN
Contact: Jo Jewell 07772695761
Bessie Eschle 07516 034923