

### St Mary's CofE Primary School

### "I can do <u>all</u> things"

Living Together, Learning Forever, Loving God's Creation

Friday 7th March 2025

**Newsletter 11** 

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



### **Mid-Somerset Festival**

This week, 36 children from Years 1 to 6 took part in the **Mid-Somerset Festival** in central Bath, performing their poems in front of a panel of judges. They competed against children from schools across the surrounding area, and each student from St. Mary's did an exceptional job. Their performances were a true credit to both the school and their families.

It was inspiring to see the pupils at St. Mary's overcome challenges, display courage, and refine their public speaking skills since starting their preparations in January. Developing these skills at an early age will undoubtedly set them up for continued success in the future.

A huge congratulations to all the pupils who participated – your hard work and dedication were truly evident!

### Congratulations to our World Book Day Best Dressed Winners!

A huge well done to everyone who took part in **World Book Day**—you all looked fantastic! The teachers would like to give a special mention to our **best dressed winners** for their incredible effort and creativity.

We had a wonderful day celebrating our love of reading here at **St. Mary's**, and we can't wait to share more highlights with you in our next newsletter. Stay tuned!

Miss Woods





### Headteacher's Award

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

Ducklings Dakota & Ruby C **Rabbits** George & Phoebe

**Badgers** Lucas, Mila **Foxes** Olivia & Oscar Lions Ronnie, Archie **Eagles** Joanna, Felix





### **Outside Achievements**



Amazing effort from **Ben**, **Willow** and **Matilda** who represented St Mary's at the annual **Speak Out Competition!** 

Daisy received a Star Award for being brave, Bella received not one but 3 Girl Guiding Badges and **Ruby** was Gymnast of the Day - we love hearing about all the activities you take part in.

# Hedgehogs





#### **Class News:**

We have had a fun packed two weeks in Hedgehogs. The children have enjoyed having their PE lesson outside on the big playground in the sunshine. They had even more space to move around and got to climb on the climbing frame! The lovely sunshine has made it slightly less muddy meaning we have been able to spend even more time in our woodland area (forest school) and last week we were very excited to find two very big frogs!

In Hedgehogs we enjoyed celebrating World Book Day all week long with extra stories and discussions on our favourite books. Some of the children (and teachers) enjoyed dressing up as their favourite characters on World Book Day as well as enjoying a special picnic in the theme of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. We got to try lots of different fruits!

Earlier in the week we made some pancakes for **Shrove Tuesday**, we discussed the ingredients we needed and how to cook the pancakes. The children enjoyed watching the teachers flip the pancakes and taking part in flipping their pretend pancakes too. Each child drew their ideal pancake and we talked about all the different shapes our pancakes and toppings can be. We then enjoyed eating the pancakes we had madeyum!

We also want to celebrate two of our Hedgehogs who took part in a dance show before half term. They learnt a wonderful dance and performed it in front of hundreds of people not once but three times over one weekend! Well done Ruby and Elizabeth!

Mrs Harrison & Miss James



# **Ducklings**





#### **Class News:**

This term we have introduced the new topic, 'People who help us'. We have been thinking about how many different people that help us and the different jobs there are. It was lovely to be visited by the Lollipop Lady last week. We asked her lots of questions and found out all of the skills we would need for this job.

This week we invited our school cleaner in to talk about her job.
Thank you for answering all of our questions and for showing us all of the equipment you use whilst completing your jobs. We look forward to having other visitors this term.

In Literacy, we have been reading the story of 'The Little Red Hen'. We have acted out the story and have written a book review this week. The book continues our theme of being helpful and helping others.

We enjoyed welcoming some of the children back in for our annual **Bedtime Story** event. It was exciting to come to school in our PJ's and slippers!

Thank you for your support in dressing up the children for **World Book Day** on Thursday. The children looked fantastic and have had lots of fun enjoying books and stories.

In Maths, we have continued to explore numbers to 10. We are looking at different representations and have developed our understanding of 1 more and 1 less than a given number.

On Tuesday we learned about **Shrove Tuesday**. We enjoyed mixing and tasting pancakes. We had lots of fun tossing our pancakes for the Pancake day races.

Mrs Gillard









### **Rabbits**



#### **Class News:**

Rabbits have come into Term 4 ready to learn! We are now over half way through Year 1 and Rabbits have been showing just how independent and hard working they are.

In English, we have enjoyed exploring our new book 'Man on the Moon'. We spent the first week developing our comprehension skills by making inferences, exploring new word meanings, writing using new vocabulary and answering a range of questions about a text. We have also spent time during book week writing a book review. We have enjoyed writing for a different purpose.

In Maths, we have finished our unit on place value to 50 and we have just started our unit on *mass and volume*. Rabbits were excited to use the scales in Maths to explore weight.

This term we have also started our new Design and Technology unit. Over the next few weeks we will be *constructing our own windmills* using paper cups and straws. So far Rabbits have designed and begun constructing parts of their windmills.

Finally, Rabbits have really enjoyed celebrating **Book Week**. They had a fantastic time with Mrs Brown at the **Bedtime Story Event**. They also came to school wearing super costumes for **World Book Day**.

Miss Tolfree

# **Badgers**





**Class News:** 

In English we have been exploring writing our own list poems and thinking about all the creative things a witch might keep in their handbag. For Book Week we have been thinking about the best book we have read this year in Badgers. Children have had the opportunity to review their favourite book from this year, thinking about what we have enjoyed about reading it and our favourite characters

Badgers have really enjoyed learning about multiplication so far this term. We have been looking at repeated addition leading up to looking at the multiplication symbol and their connection. Badgers are enjoying working practically to make groups or 'lots of' cubes to build their own addition and multiplication number sentences. In Art, we have begun our unit exploring clay, Badgers have been experimenting with using clay and how they can mould it into different shapes and manipulate it with their hands.

In PE on Friday we were joined by a specialist gymnastics coach for our lesson. All of the children enjoyed practicing moving their bodies in new and different ways and using all the special equipment.

World Book Day has been a huge success in Badgers! Well done to everyone for dressing up! We had so many amazing book characters come in. We enjoyed completing some special World Book Day activities, like designing our own book cover and title for a mystery book.

Miss Heath



### Foxes **Class News:**





In English, we have started a new book, 'The Butterfly Lion' by Micheal Morpurgo and will write our own version of this story in the form of a flashback. Continuing with the book theme, we enjoyed taking part in lots of book related activities for Book Week, tackling the Book Bingo Challenge and had fun dressing up as our favourite characters on World Book Day.

In History we have learnt about the fierce warrior, Queen Boudicca who led her army into battle against the Romans. Ask the Foxes where vou can see a statue of Boudicca and what historical clues it gives us about who she was.

In DT, we are going to be adapting a recipe and to start this off, the class enjoyed conducting some research by sampling a range of different biscuits, looking at the packaging and considering who the target audience would be.

Finally, we have enjoyed being outside in the glorious sunshine this week and have had fun in Forest School building dens with Mrs Munroe and also having sessions led by Bath Rugby. It's already shaping up to be a great term!

Mrs Brown



### Lions



#### **Class News:**

Term 4 has begun with us studying a new text in English. We are currently reading the book 'King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table' by Marcia Williams and we have enjoyed turning part of this story into a play script. We are specifically focussing on this genre of writing ahead of us then creating our own play scripts for the Easter story which we will be performing in St Mary's Church at our Easter Service.

In other subjects, we have concluded our unit on Fractions in Maths and have now begun to learn all about Decimals and Percentages. In Science, we have started learning about Earth and Space and created models (raiding the PE cupboard for balls of different sizes) to represent how the Moon rotates and orbits the Earth, whilst the Earth rotates and



orbits the Sun. Our topics of British Monarchy in History and Global Trade in Geography have continued with us learning about the Absolute Monarchies of Henry I and Elizabeth I compared with the Constitutional Monarchy of Charles III, and also finding out about the iPhone supply chain, involving extraction of natural resources, manufacturing, services, and research and development. We are also delighted to be working alongside Bath Rugby this term who are visiting us to run weekly sessions.

Finally, we have had a week of events and activities surrounding the official World Book Day on Thursday 6th March. These included BBC Live Lessons, a Bedtime Story event, dressing up as book characters and obviously lots and lots of lovely reading!

Mr Daniels









# **Eagles**



After a restful half-term, the Eagles have returned more determined than ever to take on the challenges of Term 4. They are focused and dedicated to expanding their learning in preparation for SATs. Their commitment and positive attitude have been evident in their outstanding efforts with homework and their enthusiastic attendance at weekly booster sessions—well done, team!

In Maths this term, we have tackled the challenges of ratio, scale drawings and scale factors. Initially, the Eagles approached ratio with some apprehension, worried it would be a tricky concept to master. However, they have embraced the new learning with determination, proving that anything is possible with the right mindset. They have particularly enjoyed solving ratio problems and exploring shape enlargement using scale factors.

In English, they have completed their narrative writing, focusing on using dialogue to convey character. We

have not only worked on mastering speech punctuation (which can be quite tricky!) but also on embedding dialogue seamlessly through action and description. The results have been fantastic, with some truly impressive pieces of writing. As part of Book Week, we have also been busy writing book reviews based on our class-guided reading texts. It has been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm for the books we've read together!

In PSHE, we have started a new unit called Healthy Me. The children have had to put their mature hats on as we've been discussing important topics such as drugs, alcohol and smoking. I must commend the Eagles on their maturity, insightful questions, and genuine care and curiosity when engaging in these discussions.

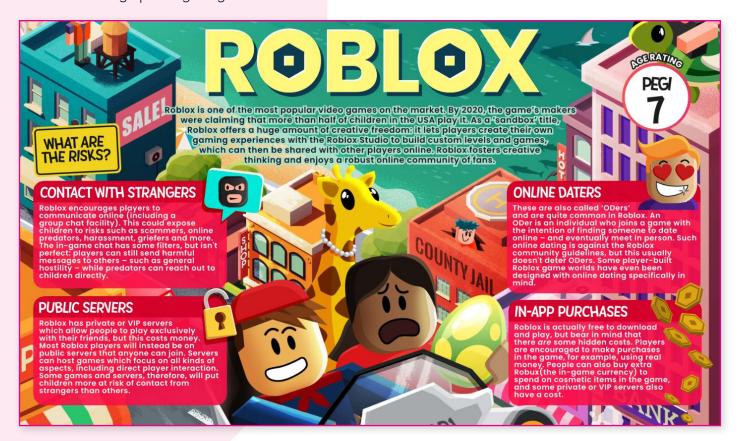
We are looking forward to another hardworking but action-packed term ahead!

Miss Woods

### **Internet Safety Roblox**

Roblox is one of the most popular games that children want to play online. The recommended PEGI age is 7+ but some of the games that children can access do have a horror element to them with characters that can seem innocent but are upsetting to some children. Please see the poster as a guide for parents, which outlines some of the risks. Please take some time to talk to your child if they are a fan of this game to check that they are not accessing upsetting images.





### **Book Week 2025**



\*REPRINT from last newsletter - Make sure you hand your Bingo sheet in to Miss Woods on Monday 10th of March \*

# 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

To earn the **Platinum Award**, children must visit the school library **after school on Monday**, **Wednesday**, **or Thursday** during Book Week. They must bring their **bingo sheet** to be signed by the supervising teacher and choose a book to take home.



### 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.

### **PARKING**



Thank you to most parents / carers who have observed the parking bollards at the front of the school. We have been working with our neighbours in the community to ensure the disabled parking space is available for those with a disabled badge.

The bollards and the cones are there to prevent vehicles parking on the zig zag lines - this is for the safety of all the children and adults who visit / attend St. Mary's.

Please do not park between the bollards or alongside the bollards.

# **Christian Value- Truthfulness**

Our Christian Value this term is Truthfulness. This week, we explored what it meant to be truthful, using this acrostic poem:

- T Trustworthy words and actions
- R Respect for doing the right thing
- U Uncovering the full picture
- T Telling it as it is
- H Having all the facts

"These are the things you should do: Speak the truth to one another." (Zachariah 8:16)

# House Points Winners



Well done to our House Point Winners for Week 1 of Term 4, Topaz. Week 2's winners are Topaz & Ruby - well done!

# Attendance Winners



Congratulations to Foxes for having 99.4% attendance last week. This week we have joint winners, the Attendance Champions are Lions and Eagles - amazing effort, with both classes achieving 100%!

# Wellies Please can all ch

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.





### Wishlist

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





# Dates for your Calendar 2024/2025 - Term 4

Date	Event
10.03.25	Science Week
12.03.25	International Women's Day
17.03.25	Sign Language Week
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)
04.04.25	Last day of Term 4
22.04.25	Start of Term 5

# **PTA NEWS**

The PTA are always looking for volunteers to help us run different events for the children and school/village community.

Can you spare just an hour during events to help us run them successfully?

Are you interested in joining the PTA or are keen to help when you can as a 'friend of the PTA'?
We'd love to hear from you!

Do you have any skills that we could utilise? Do we have any amateur DJ's who would like to help with school discos? Any gardeners who can help tidy the forest school area? All suggestions for ways you can help will be gratefully received!

WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS
CAN YOU HELP?

Contact Stef Mills if you can help: 07790778453 stefmills@aol.com

Recently things we have funded for the school include lots of books for the library and book burrow, prizes for the best costumes during World Book Day, History & Geography Respurces, prizes for the Great Timsbury Bake-Off and much more!

You are invited to join us at the
St Mary's School, Timsbury PTA
(Parent and Teacher Association)
AGM (Annual General Meeting)
Change of date and location:
Monday 17th March
7pm-8pm
St Mary's School



If you...

- Are interested in how the PTA charity is run
- Would like to know how we spend our funds
- · Have suggestions for fundraisers
- Are keen to get involved in fundraising
- Have skills that might help support the PTA or our events
  - ...then we would love to see you at our AGM.



# GROWING LOCAL SEEDS

#### What is Seedy Saturday?

We are a local event that offers growers at all stages and ages the chance to share their own seeds, exchange tips and experiences, browse local products and get involved in community activities. Every year there's lots to see and do with something for all the family.

Alongside the community seed swap. this 15th anniversary event has stalls selling seeds and potatoes, spring bulbs and plants, homemade produce, local crafts, plant-based products and gifts Plus, displays and activities, expert talks and advice, and tasty treats from the kitchen café

By growing, saving and swapping seeds, you can help to keep some wonderful old varieties alive, conserve biodiversity and create locally adapted varieties.

So come and 'Get Seedy!' Bring your seeds, family & friends, and let's have fun swapping, sharing, growing & learning.







#### Enter our prize draw for your chance to win one of three prizes!

If you would like to be kept informed of future events, including next year's event to be held on Saturday 14 March 2026, please write your name and address on the back of this slip, bring it with you to Seedy Saturday 2025 and pop it in the box on the Get Seedy! stand. You will then be entered into our prize draw with a chance to win...

> 1st prize - £20 gift voucher and seeds 2<sup>nd</sup> prize - £10 gift voucher and seeds 3rd prize - £5 gift voucher

# **Seedy Saturday**

# The 15th Seed Swap, **Potato Day** & Green Fair

Entry £2

### Saturday 8 March 2025 10am - 2pm

The Conygre Hall, Timsbury, BA2 OJQ

- Bring seeds to swap if you have no seeds to exchange
- Browse heritage and organic seeds potatoes, onions, shallots, garlic and plants for sale
- Purchase local preserves, crafts. home-grown and plant-based products
- Pick up growing tips with inspiring expert talks and advice from local growers
- Fun displays and activities for all the family
- Find out about and get involved locally with groups dedicated to gardening, wildlife and sustainable lifestyles

servina drinks, snacks and homemade cakes



Get Seedy! with Seedy Saturday

Swapping • Sharing • Growing • Learning

www.seedysaturday.org.uk · seedswap@getseedy.co.uk

### Exhibitors and Stallholders (A-Z)

Locally based environmental charity, dedicated to securing a sustainable future for wildlife and people through nature reserves, events, education, voluntary opportunities, monitoring and research.

Barty's Tradina Co

Handpicked French soaps, pots and planters, plus their own designed and made range of rustic metal garden art.

Beans and Herbs

Specialising in organic seed of vegetables and herbs for home growers

and allotment holders. Huge range of bean and herb seeds.

A community organisation formed in 2021 with the aim of acquiring a piece of land in the village to benefit the whole community.

Hives and Herbals

100% beeswax candles, lip balms, hand-creams, 100% cotton and beeswax eco-friendly food wraps, finctures, and giff sets. Products that are as 'natural as can bee'.

Kate Westcott

Intricate designs of simple beauty on soft earthy linens, from stark winter trees, to bunches of tiny flowers of cow parsley in spring, these incredible images inspire Kate all year round and appear in her work.

Herbalist and Indian Head Massage therapist. A limited number of small-batch herbal creations will be available to purchase. See also 'Expert Talks'. Medicinals

Hand Painted Birchwood Flowers and Seasonal Decorations — designed, laser cut, and hand painted by Maggie Powell in her Somerset workshop. Working solely with responsibly sourced materials.

An organic, handmade body, face and hair oil — an all in one beautiful, natural product for everyone, made entirely from plant-derived ingredients.

Orchids by Celia

As small orchid nursery near Bath growing mainly cool-growing tropical orchids from seed or propagated from cuttings. All their orchids are ethically grown and never taken from the wild.

**Pennard Plants** 

Potatoes, potatoes, potatoes — 50+ varieties sold by the tuber. Also, heritage vegetable and flower seeds, onion sets, rhubarb crowns, fruit bushes and trees and unusual tubers to grow and eat. "Grow what you can't buy!"

A joyful, inspirational, subversive gem — bringing together DIY art, music,

performances, open studios, workshops, sculpture park, community forest garden, vegan food and much more. See also 'Expert Talks'.

rspb.org.uk

Now the largest nature conservation charity in the country, consistently
delivering successful conservation, forging powerful new partnerships with
other organisations, and inspiring others to give nature the home it deserves.

The Card Lady Exceptional quality, beautiful cards and aift wrap for everyday and special occasions that you simply cannot do without

Timmy's Chillies Marmalades and Jellies

Jam-packed with fresh fruit! Multi-award-winning fresh fruit marmalades and jellies in a range of flavour and heat strengths, with chilli on the finish. Gluten-free, vinegar-free, vegan-friendly.

Weleda Wellbeing Advisor - Stef Mills

facebook.com/WellbeingAdvisorStefMillsSomersef
Offering advice and demonstrations on the organic and natural cosmetic range
from Weleda — the oldest organic, biodynamic skin care company in the world.



Look out for family-friendly activities and displays on some of the stalls, and visit the Crafty Kids' Zone for craft and colouring activities throughout the day, organised and run by Timsbury PTA. Please leave a donation.

### Expert

Talks take place on the stage. Each talk will last for about 20-30 minutes, with time for questions and answers.

10.45am Herbs from the garden for stress and anxiety Helen Gray • Malago Medicinals

11.45am Plants and people have the power to create lasting change

Innes Rawlinson • Rockaway Park Community Forest Garden

All details correct at time of going to print.

Exhibitors, talks and activities are subject to availability and/or change.



#### Enter our prize draw for your chance to win! (details overleaf)

Email Address: -Postal Address: -

**Terms and conditions**: Only one entry per household • All entries must be made in person at Seedy Saturday 2025 • The draw will be made on Sunday 9 March 2025 and winners notified within seven days • No cash alternative will be given • You will only be contacted by Get Seedyl or Seedy Saturday • Your details will not be passed onto anyone else • You can unsubscribe at any

### LIBRARY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### w/c 10 March

### **Bath Central Library**

Lego Lab - Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme** 

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00am 12 March

Art in the Library: Bath Institute for Rheumatic Diseases

Mon - Sat During opening hours 4 - 28 March

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

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

**Storytime** 

Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00am 11 March

**Board Game Saturday** 

Thursday 11.00 - 4.00pm 15 March

**Keynsham Library** 

Lego Lab - Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

**Board Game Saturdays** 

Saturday 12.30 - 4.00pm 15 March

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

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### w/c 10 March

### **Keynsham Library**

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

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

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Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme** 

Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00am

10.30 - 11.00am

11 March

**Storytime & Craft** 

Thursday 11.00 - 11.30am

13 March

**Midsomer Norton Library** 

Lego Lab - Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

**Board Game Saturdays** 

Saturday during opening hours 15 March

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme** 

Monday 11.00 - 11.30am 10 March

**Storytime** 

Wednesday 10.30-11.00pm 12 March

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

TIMSBURY ATHLETIC YOUTH FC PRESENTS

# TMSBURY TIGERS





- V FUN. FRIENDLY & WELCOMING
- DEVELOP SKILLS WITH MINI GAMES
- LEARN FOOTBALL BASICS THE FUN WAY



SIGN UP AT TAFC.ORG.UK/TIGERS



