

20th 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

Yesterday I had the pleasure of accompanying the Year Six children to Bristol. We had a self guided tour of the M Shed, where we learnt about Bristol life through the ages, and then we took a boat trip up the river on a guided tour of the landmarks and people linked to the transatlantic slave trade. The children (and adults) all returned with fascinating facts and are eager to continue their History learning in class.

This week all of the teaching and support staff at St John's have had training from the Specialist Autism Support Service team, developing our understanding on how to further support children across the school. Some of the top tips will be shared in the SEND section of purple pages next week.

Next week will be assessment week across the school. The children will be taking baseline assessments in Maths and Reading to show their understanding at this point in the year. The assessments will take place in a supportive environment, with some year groups doing a few questions a day, children being taken out in small groups and teachers referring to them as quizzes.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs West-Gaul*

**Please be reminded that the school grounds is a no-smoking and no-vaping area.**

**Thank you**

### Dates for Your Diary

SEPTEMBER	
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
NOVEMBER	
5th	Open Morning, 9.30am
8th	Open Morning, 9.30am
11th	Wear Red, Poppy Appeal
12th	Year Six Information Evening for Parents
13th	Flu Vaccinations
27th	INSET Day

### School Meal Bookings

We have been informed by the Trust's central catering team that they will be making changes to the meal booking system during the half term break, and this will remove any forward lunch bookings.

Therefore, please could we ask that you **do not make your meal bookings for after the half-term until after Monday 28th October.**

We will remind you in the weekly reminder email.



## 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	Dexter	Eleanor
Birch	Lottie	Albie
Chestnut	Eric	Arya
Elm	Edward	Melania
Hazel	Thea	Sonny
Holly	Mackenzie	Arianna
Maple	Tommy H	Dolly
Oak	Bella	Jack B
Pine	Ella	Anna
Rowan	Texa	Isla
Sycamore	Kara	Reggie
Willow	Poppie	Arthur



## Top Doodling Class

4A

Well done!



## PE Stars of the Week:

- Year 6 Sycamore - Finley
- Year 6 Willow - Ralphy and Amelia
- Year 5 Pine - Elsie and Finley
- Year 5 Rowan - Aoife and Rudi
- Year 4 Maple - Tommy
- Year 4 Oak - Fleur and Harry
- Year 3 Hollie - Jaxon and Kara
- Year 3 Hazel - Rosie
- Year 2 Elm - Isobel and Blake
- Year 2 Chestnut - Amelia and Harvey
- Year 1 Ash - Leo G
- Year 1 Birch - Albie



## Out of School Achievement

Lucas achieved Player of the Match on Sunday.

Well done!



## Hot Chocolate Friday



## SEND

If your child is on the Special Educational Needs (SEND) Register, your child's class teacher will be making, or may have already made, contact with you to discuss their Individual Support Plan (ISP). The ISP is an important document which celebrates your child's successes and highlights what they find challenging in school. It will also outline the targets they are currently working on and how we are supporting them with this.

In order for this document to be effective, it is vital that input from parents/carers is included. You know your child better than anyone so your information is key to ensure any support given in school is successful.

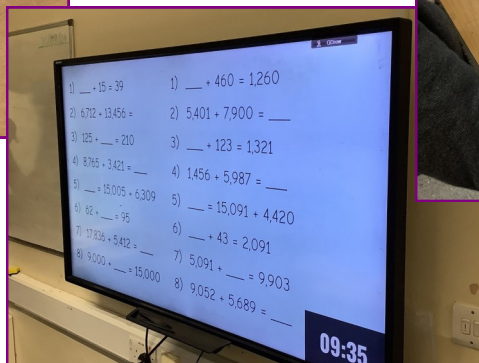
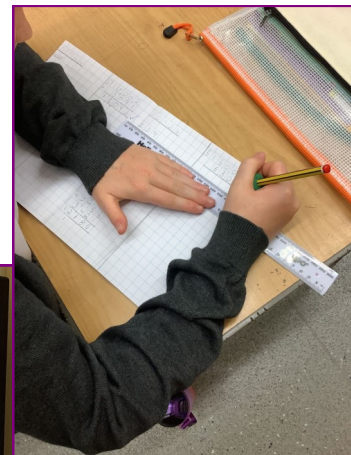
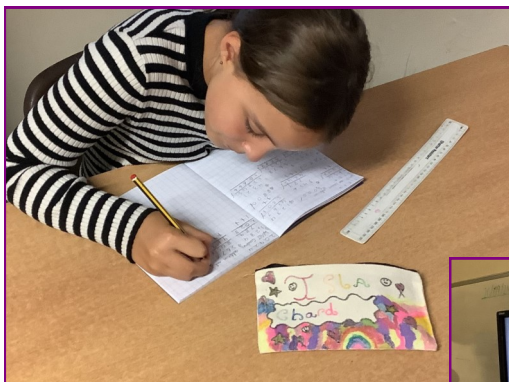
If your child is on the SEND register, and you have not heard from their teacher by Friday 27th September, please contact them to arrange a discussion.

## Maths



At the start of the new academic year, all classes have been focusing on place value using concrete, pictorial and abstract approaches to deepen understanding. Alongside daily practice, students engage in 15 minutes of arithmetic each day, building on the skills learned in class to ensure key concepts are well embedded.

Regular interventions are also in place to provide additional support for children needing further consolidation. Additionally, times table practice is being conducted across the school to promote fluency and instant recall, ensuring all students develop strong foundational mathematics skills.





## Year Six History Trip

Yesterday, our wonderful Year Six students travelled to Bristol to learn more about the city's development during the Georgian Era, in particular, its connection to the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

We went on a voyage along the harbour (conveniently, it was International 'Talk Like a Pirate' Day) where we learned about the experiences of a young Bristolian sailor working on a slave ship. We were also introduced to some key figures from the Abolitionist Movement, including William Wilberforce.



At the M Shed, the children were given the opportunity to act as information detectives, using the clues in their booklet to locate information and answer questions about Georgian Bristol. The children also saw the Colston statue lying horizontally in the museum, having been toppled at the Harbourside in 2020. This sparked some very mature discussions amongst our students about the legacy of the Slave Trade.

Overall, it was a fantastic day and we are very proud of our Year Six's for their engagement, curiosity and enthusiasm.





## Helping our Community

Last year, the Rota Kids organised their own fundraising event to raise money for the local Silver Street Nature Reserve. With all your generosity and support, we were able to raise £155 and are proud to share that the money raised was used to install a new bench next to the spring head.

We are lucky enough to be able to feature in the Journal this week so keep your eyes peeled for the children's amazing achievements. Well done Rota Kids!

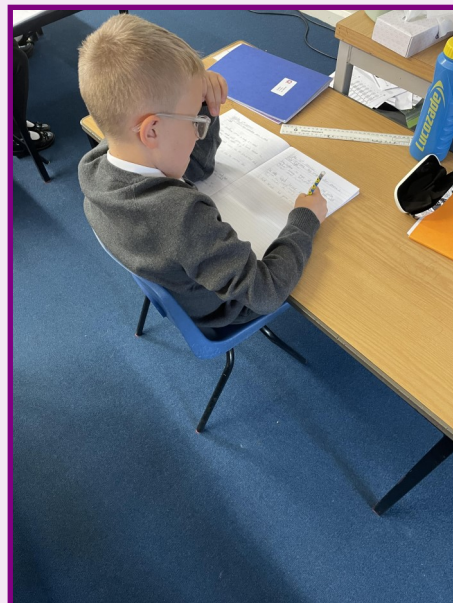
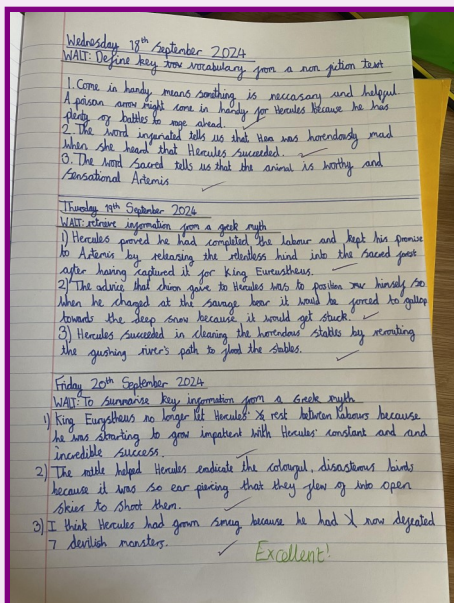
Miss Moody



## Reading in Year Four

In Year Four this week, we have begun reading a new text linked to our Ancient Greece unit. We have been reading and learning about the 12 Labours of Hercules.

The children have really enjoyed this topic so far and have shown a huge enthusiasm for the topic. We have been incredibly impressed by the amount children already know about Ancient Greece and the myths we have been reading.



# 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@stjohnsmsgn.co.uk](mailto:office@stjohnsmsgn.co.uk)

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





## PTA

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

Event	Date/Time	Location
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>

**M N S P** 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.nortonhillschool.com/about-us/open-evening-and-y6-school-tours.htm](http://www.nortonhillschool.com/about-us/open-evening-and-y6-school-tours.htm)  
[www.nortonhillschool.com](http://www.nortonhillschool.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 433931

CREATING OPPORTUNITY. INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT.

[www.writhlington-school.org.uk](https://www.writhlington-school.org.uk)



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT ST JOHNS

Every school day counts!

100%  
EXCELLENT

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%**.

98%  
Good

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

We are here to support you!

95%  
REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT

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

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

90%  
PERSISTENT ABSENTER

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

85%  
CRITICAL CONCERN

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



01761 412019

WWW.STJOHNSMSN.CO.UK



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- 4 Shopping online? Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
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With Parentkind

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VOLUNTEER WITH US!



SENDIAS Bathnes offers free, impartial and confidential information, advice and support to children and young people between the ages of 0 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents/carers.

## Could you be a Parent Champion?

We are now recruiting for volunteers to join our friendly and professional team

Parent Champions give a few hours a week / fortnight to chat to other families about what we do and which other services are available locally

These are flexible roles during term time and training and support are provided

For further information and to apply please visit [sendiasbathnes.org.uk/volunteer-us](http://sendiasbathnes.org.uk/volunteer-us)

Closing date: 4th October 2024

Call us: 01225 394382

Email us: [sendias@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:sendias@bathnes.gov.uk)

Text: 07530263401



Sendiasbathnes



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FOR MORE INFO EMAIL [INFO@MIDSOMERNORTONRFC.CO.UK](mailto:info@midsomernortonrfc.co.uk) OR PHONE 07843436344  
Midsomer Norton RFC, Norton Down Playing Fields, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2UE  
[www.midsomernortonrfc.co.uk](http://www.midsomernortonrfc.co.uk)



## BRISTOL SPORT FOUNDATION

ACTIVE. HEALTHY. HAPPY.

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**BRISTOL**  
SPORT FOUNDATION

