

10th January 2025

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: WISDOM



Message from the Headteacher

Wishing you all a very 'Happy New Year' - I hope you all had a good Christmas break.

The children have settled back into school well and new learning has begun. Today you should receive your child's year group newsletter. This will give you an insight into the learning that took place last term as well as the learning journey your child will be making this term. As always if you have any expertise that you would like to share please talk to your child's class teacher.

This term's Christian Value is 'Wisdom'. During class collective worship this week we have been exploring the difference between being wise and being knowledgeable, we have discussed examples of how people can know lots of facts but it is how they use these in their lives that makes them wise. As the term progresses, we will be looking at proverbs or wise sayings, we would love you to discuss your favourite proverb at home and complete the home learning challenge with your child. Please send these into school to be discussed in our collective worships.

It was great to see everyone looking so smart on their first day back to school. Please check that your child is only wearing trainers on their PE day and that on other days they wear school shoes and not fashion boots.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs West-Gaul

Dates for Your Diary

January

31st Young Voices

February

7th NSPCC Number Day

13th PTA Disco

14th PTA Non-Uniform Day

Little Wandle

We are asking for a new year amnesty - could we please ask that you return any reading books that you have at home.

Next week we will be carrying out an audit as we are missing so many.

PE /Forest School Timetable

Please remember to take a note of this term's timetable for PE and Forest School as there are a few changes to last term.

Reception Applications September 2025

Please be reminded that the closing date for on-time Reception applications for September 2025 is **15th January 2025**.

Change of Email Address

Please note our new e-mail address: office@stjohns.mnsp.org.uk

Our current email address will be redirected temporarily, but if you could change the address in your contacts lists where necessary, we would be grateful.



Awards & Achievements

Awards of the Week

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

	Star of the Week	Star Readers
Acorns	Fraser Shaylun	Eden Isabelle
Ash	Ava	Charlie
Birch	Halle	Lottie
Chestnut	Sofia	Harry
Elm	Lexi	Aubrie
Hazel	Emily	Rosie
Holly	Corey	Kara
Maple	Zena	Isaac
Oak	Evie	Albie
Pine	Eden	James
Rowan	Dilly	Ella
Sycamore	Eva	Kara
Willow	Annabelle	Amelia



Top Doodling Class:

4A

Well done!



PE Stars of the Week:

Year 6 Sycamore - Dylan
Year 6 Willow - Alfie
Year 5 Rowan - Isla and Dewet
Year 5 Pine - Eden
Year 2 Elm - Mila
Year 2 Chestnut - Harry
Year 1 Ash - Class star of the day
Year 1 Birch - Eva and Stanley

Well done!

School Opening Arrangements during Cold/Unpredictable Weather

As we enter a season of unpredictable weather, we want to reassure you that **we fully intend to remain open**. However, in the event that bad weather affects the safety of our school community, we may need to close or adjust school operations.

If the decision is made to close the school we will inform you via:

- the school's Facebook page
- a ParentMail
- the school website

Please take care when at school and ensure the children are dressed appropriately for the weather - we try to get them out at play times as much as possible.



Reading in Next Steps Nursery

At Next Steps this week we have enjoyed exploring the story "A Squash and a Squeeze" by Julia Donaldson to help introduce the meaning of 'wisdom', (the Christian Value for the term).

In the story a little old lady seeks the help of a wise old man in making her tiny house seem bigger. She follows his 'curious plan' and brings lots of farm animals into the home, causing all sorts of mischief which the children found very funny!

We have been talking about making wise choices, and related this to other situations. We look forward to finding many more stories to investigate other characters as they make wise choices!



Children's Occupational Therapy Advice Line

NHS
Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust

Do you have any questions about a child or young person's ability to carry out daily tasks and activities?



01225 82 6659

**The first and second
Tuesday of each month.
2pm – 4pm**

Our Advice Line is open to Parents / Carers, Schools, Nursery and Healthcare professionals of children who have a **BANES GP**.

If the child is already on our Waiting List or is known to BANES OT Service, and you would like to speak to a member of the Occupational Therapy team, please contact 01225 82 4220.

The RUH, where you matter

Have your say

The Law Commission has published [a consultation paper](#) on disabled children's social care law and whether it meets the needs of disabled children and their families. The Commission wants to hear from children and young people who may be impacted, including siblings of disabled children and young people.

Join us in a virtual meeting on **14 January 2025 5.30-7.00pm** to share your views.

We will discuss key parts and share feedback with the Commission.

If you would like to join us please scan the QR Code to email sendias@bathnes.gov.uk.



This session is aimed at children and young people aged 0-25.

Please let us know how we can support with any access needs you may have.



Free Healthy Family Courses

Wellbeing Service B&NES



For families of children and young people aged 5-17, who are above a healthy weight*

1-1 support in person or via video call. Sessions run throughout the year.

Lots of Fun & Exciting Local Activity Opportunities for Young People and their Families to Choose from



FREE 5 week cooking course for families of children and young people 0-17 years

Virtual or in person courses, discover how to make easy, healthy recipes and learn new cooking skills

Dates

St Swithins Church Wed 15th Jan-12th Feb
3:45 - 5:15pm

St Keyna Primary Tue 4th Feb - 11th
March 3:30 - 5pm



HENRY Healthy Families: Right From The Start

8 week course along with a creche

Everything you need strategies, nutrition, child development, food labelling, to help your little one get off to a great healthy and happy start. Includes topics; Parenting portion size, sleep, and emotional wellbeing

For parents and carers of children aged 0 to 5 years. Available virtually or in person.

Dates: Online Tues 25th Feb- 29th April (no session 8th and 15th April)

HENRY Fussy Eaters Workshop

Online workshop

Support for parents of under 5's to understand fussy and selective eating and encourage your child to try new foods- and enjoy them!

Dates: 26th Feb 7.45-9.15pm

HENRY Eating Well for Less Workshop

Online workshop

Top tips will help you keep to a budget and help the whole family eat more healthily- healthy choices don't need to be expensive choices

Dates 25th Feb 7.30-9pm

HENRY Starting Solids Workshop

Online workshop

Introducing solid foods at 6 months- What foods to start with and how to make it enjoyable!

Dates 14th January 10-11.30am



To book contact the Community Wellbeing Hub:

t: 0300 247 0050

e: BATHNES.thehub@hcrgrcaregroup.com

w: bathneshealthandcare.nhs.uk/childrenshealthyweight/

*Referral criteria apply



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Our after school clubs are designed with an emphasis on fun. With a variety of sports clubs delivered throughout the academic year, there will be plenty of opportunities for your children to be active and to fall in love with sport.

St. John's, Midsomer Norton- Term 3

Monday (13/01/2025 - 10/02/25)

- Years 1 & 2 Football- 18 Spaces
- Years 3 to 6 Dance- 18 Spaces
- £17.50 in total for 5 weeks (£3.50 per person, per session)

Tuesday (07/01/25 - 11/02/25)

- Years 1 & 2 Invasion games- 18 Spaces
- Years 3 to 6 Jailbreak- 18 Spaces
- £21.00 in total for 6 weeks (£3.50 per person, per session)

Wednesday (08/01/25 - 12/02/25)

- Years 1 & 2 Gymnastics - 18 Spaces
- Years 3 to 6 Football- 18 Spaces
- £21.00 in total for 6 weeks (£3.50 per person, per session)

Time- 15:00-16:00

*If you are booking onto a club after the start date, please note that the price is automatically adjusted on the booking page.

TO BOOK:



<https://bit.ly/ablerASC>



0117 963 0683



@BSFound



@bristol sport foundation



Bristol Sport Foundation



UKHSA SOUTH WEST PRESS RELEASE:

Parents and carers urged to take simple steps to ensure children make the healthiest start to the New Year

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) South West is reminding parents and carers of the simple steps they can take to ensure their children make the healthiest start to this school term after the Christmas break. The new year brings with it an opportunity to teach children about the importance of good hygiene and with the recent increase in cases of flu and high levels of other respiratory viruses such as COVID and RSV as well as norovirus, it's more important than ever.

The latest surveillance data from UKHSA shows that flu activity continued to increase over the Christmas break, with hospitalisations also increasing. Flu is now circulating at high levels in the community, an increase on the levels we saw before the school holidays, which is why it's especially important to reinforce good hygiene habits as children return to school.

Figures are expected to rise further as children go back to school and many parents return to the workplace. However, there are simple steps that all families can take to reduce the spread of these infections and protect households and classrooms from illness this New Year.

Teaching good hygiene habits

Parents are encouraged to lead by example and encourage good hygiene habits such as using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes, as well as washing hands. Regularly washing your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds, or using hand sanitiser when convenient, is one of the most effective ways to stop the spread of germs. Alcohol gels don't kill all bugs so don't rely on these.

Knowing when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school

January marks the start of a new term, with new things to learn and friends to make. Time off school can disrupt learning and also be an inconvenience for parents and carers having to stay off work. This is why it's important to know when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school.

Children can stay in school with symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough if otherwise well and do not have a high temperature but should stay home if they're displaying symptoms such as having a fever. If your child has diarrhoea and vomiting, they should stay home for at least 48 hours after these symptoms clear up.

If you have symptoms of flu or COVID-19 such as a high temperature, cough and feeling tired and achy, try to limit your contact with others. If you have symptoms and need to leave the house, you should consider wearing a face covering.

Stopping the spread of stomach bugs

Stomach bugs spread easily in schools, nurseries and households. If you or your child have diarrhoea and vomiting, washing your hands with soap and warm water and using bleach-based products to clean surfaces will help stop infections from spreading. Alcohol gels do not kill off norovirus so soap and warm water is best. Don't prepare food for others if you have diarrhoea or vomiting or for 48 hours after symptoms stop. If you are unwell, you should also avoid visiting people in hospitals and care homes to avoid passing on the infection to those who are more vulnerable. Do not return to school, nursery or work until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

Getting vaccinated

Flu vaccination helps to protect against infection and severe disease. Although it is late in the programme, if you are eligible and not yet vaccinated – do still take up your offer of immunisation. Last year, falling vaccination rates among young children resulted in a widespread measles outbreak in England, which is why it's important to check your children are up-to-date with their routine vaccinations, which protect against diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria and polio. If parents are unsure of their child's vaccination status, they can check their child's red book or contact their local GP.

If you are pregnant, it's also important that you take up all vaccinations offered to you, including the whooping cough and the new RSV vaccine which protects newborn babies against serious illness.

