

6th September 2024

**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



### Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to another school year! The children have settled back into routines and the children's new learning journeys have begun.

As always we have started the year reminding ourselves of the school vision 'Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring' and the Bible story 'Wise Man and the Foolish Man' which underpins this. In collective worship this week we have explored what this looks like in school alongside our three golden rules 'Ready, Respectful and Caring'. Next week, we will send out an electronic copy of our Home-School Agreement, please read this alongside your child and confirm online that you have done so. All children have discussed their commitment in school and what this looks like 'day to day'.

As well as welcoming our new children into Acorns class, we have also welcomed many new children and their families to the St John's community this September. In collective worship we welcomed them to the St John's family by presenting them with their pebble for the Koinonia dish. This will happen for our Reception children at the Harvest festival this year.

As always we look forward to working closely with you all this year and sharing your child's learning journey with you.

*Mrs West-Gaul*

### Dates for Your Diary

SEPTEMBER	
10th	Year Three swimming starts
16th & 17th	Individual and sibling photos
17th	Meet the Teacher
20th	PTA EYFS New parents coffee morning, 8.30am
26th	PTA AGM, 3.15pm
OCTOBER	
9th	Harvest Festival in school 9am. Reception parents are invited to attend.
15th	Open Morning, 9.30am
22nd & 23rd	Parents' Evenings
24th	PTA Disco and Non-Uniform Day
25th	INSET Day

### Meet the team

Senior Leadership Team:  
Headteacher - Mrs D West-Gaul  
Deputy Head - Mrs R Monks  
Assistant Head - Mrs G Stone  
Senior Teacher - Mr T Yarlett

Office Team:  
There have been a couple of changes in the school office: Mrs D Roberts is now our Office Manager and we welcome Mrs S Hall to our existing team.

### Administering Medication

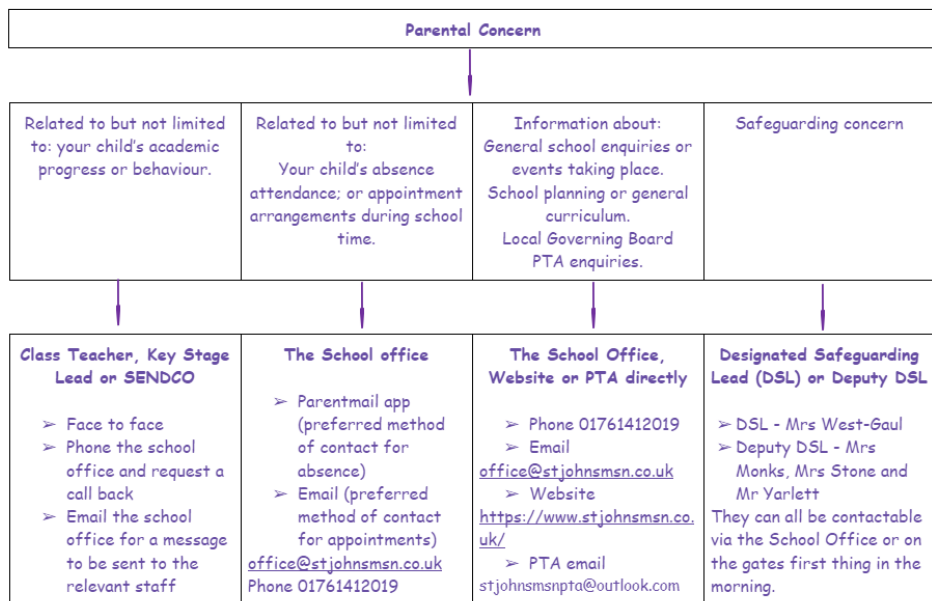
If we will be continuing to administer any medication for your child, please complete a new form at the School Office as soon as possible. Thank you.



## St John's Communication Flow Chart

### St John's Communication Flow Chart - who to contact and how

To be read alongside Parents Guides, Trust Policies and information on the school website



### Uniform expectations

The children have returned to school looking very smart in their uniform. Please ensure that all belongings have your child's name clearly written inside. It is very difficult to reunite lost clothes with children when they are not labelled. Please ensure that all hair is tied back. We will continue to monitor uniform and have spare hair ties, clothing and school ties if anyone should not be meeting the expectations. We will inform you if your child regularly requires anything from the spares box and can offer financial support for those in receipt of pupil premium.

### Meet The Teacher

On Tuesday 17th September you are invited to pop into your child's classroom after school for your child to show you their new classroom. We will hand children over at the end of the day as normal and then you can choose to come into the classroom once the children have all been dismissed. This will be informal and is optional - all the information you need for the year ahead, including PE days, can be found on your year group newsletter. Teachers will be in their classes until 3:15pm so parents who need to visit more than one room should have time to do so.

### Change to morning routine

You may have noticed teachers are now on the playground at 8:15am, this is for parents to be able to pass on quick messages at the beginning of the day. If you need a longer conversation please arrange this through the school office. Teachers will then lead their classes into the classrooms at 8:20am in order to start their learning promptly. SLT will shut all doors and gates at 8:30am as normal.

### Homework

This year we have launched a new format for homework across the school. Every year group will be sending their homework out on a Friday and it needs to be handed in on a Wednesday. In addition to this there is an expectation that all children read regularly (recorded in the reading diary at least three times a week) and complete their doodle maths activities. There is a homework club on a Thursday after school to give children access to a computer to complete their doodle maths. Any children who do not meet the homework expectations will be supported during their lunchtime to complete it.



## A few reminders . . .

### Parent to School Communication

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please feel free to send an email to us in the first instance: [office@stjohnsmsn.co.uk](mailto:office@stjohnsmsn.co.uk) Email communications are the most effective way to pass messages, as they can be easily forwarded to the relevant staff in school.

In case of emergency, or if you need an immediate response, please call the school office: 01761 412019 (option 2).

### Reporting Absences

If your child cannot attend school due to illness, please contact the school office and leave a message on the absence reporting system 01761 412019 (option 1), report via the absence reporting facility in ParentMail or email [office@stjohnsmsn.co.uk](mailto:office@stjohnsmsn.co.uk).

**Absences should be reported as soon as possible and by 8.30am on the first day of illness.**

If your child is still absent on subsequent days, please ensure you contact the office every morning of absence.

### Change of Details

Please let us know urgently if you have a change of name, address, telephone number or email address. It is important that we have all of the correct information on file. Please email the office. We may contact you via another method to validate a change in email address.

### Administering Medication

If your child has an ongoing condition or illness that may require prescribed medication to be administered during the school day, you will need to complete and sign a form, which you can collect from the office or download in advance from the school website. If this is not completed, we will not be able to administer the medication. Any medication that is not prescribed by a medical professional cannot be administered by the school.

If your child requires pain relief for an illness or injury, this must be prescribed in order that we can administer it - otherwise you are welcome to make arrangements to come into school and administer the medication yourself.


### Holidays in Term Time

We do not authorise holidays during term time as any absence may affect your child's learning. However, should you need to request an unavoidable absence, you will need to complete the appropriate form, available from the school office, or on the school website.

Absences will be considered by the Headteacher and either authorised or denied. A fine may be issued if your child has a number of unauthorised absences.

### Lost Property

With the aim of reducing lost property, please name uniform, water bottles, lunch boxes, sun hats etc. Labels can be purchased from [www.MyNametags.com](http://www.MyNametags.com) with the school ID 31825 and the school will receive a donation.



**MY NAMETAGS**

**REDUCING YOUR CHILD'S LOST PROPERTY IN SCHOOLS/PTAS**

EMMA  
01773 777 171

24% of every order will be donated to our PTA/School!  
Just use our school ID on the checkout.

[www.MyNametags.com](http://www.MyNametags.com)

School ID: **31825**



## Awards of the Week

Well done to all of our pupils who have achieved an award this week!

	Star of the Week	Star Readers
Ash	Noah	Oliver
Birch	Ronan	Bella
Chestnut	Dylan	-
Elm	Shontae	Mila
Hazel	Loula	Imogen
Holly	Samantha	Evie
Maple	Amelia S	Zena
Oak	Fleur	Jack H
Pine	Boanna	Owen
Rowan	Ava	Elsie
Sycamore	Ruben	Isla
Willow	Nyla	Marcus

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT ST JOHNS


Every school day counts!

Children are required, by law, to attend school for 190 days of the year.

The government state that children's attendance should be **at least 95%**.

We are here to support you!

If you need support getting your child to school, please speak to a member of staff who will be willing to help.



**01761 412019**  
**WWW.STJOHNSMSN.CO.UK**

**100% EXCELLENT**

98% Good

95% REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT

90% PERSISTENT ABSENTER

85% CRITICAL CONCERN

4 - 7.5 days absent = 22-41 hours of lost learning

9.5 - 17 Days absent = 52 - 93.5 hours of lost learning

19 - 27 days absent = 104.5 - 148.5 hours of lost learning

28.5 - 38 days absent = 155.5 - 209 hours of lost learning

### Bristol Sport Stars of the Week: BRISTOL SPORT FOUNDATION

Year 5 Pine - Avery  
 Year 1 Ash - Ayda  
 Year 1 Birch - Freddie  
 Year 2 Chestnut - Jesse  
 Year 2 Elm - Fletcher



heritage open days

## Tower Tours and Teas at St John's Church, Midsomer Norton!

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2-5pm**

[www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)

[@heritageopenday](https://twitter.com/heritageopenday)   
 #HODs   
 [f/heritageopendays](https://www.facebook.com/heritageopendays)   
 [@heritageopendays](https://www.instagram.com/heritageopendays)








## Reading in Year Six

In Year Six, our focus reading book for the first term is 'Arctic Star' by Tom Palmer.

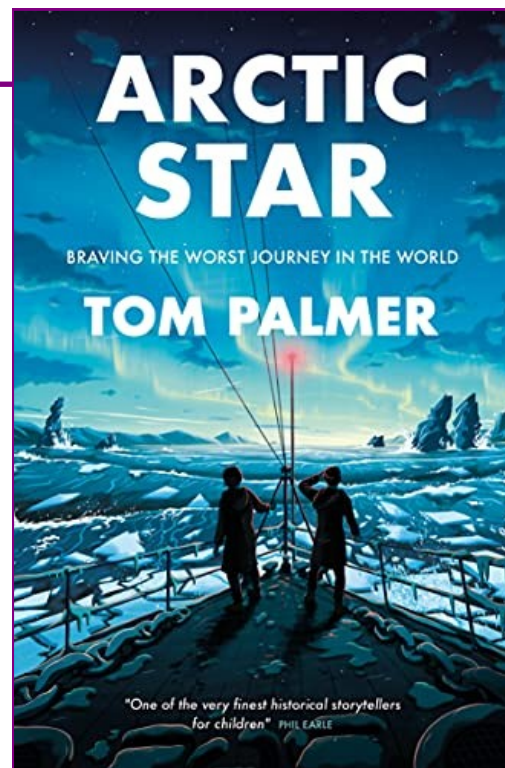
Set in the icy waters of the Arctic Ocean during the Second World War, three young friends from Plymouth, Frank, Joseph and Stephen, embark upon a treacherous mission to deliver supplies to Soviet Russia. As they battle through the Arctic pack ice, they must also contend with the constant threat of German U-boats (submarines) and battleships, not to mention the dreaded *Scharnhorst*.

Here are some of our initial impressions of the book, having read the first two chapters this week:

Harry - I think the book has started really well - I think it will be a really good read. Some books can start quite slowly, but this one is really quick to jump straight into some high-stakes action.

Mason - I think it is an interesting book with an amazing start - it went in so quickly! Straight away, we've met the main characters and there is already a problem which they need to overcome.

Emilia - I think it will be a brilliant book and it might inspire us to write stories ourselves.





# Are you choosing a school for your child for September 2025?

We know that choosing a school for your child is one of the most important decisions you make as parents.

To provide parents with an opportunity to learn more about our school and our ethos, we are inviting you to visit the school for a presentation followed by a tour of the school.



## Open Mornings

**Tuesday, 15th October, 9.30am**  
**Tuesday, 5th November, 9.30am**  
**Friday, 8th November, 9.30am**

Places are limited so must be booked in advance by contacting the School Office on 01761 412019.

We can offer:

- Dedicated teaching rooms for cookery, music and pottery
- Forest school sessions
- Extra-curricular clubs
- Large playing fields and playgrounds with age-appropriate activity areas
- Outdoor classroom



**St. John's Primary School is a 'Good' School:**

*"Pupils behave well in school... Classrooms are calm and pupils work hard. In the playground, pupils socialise happily together."*

*"Pupils are taught a well-considered curriculum to support their broader development. This is a particular strength of the school."*

**Ofsted Report, March 2023**



**St. John's Church of England Primary School**

Redfield Road, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2JN

Tel: 01761 412019

E-mail: [office@stjohnsmn.co.uk](mailto:office@stjohnsmn.co.uk)

Web: [www.stjohnsmn.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsmn.co.uk)



## Benefit Related Free School Meals All School Years

If you receive any of the benefits listed below, and your child attends a Bath and North East Somerset academy or maintained school, please register for benefit related free school meals.

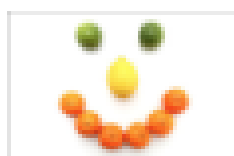
Registration could attract Pupil Premium funding for your child's school, £1480 per Primary pupil and £1050 per Secondary pupil.

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (WITHOUT Working Tax Credit) and have an annual household income (as assessed by HMRC) below £16,190
- Working Tax Credit Run-on which is *only paid for 4 weeks* after you STOP qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under PartV1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Apply online at <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Email the team at [freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk)

Or call 01225 394317 – please leave a message if you reach our answerphone and we will return your call.



## Message from the PTA

Dear Parent/Carer

We've got some exciting news to share with you.

Parentkind – a charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. To support our school, all you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com.

Between 2<sup>nd</sup> September and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts-in to support our Primary school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

The supermarket has joined forces with Joe Wicks to support the initiative – look out for the TV advert, radio ads and social media coverage!

### It's as easy as 1,2,3

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools (make sure you have the latest version of the app installed)
2. Choose our Primary School – either searching by name or postcode (BA3 2JN)
3. Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop

Asda does the rest, all money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most. We are aiming to spend our donations on finishing the new trim trail on the field.

Remember, anyone can sign up – so start spreading the news and raising funds for our school.

This initiative is on top of the existing Asda Rewards benefits you get as a shopper – so you won't lose out on any of your own earnings or Cashpot, so everyone is a winner!

For more details, visit [asda.com/cashpotforschools](https://asda.com/cashpotforschools)

There are lots of exciting things planned coming up before Christmas so please save the dates:

Event	Date/Time	Location
New parent's coffee morning	20/09/24 - 8:25am	School Hall
PTA AGM	26/09/24 - 3:15pm	School Hall
Non Uniform & Disco	24/10/24 - Evening	School Hall
PTA Xmas Fete	23/11/24 - 11am-2PM	School
Elfridges	13/12/24 - During School	School

If anyone is interested in helping the PTA or finding out any more information, please email [StJohnsmsnpta@outlook.com](mailto:StJohnsmsnpta@outlook.com) or visit our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/225019237854017>

**INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS**

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards and we will donate ££s to schools.

**HERE'S HOW:**

- 1 Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
- 2 Choose your primary school.
- 3 Shop in-store across Asda & George, and scan your Asda Rewards app at the checkout.
- 4 Shopping online? Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5 We'll do the rest! We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.

With Parentkind







Midsomer Norton  
Schools Partnership

## September 2024 Open Evenings



**Norton Hill School**  
 Thursday 19th September 2024  
 4:45pm - 7:30pm  
 Presentations 5:00pm and 6:15pm  
 School tours can be booked via our website from September:  
[www.nortonhill.school.com/about-us/open-evening-and-y6-school-tours.htm](http://www.nortonhill.school.com/about-us/open-evening-and-y6-school-tours.htm)  
[www.nortonhill.school.com](http://www.nortonhill.school.com)




**Somervale School**  
 Thursday 26th September: 5:00pm - 7:30pm  
 Presentation and Tours available.  
 Please see our website for further information on how to sign up to attend our Open Evening and Tours.  
[www.somervaleschool.com](http://www.somervaleschool.com)




**WRITHLINGTON SCHOOL**  
**OPEN EVENING**  
 WEDNESDAY 25th SEPTEMBER  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm

- Headteacher Keynote Speech
- Guided Tours
- Daily school tours running from late September. To book a place call reception on 01701 433581

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[Writlington Sch.uk](https://www.facebook.com/writlington.sch.uk) [writlington.sch.uk](https://www.instagram.com/writlington.sch.uk)



BEECHEN CLIFF

An exceptional all-round education for boys

A vibrant, academic mixed Sixth Form




Prospective Parents Evening Thursday 12th September 6pm - 8pm

Open Morning Thursday 19th September 9am - 11.30am

Sixth Form Open Morning Saturday 19th October 9am - 1pm

[www.beechencliff.org.uk](http://www.beechencliff.org.uk)

 @beechencliff



## LIBRARY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c  
9 September

### Bath Central Library

#### Storytime

Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00am 10 September

#### Summer Reading Challenge

Mon - Fri Closes 14 September

#### Board Game Saturdays

Saturday 12.30 - 4.00pm 14 September

#### Art in the Library: Usha Pearce, Montse Asensio, Kiran Pearce

Mon - Sat During opening hours 6 September - 3 Oct

#### Roald Dahl Story Day Celebrations

A Phizz - Whizzing Roald Dahl picture trail to find ten Roald Dahl book covers in our core libraries. Plus, draw and display your own BFG dream jar display.

Mon - Sat During opening hours 9- 21 September

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

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

#### Lego Lab, Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

#### Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00am 11 September

#### Chinese Moon Festival Planetarium Show Saturday 14 September

Free event. Pre-booking essential. Suitable for age 5+. [herchelmuseum.org.uk](http://herchelmuseum.org.uk)  
10.15 - 11.00am  
11.30 - 12.15pm  
1.15 - 2.00pm

### Keynsham Library

#### Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00am 10 September  
10.30 - 11.00am

#### Sensory Space, for families with children & young adults with sensory needs

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

#### Board Game Saturdays

Saturday 12.30 - 4.00pm 14 September

#### Storytime

Thursday 10.30 - 11am 12 September

#### Lace Making Group

Thursday 2.00 - 4pm 12 September

### Midsomer Norton Library

#### Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Monday 11.00 - 11.30am 9 September

#### Sensory Space, for families with children & young adults with sensory needs

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

#### Board Game Saturdays

Saturday 10.00 - 12.30pm 14 September

#### Storytime

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00pm 11 September

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via the blog.  
Visit [baneslibraries.co.uk/events](http://baneslibraries.co.uk/events)



FREE  
EVENT

## Chinese Moon Festival Planetarium Show

FUNDED BY  
THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Saturday 14th September @ Bath Central Library  
10:15 - 11am | 11:30 am - 12:15pm | 1:15-2pm



Immerse yourself in the beauty of the night sky as we explore the legends and traditions of this special festival.

Pre-booking essential. Suitable for ages 5+  
See website for details: [herchelmuseum.org.uk](http://herchelmuseum.org.uk) or [meaa.org.uk](http://meaa.org.uk)

HERSCHEL MUSEUM  
OF ASTRONOMY



Bath & North East  
Somerset Council



## BRISTOL SPORT FOUNDATION

ACTIVE. HEALTHY. HAPPY.

We deliver fun and inclusive sport and physical activity sessions in Greater Bristol to provide children with opportunities to enjoy being active and fall in love with sport.

Find out what Clubs, Hubs & Camps we have available at your school and in the local area at [www.bristolsportfoundation.org](http://www.bristolsportfoundation.org).

