



St Mary's CofE Primary School

"I can do all things"

Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation

Friday 14th February 2025

Newsletter 10

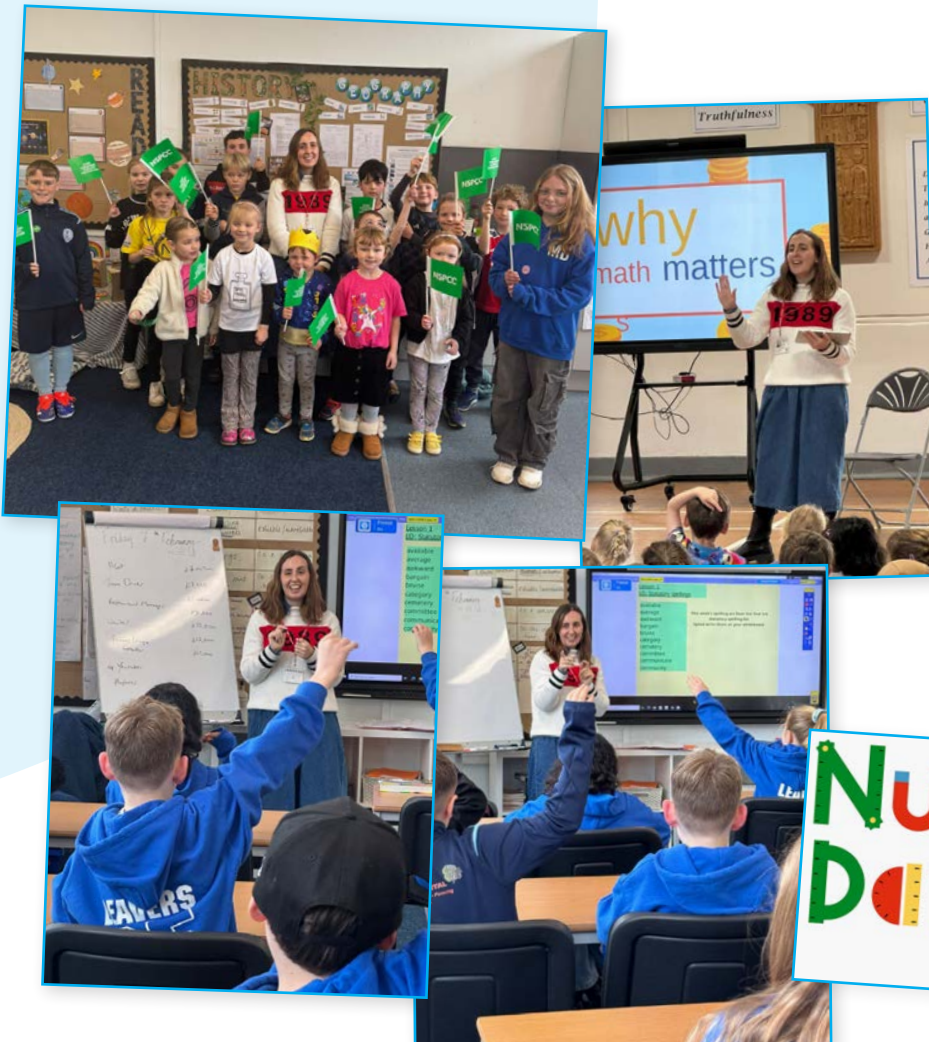
Our core Christian Values: Compassion, Koinonia (Community), Courage, Creativity, Service, Truthfulness

NSPCC Number Day



Today we were all wearing clothes with a number on for the **NSPCC Number Day**. For a special assembly, Clare Seal came in and talked about Maths and asked us to answer some maths questions. Clare also talked about pocket money and how you should save up your money to buy stuff you really need. She also talked about how having money can help you have a great life. One of her questions was, 'Would you rather £1000 for one day or 1p for a month that doubles everyday?' Lots of children chose £1000 but some people said 1p doubling every day for a month... Then Clare said if you chose £1000 you would get £1000, but if you chose 1p doubling for a month, you would get over £5,000,000! It was an inspiring assembly. We loved **NSPCC Number Day** and we can't wait for next year!

St.Mary's News Team (Pippi, Aidan, Rachel and Charlie W)



House Points Winners



Well done to our House Point Winners this term - Super **Sapphires**, who celebrated their success by having a non uniform day today!

Attendance Winners



Congratulations to **Lions** for having 100% attendance last week. This week's champions are, all with a **Badgers** at 99.2% attendance - well done

Wellies

Please can all children have a pair of named wellies in school at all times please. We have lots of storage to keep them safe and this means that the children can use our fabulous grounds year round without ruining their lovely new school shoes!

If you have any unwanted wellies that your children have grown out of, we would really appreciate donations for spares.





Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to all the children who received a Headteacher Award - keep up the great work!

- Ducklings** Aniyah, Oscar
- Rabbits** Alex, Raya
- Badgers** Spencer, Beatrix
- Foxes** Indigo & Freddie, Willow & Rafe
- Lions** Charlie, Joe
- Eagles** Imogen (H), Ruby



Outside Achievements



Amazing effort from **Harry**, (swimming) **Esme** (gymnastics) and **Bea** (gymnastics) who all received certificates for outstanding talents!

Hedgehogs



Class News:

Another term has flown by in Hedgehogs. Our new children have settled in nicely making friends and learning our routine. The last two weeks our focus book has been *'Trains, Trains, Trains'* by Donna David and Nina Pirhonen. The children have enjoyed sharing stories about their own experience on trains and other types of transport as well as telling us about places they have visited and places they would like to go. This has led to lots of imaginative play, including making trains out of chairs and pretending our boat in the garden is an aeroplane. We have enjoyed lots of lovely pretend trips to places such as The North Pole, Australia and Avon Valley!

This week we have also enjoyed making some Valentine's cards and artwork for people that we love and decorating some Valentine's biscuits which we enjoyed eating ourselves!

The older children have continued to enjoy Phonics/Sound time every morning playing games to help them begin to understand the sounds that our letters make. We enjoyed a superhero themed sound game which the children loved, if you would like ideas on how to extend this learning at home please ask.

Thank you all for another lovely term and enjoy your week off.

Mrs Harrison & Miss James



Ducklings



Class News:

What a fantastic term we have completed. The children have loved the Space topic and continue to use fantastic DT skills to create and make models in the creative area.

Thank you for coming to the Parent Workshop last week. What an amazing array of different space models created in such a short period of time.

In Literacy, we have been learning about **Valentine's Day**. The children have written and decorated some lovely cards. We hope you like them.

In Maths, we have explored the numbers 6,7 and 8. This week we are *comparing and exploring length, height and time*. We discussed things that are longer and shorter and also had fun comparing the heights of everyone in Ducklings.

During the last two weeks, we have celebrated **Children's Mental Health Week, Internet Safety Week** and **Number Day**. We completed lots of fun activities to celebrate each of these events. We were also joined by NSPCC who ran a Pantomasaurus workshop for us on **Number Day**. Thank you for supporting us with dress up days. The children loved seeing all the digits in class.

A fantastic term Ducklings! Have a wonderful half term holiday.

Mrs Gillard & Mrs Munro



Rabbits



Class News:

The last two weeks in Rabbits have been filled with lots of exciting learning and events.

In English, we have been writing non-chronological reports about *blue whales*. In our writing we have been using titles, subheadings, pictures and a fact box. We have really enjoyed writing a non-fiction text.

In Maths, we have been learning about *place value to 50*. We have been counting groups of tens and one, partitioning numbers into tens and one and exploring the number line to 50.

This term, we have also been learning about *weather* in Geography. We have been exploring the world's climates, different types of weather and the seasons. We had a great time building weather dials in our Parent Workshop. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along.

Over the last two weeks, we have celebrated **Children's Mental Health Week, Internet Safety Week** and **NSPCC Number Day**. We completed lots of fun activities to celebrate each of these events. We were also joined by NSPCC who ran a pantomasaurus workshop for us on **NSPCC Number Day**.

It has been another great term for Rabbits!

Miss Tolfree

Badgers



Class News:

Badgers have had a super last two weeks of term!

In English, we have been busy publishing our non-chronological reports. We have even added our own illustrations of the Kalahari Desert, including a caption, and a glossary of all our expert terminology.

In Geography, we have been exploring the *five oceans of the world* and some of their characteristics. We have also begun to investigate the climate of different parts of the world by looking at the temperatures and weather in the area.

Over the last two weeks we have celebrated **Children's Mental Health Week, NSPCC Number Day** and **Internet Safety Week**.

Badgers have spent time thinking about who our safe adults are for **Internet Safety Week** and who to tell if we find something which troubles us online. Badgers are beginning to grow in

confidence in their understanding of who a 'reliable, safe adult' would be, and while we trust our friends and our pets to help us, they are not an adult who can help us online. Badgers have created their own avatar which they might use to keep them safe online, these avatars did not look like themselves and were sometimes pretty scary!

For **NSPCC Number Day** Badgers set up their own shops around the classroom, practicing selling goods, exchanging and adding up notes and coins, as well as writing their own receipts.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who attended the Parent Workshop and helped us make our moving monsters! They have all turned out so well and Badgers are very proud of their creations.

Miss Heath



Foxes



Class News:

Term 3 has flown by and what a busy and exciting term it has been in Foxes. This week we have written some fantastic newspaper reports based on the book *"Podkin One Ear."* The children had to think carefully about their language choices to ensure that their writing was interesting for the reader yet contained all of the important information that they needed to get across. To do this, we used a variety of grammatical techniques such as *fronted adverbials and quotations in the form of speech*.

We also had a great Parent Workshop as part of the **NSPCC Number Day** which focussed on times tables. The children enjoyed showing off their fantastic times table ability to all the family members who came to join us and many of the adults commented about how impressed they were with the speed of recall from the children. This continues to be a big focus for

us in Foxes so we will keep practicing next term too!

In PE, the children have enjoyed their swimming and dance lessons this term with huge progress being made in both. The dance for **Dance Umbrella** is coming on really well and we are excited to perform in front of an audience next term.

Finally, we have been exploring the concept of *"Phishing"* in **Internet Safety Week** which is where scammers try to get your personal information by tricking you into giving it away. The children explored a variety of scenarios and had to work out which ones were genuine situations and which were phishing scams.

As always Foxes, you have been amazing this term. Have a great half term break and we will be back for more fun and learning in Term 4!

Mrs Brown



Lions

Class News:



What an incredible first half of the year it has been in the Year 5 classroom. As with everybody else, our pupils are officially outstanding in terms of their behaviour and they have sustained these phenomenal standards and maybe actually become even better in terms of their enthusiasm for learning and the commitment they have shown to wanting to make progress. They are certainly continuing to impress.

Over the last couple of weeks we have rounded off some of our projects, including in Art where we have been creating collagraph printing plates. You might have visited our workshop where we used these to create printed textured backgrounds on which to produce our final pieces. Having studied retrofuturism and looked at artwork from the 1960s which showed how artists thought things might look in the future, we have taken on this same challenge by creating our own futuristic visions of what life might be like with advancements in technology.

In English, the Space theme has continued with us all completing our stories about an astronaut discovering a new planet. There has been a focus on creating effective setting descriptions, establishing suspense through using a range of techniques (including short sentences, hiding detail from the reader and using rhetorical questions) and ensuring that we have had a balance of action, description and dialogue.

This week has been **Internet Safety Week** and we took part in a live lesson which helped to reinforce the key messages associated with staying safe online. We enjoyed stepping into the virtual world of Scam Smashers where we had to outsmart the digital tricksters. It gave us the opportunity to discuss and respond to online safety issues and provided us with top tips to navigate the digital world with confidence.

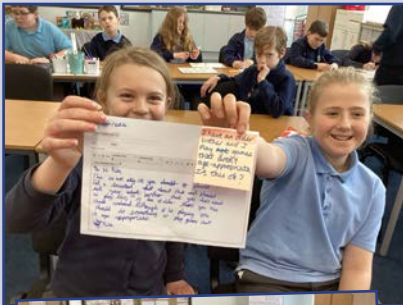
Our hockey sessions in PE concluded with some competitive small-sided games, allowing us the opportunity to show off all of the skills and tactics we have been working on this term. Mostly, it has been brilliant to see how much everybody has enjoyed trying this sport for the first time. There have been some excellent techniques on show as well as super enthusiasm - and safe stick work!

Finally, thank you to everyone for supporting **NSPCC Number Day**. We had a lot of fun in the Year 5 classroom where we carried out a number of Maths challenges and used the digits on our clothing to combine and make a range of different types of numbers. It was a very successful day!

Mr Daniels

Eagles

Class News:



It has been an action-packed few weeks in Eagles! Alongside our usual lessons—where we've been mastering percentages, area, perimeter and volume in Maths, writing balanced arguments in English, and continuing to read our class novel, *'Warrior Boy'*, in guided reading—we've also taken part in some fantastic activities. The class has worked incredibly hard and represented the school beautifully.

Last Friday, we participated in **NSPCC Number Day** and had the exciting opportunity to join a workshop with Claire Seal- a social media financial coach. She led an engaging session on careers, average salaries and setting goals for the future. Eagles impressed her with their strong understanding of investments, savings accounts, mortgages and interest rates—a real credit to their enthusiasm for learning!

We also took time to reflect on the importance of **Mental Health Week**. In a thought-provoking Collective Worship,

we shared ideas on how to look after our mental wellbeing and what to do when we feel down, sad, or anxious. The children contributed some excellent suggestions and even put them into practice over the weekend.

This week, we explored E-Safety, focusing on scamming and phishing—learning how to recognise when something seems "too good to be true" online. The children strengthened their understanding of online safety and applied their knowledge in a lesson about inappropriate online content. They offered thoughtful advice to a fictional girl who had encountered a difficult online situation. I was particularly impressed by the maturity and sensitivity they showed during these discussions, listening carefully and providing insightful suggestions.

It has been an incredible few weeks for the Eagles, and I can't wait to hit the ground running after half term.

Miss Woods

Wish list

We have a wishlist of books to help pupils, particularly in EYFS, with their Maths knowledge. If you would like to purchase a book for the school, your support would be greatly appreciated, and it would make a valuable difference in the education of our youngest pupils.

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution already!

<https://amzn.eu/9IXEron>

Speak Out

Congratulations to Ben, Matilda and Willow for participating in the annual MNSP public speaking competition, 'Speak Out.' As a school, we are incredibly proud of their confident performances and unwavering dedication in preparing for their debate. They spent weeks researching their topic, "Is Space exploration a waste of money?", crafting a compelling, balanced argument and dedicating countless hours practicing in their own time. All their hard work truly paid off when they took to the stage and delivered a fantastic, thought-provoking debate. Well done team!

A note about safeguarding...

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our pupils, please contact the school office and ask to speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Thomson, or any of our Deputy Safeguarding Leads, Mrs Parsons or Mrs Purnell.

The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.

During the school holidays if you have a concern about a child, please contact BANES Social Work Services

You can raise your concerns in any of the following ways:

- Call our Children's Social Work Services on 01225 39 61 11 or 01225 47 79 29 (weekdays, 8.30am to 5pm, except Fridays when we're closed from 4.30pm)
- Drop into the **Keynsham One Stop Shop** and ask for the duty children's social worker
- Discuss your concerns with someone who works with children and families:

Mental Health Week

Last week, we took time to participate in **Children's Mental Health Week**, which had the theme of "Know Yourself, Grow Yourself!" Each class took part in a variety of activities designed to help us think about our thoughts and feelings and allowed us the time to get to know ourselves better. We also talked a lot about building resilience and how to deal with things when we are feeling overwhelmed.

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, the children enjoyed class discussions about how they learn and how to grow and improve, held discussions about emotions, read books such as 'The Colour Monster' and took part in activities designed to encourage being supportive to our friends.

In Key Stage 2, we enjoyed some mindful moments, played a game of kindness bingo and made a pledge to do something in the coming days and weeks to protect our mental health.

Across the school we also practised some mindfulness in a variety of different ways such as calming meditation time, mindfulness colouring, yoga, relaxing music and being outside in nature. It was great to be part of this important week and continue the conversation about young people and mental health.



- Health visitor
- School nurse
- Social worker
- Teacher

• Out of office hours

- If you think a child is in immediate danger please BANES Emergency Duty Team on 01454 61 51 65

Tell us immediately about any of the following and open the relevant option for details on how to report your concern:

- A child is suffering significant harm
- You want to protect a child from abuse or serious neglect
- You feel the child requires urgent or short-term care (acute services)

Or you can contact the NSPCC

[NSPCC Contact Us](#)

Book Week 2025

This year, Book Week will take place during the week beginning **Monday 3rd March 2025**. We have an exciting lineup of activities planned to inspire a love of reading in your children. Please see below for key dates and details.

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

On **World Book Day**, children are invited to dress up as their favourite book characters! We encourage creativity and homemade costumes, and there will be prizes for the most imaginative outfits. Throughout the day, our children will take part in a variety of reading-related activities designed to nurture their passion for books.

Book at Bedtime – Tuesday 4th March (4:30–5:30 PM)

We are delighted to bring back our **Book at Bedtime** event! Children are invited to return to school in their pyjamas for a cozy storytelling session led by a teacher. Optional donations will be welcomed to help provide hot chocolate for the evening.

Internet Safety Week

This week the whole school has been taking part in **Internet Safety Week**. The theme for this year was 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. To raise awareness around the school, the Digital Leader team helped Mrs Roberts to lead an assembly focused on online scams. During the assembly, the digital leaders shared the following top tips for staying safe online:

- 'Don't share passwords' - George
- 'Stay safe online' - Malachy
- 'If something is a scam then stop, close and tell.' - Rowan
- 'Remember, friends are real people we know.' - Olivia
- 'Don't share personal information with strangers' - Martha
- 'Go on apps that are appropriate' - Arthur
- 'If there is something you do not like, tell an adult.' - Poppy
- 'Don't click on links that you do not recognise' - Ben
- 'Be careful of scams. A scam is something that seems to good to be true' - Felix

To further support the school, the Digital Leaders also created posters with information about scams and how to stay safe online.



NEW! The Book Week Bingo Challenge

This year, we are introducing the **Book Week Bingo** Challenge, a fun, week-long reading challenge designed to encourage children to read creatively at home.

- There are **nine bingo challenges** to choose from.
- Complete each challenge and **record your progress** by signing the Bingo Sheet (coming home on **Friday 28th February**).
- Share your child's achievements by **sending pictures to teachers on Seesaw**.

Reading Awards

- Bronze Award – Complete 4 challenges
- Silver Award – Complete 6 challenges
- Gold Award – Complete all 9 challenges
- Platinum Award – Complete all 9 challenges AND visit the school library to borrow a "reading for pleasure" book.



Dates for your Calendar 2024/2025 - Term 4

Date	Event
24.02.25	Term 4 begins
27.02.25	Ducklings Church Visit 9.30am
28.02.25	<i>NEW! The Book Week Challenge begins</i>
03.03.25	Book Week
04.03.25	Mid-Somerset Festival
04.03.25	Book at Bedtime 4.30pm - 5.30pm
06.03.25	World Book Day - dress as your favourite character
10.03.25	Science Week
12.03.25	International Women's Day
18.03.25	Foxes Yr 3/4 Parent Workshop 9am
20.03.25	KS2 Big Sing Trip (Foxes, Lions & Eagles)
21.03.25	Comic Relief, Down's Syndrome Day
25.03.25	Badgers Yr 2 Assembly, followed by Parent Workshop 9am
25.03.25	Dance Umbrella Foxes
26.03.25	Rabbits Yr 1 Parent Workshop 2.15pm
27.03.25	Ducklings Reception Parent Workshop 9am
31.03.25	Parent / Teacher Meetings from 3.30pm
01.04.25	Parent / Teacher Meetings from 3.30pm
02.04.25	Lions Parent Workshop 9am
02.04.25	Eagles Parent Workshop 2pm
03.04.25	Easter Service Lions 9.30am
04.04.25	Sponsored Events (fundraising afternoon)



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Lansdown View, Timsbury, Bath, BA2 0JR

Executive Headteacher: Mrs M Parsons NPQH. M.A. B.Ed (Hons)

☎ 01761 470245 ✉ office@stmarystimsbury.co.uk 🌐 www.stmarystimsbury.co.uk

12th February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION – MIDSOMER NORTON SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP - ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are currently looking for a new Parent Governor to join the Governing Body of St Mary's Primary School within the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership. This opportunity has arisen because one of our governors has reached the end of their term.

Parent Governors play a crucial role in representing the views of parents/carers and helping to shape the direction of our school. If you're interested in making a difference, we encourage you to apply.

To apply, please complete the form at <https://forms.gle/WSsuqKHBDszff1dd7> by Monday, 24th March at midday. If we receive more applications than available positions, an election will be held. In that case, we will share your election statement, taken from your application form, with all parents/carers along with a voting form.

Please note that if you work at the school for 500 or more hours in an academic year, you are not eligible to stand as a Parent Governor. However, you may be eligible to stand as a Staff Governor if a position is available.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Parsons
Headteacher

LIBRARY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c
17 February

Bath Central Library

Lego Lab - Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

Local Author and Small Publisher Fair

Saturday 11.00 - 3.00pm 22 February

Art in the Library: Works by Fi Smith

Mon - Sat During opening hours throughout January

Sensory Space, for families with children and young adults with sensory needs

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

Winter Reading Challenge

A fun online challenge that encourages children to keep up their reading. Unlock special badges and earn a certificate of achievement once you meet your reading goal!

Board Game Fun

Thursday 11.00 - 4.00pm 20 February

Norland Nannies Grenfell Memorial Quilt

Come and see the beautiful quilt on display

Throughout February

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via the Virtual Library
Visit baneslibraries.co.uk/events

LIBRARY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c 17
February

Keynsham Library

Lego Lab - Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

Board Game Saturdays

Saturday 12.30 - 4.00pm 22 February

Sensory Space, for families with children and young adults with sensory needs

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

Winter Reading Challenge

A fun online challenge that encourages children to keep up their reading. Unlock special badges and earn a certificate of achievement once you meet your reading goal!

Library Introduction for SEND Families

Book a session to find out about the library's special resources for SEND families.

20 February
10.00 - 11.00pm,
11.00 - 12.00pm
1.00 - 2.00pm,
3.00 - 4.00pm

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via the Virtual Library
Visit baneslibraries.co.uk/events

LIBRARY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c
17 February

Midsomer Norton Library

Lego Lab - Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

Board Game Saturdays

Saturday during opening hours 22 February

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**TO SUPPORT
THE CONYGRE HALL**



QUIZ NIGHT

**BAR, HOT DRINK &
SNACKS AVAILABLE**

7:30 START

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21ST

Have a fun night full of challenges on our Quiz Night, with your friends. Register now and book a table for this fun-filled night!

Teams of 4 £10 per team

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY! BY EMAILING

events@conygretrust.org.uk or just turn up on the night

Half-Term Family Cycle Day



Join Us for Our First Family Cycle Day of 2025!
There's something for everyone at this **FREE** event, including:

- Dr Bike appointments
- Kids' balance bike drop-ins
- Adult e-bike and cargo trailer drop-ins

Friday 21st February, 09:30 am - 3 pm

Conygre Hall, North Road, Timsbury

Book your Dr Bike Slot:

www.theactivewaybathnes.co.uk/events-calendar

Or scan the QR code to go straight to The Active Way's website



Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives



Funded by
UK Government





Authors & Small Publishers Fair

Bath Central Library

Saturday 22 February 11.00am - 3.00pm

Pop in and meet this fantastic group of Authors and Publishers who will be selling their books!

Adult Book Authors

Celina Grace

J. F. Penn

Nancy Warren

Douglas Westcott

Jean Burnett

Annabelle Marx

Diana Cambridge

Maria Honker

Rachel Ward

Liz Lawler

Lizzie Lane

David Williamson

Children's Book Authors

Sarah Coyle

Sam Usher

Alice Tait

Nathalie Goss

Robert Starling

Maudie Smith

Emma Read

Sophie Cleverly

Fleur Hitchcock

Sian-Louise Tarn

Young Adult Book Authors

Zulekha A. Afzal

Jan Dunning

Finbar Hawkins

Publishers

Peirene Publishers



Scan the QR code to find out more



Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Some Authors are only able to take cash payment.

Family Holiday Activities

at Wells Cathedral

Medieval Masterpieces

17, 18, and 19 February 2025

Discover highlights of Wells Cathedral and make souvenirs to take home!

Monday 17: Wonderful Windows Take inspiration from the beautiful Cathedral windows to make your own artwork.

Tuesday 18: Cosmic Clock Experience the wonders of Wells Cathedral's Astronomical Clock and make a souvenir of your visit.

Wednesday 19: Clay Creations Explore the Cathedral carvings in wood and stone, then make a clay boss to take home.

FREE with adult entry.

No need to book – simply drop in on the day!



Sessions in the Education Room / Wells Cathedral

10.30am–3.30pm

There is no charge for children. 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 Family Holiday Activities beyond your initial visit. Only assistance dogs are allowed at this activity.



EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER

Wells Cathedral Registered Charity Number 1207269

We are celebrating author Julia Donaldson!

*Timsbury Library
Opening 1:30-4:30pm



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
6th March



- 2pm Julia Donaldson Story Time (ideal for little ones!)
- Detective Dog - smelling game
- Gruffalo - mask making
- Colouring sheets
- Room on the Broom - wand making



Come in costume
to win a prize!

The Active Way

Half-Term Family Cycle Day

Free Dr bike, Balance bike & E-bike sessions

Friday 21st February

09:30 am - 3pm

Conygre Hall, North Road, Timsbury



Bath & North East
Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives



Funded by
UK Government