

Weekly Newsletter: 11th September 2026

Strong Roots, Growing Minds

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: LOVE



WELCOME BACK !

Welcome back to St John's - I hope you all had a restful summer. It has been a joy to see the children settling so quickly: classrooms are calm, routines are in place and learning has begun across the school.

This year we are introducing a refreshed vision that sits alongside our existing strapline. **Strong roots, growing minds.** This sits alongside our familiar line, 'Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring'. As a school community we felt this captures our tree theme beautifully - children developing strong roots as they move through St John's, growing in knowledge and character, and leaving with a lasting impression on the world. Our Christian values of Love, Peace, Hope, Wisdom, Friendship and Honesty continue to underpin everything we do.

Over the summer we have had some work done across the school. A huge thank you to the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership for funding our brand-new library. The children (and staff) are already enjoying it and we're looking forward to having the children's input on the books they want to see in it.

Thank you also to our PTA and to all parents and carers who helped to fund the new stretch tent installation. I know children - and some of you - have already made great use of it at pick-up and during the school day.

Next week, you will receive your child's year-group newsletter. It contains important, practical information such as PE days, curriculum coverage for the term and homework expectations. Please take a moment to read it so you know what's coming up.

Thank you for your continued support — I'm looking forward to another year of developing strong roots and growing minds together.

Mrs West-Gaul,
Headteacher



General Notices



Updating Records

Please ensure you regularly check and update check and update your child's information on the Arbor app. It is essential that the following details are accurate:

- Medical information and any recent changes (please also complete a medical form if they require medication - we need a refreshed form for each medication every school year)
- Allergies and dietary requirements
- Emergency contact details
- Home address and telephone numbers

Allergies

Our staff have recently completed training based around Benedict's Law and the latest allergy guidance for schools. This has highlighted the importance of having accurate, up-to-date information about every child's medical needs and allergies. Please look out for further communication about this during the coming weeks.

Attendance

Please remember the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality. Attending school every day and arriving on time helps children to settle, maintain friendships and make the best possible progress. If your child is absent, please notify the school office promptly and provide the reason. We ask that an absence request form is completed at least three weeks before the intended absence - these are available from the school office.

Uniform Expectations

We would also like to remind families of our uniform expectations. Children should attend school wearing the correct, clearly named school uniform, including suitable black school shoes. PE kits and other belongings should also be clearly named. Uniform details can be found [on our website here](#).

Dates For Your Diary

September

8th	Year 3 swimming starts
15th	Meet the Teacher Event
18th	Second-hand Book Sale
23rd & 24th	Individual & Sibling Photos
25th	PTA EYFS New parents coffee morning, 8.30am
25th	Second-hand Toy Sale
30th	Open Morning for prospective parents

October

2nd	EYFS & KS1 Phonics Workshop for parents, 2pm
14th	Flu Immunisations
15th	Harvest Festival, 9am.
15th	PTA Disco
16th	Open Morning for prospective parents
20th	Parents Evening
21st	Parents Evening
22nd	INSET
23rd	INSET



Awards and Achievements

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



	Star of the Week	Star Reader	PE Achievements of the Week
Ash	Florence	Bonnie	Bodhi (Playing Fair) and Harlowe (Caring and Kind).
Birch	Max	Oakley	Mila and Radley (Caring and Kind)
Chestnut	Jesse	Sophia	Presley (Caring and Kind) and Mollie (Playing Fair)
Elm	Ruby H	Mila	Marley (Amazing Ability) and Evie (Calm and Confident)
Hazel	Halle	Lily N	Leo (Playing Fair), Eva and Stanley (Amazing Ability)
Holly	Lyra	Jake	Lyra and Tommy (Playing Fair)
Maple	Libby	Aubrie	-
Oak	Harlowe	Eric	Nancy and Toby (Calm and Confident)
Pine	Eva	Sophia	Nancy and Riley (Terrific Teamwork)
Rowan	Shakai	Matilda-Mae	Shakai (Excellent Effort) and Senna (Really Resilient)
Sycamore	Oscar Brie	Amelia S	Flynn and Brie (Excellent Effort)
Willow	Albie	Joshua	Albie (Calm and Confident) and Lola (Fantastic Focus)



Top Doodle Class

OAK



Safeguarding at St John's

This week, our whole-school assembly focused on our safeguarding culture and the important message that **adults at St John's are here to keep children safe.**

The children explored what it means to feel safe, heard and helped. We discussed recognising early warning feelings, identifying trusted adults and knowing what to do if something feels uncomfortable or unsafe. Children practised the simple message **"No, Go, Tell"** and learned to keep telling trusted adults until they receive help.

We also talked about online safety, the difference between happy surprises and unsafe secrets, and what children can expect when they share a worry. Our safeguarding team was introduced, although children were reminded that they can speak to **any trusted adult in school.**

Families can reinforce this learning by regularly asking children which trusted adults they could talk to and reminding them that they will never be in trouble for asking for help.

Meet the Teacher

Meet the Teacher next Tuesday for all classes, apart from Ash Class who will have theirs on Thursday.



A purple poster with a white border. At the top, the title "Meet the Teacher" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below the title is the St John's School crest, which is a shield with a white Maltese cross on a purple background, and a banner below it that says "ST JOHN'S SCHOOL". To the left of the crest is a small icon of an apple, and to the right is a small icon of a book. Below the crest, the text "Tuesday 15th September" and "3pm - 3:30pm" is written in white. Below this, the text "An opportunity to see your child's new learning space, and meet the year group team." is written in white. At the bottom, the text "Ash Class: Thursday 17th September | 3pm - 3:30pm" is written in white. There are several small white icons scattered around the text: a pencil, a leaf, a feather, and a stack of books.

Meet the Teacher



Tuesday 15th September
3pm - 3:30pm

An opportunity to see your
child's new learning space, and
meet the year group team.

Ash Class: Thursday 17th
September | 3pm - 3:30pm



After school sports clubs Term 1

St John's C of E Primary School



Years 1-2
Football
Monday



Years 3-6
Football
Monday



Years 1-2
Summer Sports
Tuesday



Years 3-6
Summer Sports
Tuesday



Years 1-2
Dodgeball
Wednesday



Years 3-6
Dodgeball
Wednesday

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!



**BOOK
ONLINE
HERE!**



SCAN ME



www.ignite-sport.co.uk



Wraparound club

St John's C of E Primary School



Option 1
15:00 – 16:15



Option 2
15:00 – 17:45
Includes a light tea



Option 3
16:00 – 17:45
Includes a light tea



Option 4
16:15 – 17:45
Includes a light tea

**BOOK
ONLINE
HERE!**

SCAN ME



why join...?

- **Something for Everyone** – a fun mix of games, activities, arts and crafts to keep children happy and engaged after school
- **Inclusive for All** – a welcoming environment where every child can join in and enjoy themselves
- **Safe, Supervised & Structured** – the club is run by experienced staff in a safe, positive and supportive environment
- **Relax, Create and Have Fun** – time to unwind after the school day, get creative, play games and enjoy a variety of activities



www.ignite-sport.co.uk



St John's
C of E Primary School

Will your child be starting school in September 2022?

We understand that choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you can make.

We invite you to join us at one of our events for a presentation and tour of the school.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing all the exciting activities and opportunities we offer in our Acorns Reception Class and throughout the school.

OPEN MORNINGS

- Wednesday 30th September, 9.30am
- Friday 16th October, 9.30am
- Wednesday 18th November, 9.30am
- Friday 11th December, 9.30am

OPEN EVENING

- Wednesday 4th November, 6.30pm

To register your interest,
please contact the
school office:

Tel: 01761 412019

E-mail:

office@stjohns.mnsp.org.uk



ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT EDUCATION?

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A GOVERNOR AT ST. JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL?

We are currently looking to expand our dedicated Governing Body to provide additional support and challenge to our Leadership team.

Whether you're a parent or a member of our local church or community, your voice can make a positive impact to our school.

Don't worry - no prior experience is needed!

We just ask for a commitment to the role and a willingness to provide support by attending meetings, reviewing data and discussing school progress.

Being a Governor can be incredibly rewarding - an opportunity to develop skills and to contribute to the education of pupils. Please contact us to find out more and to arrange an informal chat with the Headteacher.

E-mail: clerk@stjohns.mnsp.org.uk

Tel: 01761 412019.

St. John's Primary School, Redfield Road, Midsomer Norton BA3 2JN



Thought for the Week

Thought of the Week

'When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.' (Matthew 9: 36)



At the start of a brand new school year, it seems appropriate to review some of the values that we all hold dear to us. Lots of schools have values that embody their vision and ethos. Some examples are love, hope, forgiveness, perseverance and courage.

One key value for many schools is compassion. Compassion is very closely linked to the values of love and trust; we can only truly show compassion, if we first love and we can only receive compassion, if we first trust the person who is showing it.

In our Bible verses today, it says that Jesus showed compassion to the crowds. In the original Greek, this means he was deeply moved in his inner being. Robert Solomon in his book 'Following Jesus in a Fallen World' put it like this:

'It was a profound response that was rooted in our Lord's love for people. With the eyes of divine love, Jesus saw the people in their true condition.'

Yes, many of them were poor and struggled to survive. Others might have had some resources but were lonely and miserable within. Jesus saw their true needs.

He saw them as harassed people. They were people who had been robbed of their rest, either by their own making or because of the uncaring or cruel ways of society. They were exhausted just coping with the daily challenges of life. They were not meant to live like that.'

It sounds very contemporary - people struggling to manage, feeling harassed, miserable and often lonely. In our enlightened and progressive world, how is it that so many of us still feel like this?

It is easy when we are busy and preoccupied not to see people as people. We might view them as colleagues or maybe fellow human beings. Often we can view them as a distraction or a nuisance and if they behave selfishly whilst driving, we might use all sorts of colourful terminology to describe them.

I hope that we too can show compassion to those around us as Jesus did. I hope that we can break the pattern of society and take time, even if it is just a moment to find out how the people in our lives really are. I hope and pray that we too would be moved in our inner being when people share their worries or concerns with us - that we can show them genuine compassion.

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36



The Connected Woman, wordpress.com

Community Notices



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c 12 September
2026

For any ticketed events, visit our Virtual
Library or Eventbrite for details.
baneslibraries.co.uk/groups-events/

Bath Central Library

Storytime
Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00 am
Baby Bounce and Rhyme
Wednesday 10.00 - 10.30 am & 11.00 - 11.30 am

Keynsham Library

Storytime
Thursday 10.30 - 11.00 am
Baby Bounce and Rhyme
Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00 am & 10.30 - 11.00 am

Midsomer Norton Library

Storytime
Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00 am
Baby Bounce and Rhyme
Monday 11.00 - 11.30 am

Summer Reading Challenge 2026 - Read to the Beat

Have you been a part of the Summer Reading Challenge this year?
Saturday 12 September is the last chance to pick up your medal and certificate, so make sure you visit one of our libraries!




Bath & North East
Somerset Council
Libraries

**READ
to the
BEAT**

Family Support & Inclusion Day

Come together, find support, and see what's out there for your family



Family Support & Inclusion Day - for parents, carers and professionals

 Wednesday 14th October 2026
 Doors are open from 9:30am - 7pm, join us at any time
 Apex City of Bath Hotel
James Street West, Bath, BA1 2DA

Ever wondered what support is out there for your family? Not sure where to start or who to talk to?
Come along, meet the teams and hear more from services
Pre-book your place or just drop in on the day!



Scan here for more information and to find updates on the event
banespcf.co.uk/event/family-support-inclusion-day





ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

PRESENTS

'MONUMENTS AND MEMORIES'

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 20TH

12PM - 5PM

TOWER TOURS

2-5PM

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



festive fun run

Sunday 29th November
Odd Down Cycle Track, Bath

**Run 2km or 5km**

**Enjoy a free medal and goody bag**

**Raise life-changing funds to support Bath Mind**







ANTHEM PUBLISHING
Search "Bath Mind Mental Elf Festive Fun Run"





NEW AT WEMA MUSIC CENTRES

• DJ skills • Music Production

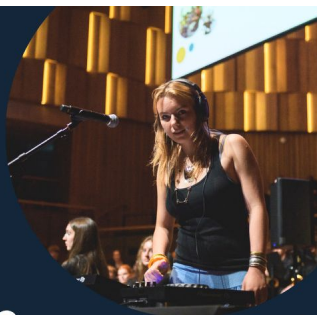
Brand new sessions for young musicians.
Mix, produce and make your own tracks.

- **Saturdays** · Backwell · from 9.30am
- **Mondays** · Little Stoke · from 6.30pm
- **Wednesdays** · Bath · from 5.45pm

Bookings open now

wema.org.uk/music-centre-lessons

Discounts available for children eligible for Pupil Premium



NEW AT WEMA MUSIC CENTRES

Instrument Lessons & Courses

Woodwind, Brass, Piano, Strings, Guitar

Music Production, DJ Skills

Learn after school at your local WEMA Music Centre -
then join an ensemble when you're ready!

Discounts available for children eligible for Pupil Premium

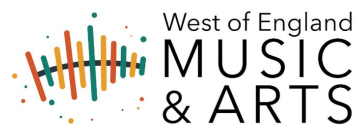
Bookings open now

wema.org.uk/music-centre-lessons



DJ & Music Production times

- **Saturdays** · Backwell · from 9.30am
- **Mondays** · Little Stoke · from 6.30pm
- **Wednesdays** · Bath · from 5.45pm



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



Webinar Event



Healthy Bladder and Bowels

Practical advice and
support to help your
child build confidence
with toileting.



Free to
attend
♥

The School Aged Health Service will be hosting a
webinar for parents and carers of primary aged
children on Healthy Bladder and Bowels. Providing
information, advice and practical strategies to
implement

The webinar will cover:



Understanding your child's
continence needs



Practical tips
and strategies



Where to get help
and support



Date: 24th September 2026
Time: 10.00



Join by scanning the QR code
or clicking the link below



<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/21a6c353-2a02-4676-9f73-5535a8f1f555@2c2b1ee0-a8a1-49e6-a820-5ce4890cf466>