

Purple Pages



Weekly Newsletter: 28th February 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: HOPE



Message from the Headteacher

This term our Christian Value is Hope. With the children we will be exploring how they can bring hope to our world, signs of hope around us and our hopes for the future. Please see the attached values newsletter to find activities you can do to support the children's understanding of our Christian Values at home. This week we have asked the children to look for signs of hope in nature, if you would like to send any photos into the school office we will share these in Collective Worship next week.

Next Thursday is World Book Day, please make sure you read the Parentmail that came out this week about the things we are doing to celebrate this day.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs West-Gaul



Dates For Your Diary

March

6th	World Book Day
11th-18th	Book Fair
13th	STEM Fair

Feast of St David

Come and join us for our next family service!



10am, Sunday 2nd March,
St John the Baptist Church,
Midsomer Norton.



with retiring collection for cancer care



All are welcome

School Gates

Could we please remind parents and carers to supervise their children when arriving and leaving school and to ensure children are not playing with, or hanging on to, the gates which are unfortunately being broken and are expensive to maintain.
Thank you for your cooperation.

Awards and Achievements

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

	Star of the Week	Star Readers
Acorns	Freddie Florence	Shaylun Frankie
Ash	Jack	Ayda
Birch	Beya	Aidie
Chestnut	Charlie	Arya
Elm	Maeva	Aubrie
Hazel	Aoife	Aeris
Holly	Lola	Darcey
Maple	Dorothy	Tommy G
Oak	Reggie	Darcey
Pine	James	Bo
Rowan	Maisy	Isla
Sycamore	Rex	Ruben
Willow	Issy	Reid

Top Doodling Class



ACORNS

Well done!



PE Stars of the Week

- Year 6 Sycamore - Olive
- Year 6 Willow - Jake
- Year 5 Rowan - Jack S
- Year 5 Pine - N/A
- Year 4 Maple - Dorothy and Isaac
- Year 4 Oak - Max
- Year 3 Holly - Aurelia
- Year 3 Hazel - Rosie
- Year 2 Chestnut - Alfie
- Year 2 Elm - Blake
- Year 1 Ash - Jacob
- Year 1 Birch - Miley

St John's PTA Needs You!

After a really successful year as Chair of the PTA, Chrystal Stevens has made the decision to stand down to focus on her career. We wish her well with her new role and thank her wholeheartedly for the huge amount of time and dedication she has shown in managing the PTA team in delivering some exceptional events for our children.

Our PTA has never been more in need of the support of our school community. Join our friendly group and meet new people, become more involved in your child's school, make friends, and get some experience that is transferable for work.

Can you help out at some of the events?
 Would you like to be more involved?
 Could you be the next Chair of the PTA?

To offer your help, or to find out more, please click on the link below:

[PTA Sign-Up / Info Request](#)

With best wishes,
St John's School PTA

Hot Chocolate Friday



Reading at St. John's

In Year One, we have been finding time to 'Drop Everything and Read'. This might be in the morning when we first start school, it might be after lunch, or in the middle of a lesson! As the weather warms up we are hoping to continue this outside as well.

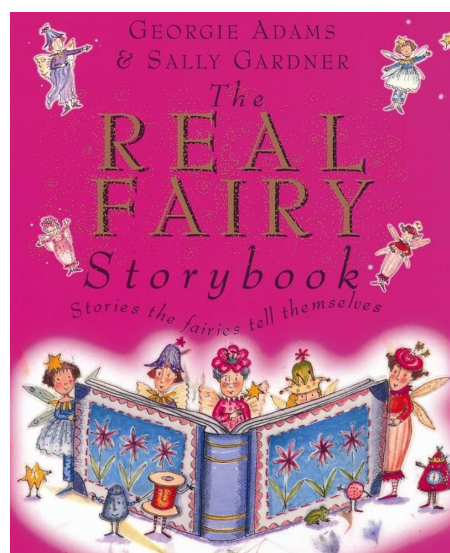
Reading for pleasure is so important and in this time everyone gets to pick a book. They can share with friends or read quietly on their own.

Each child is sent home with a shared reader each week. These are lovely stories or non-fiction texts to share as a family. Maybe you can practise dropping everything to read at home too!



This week Year Two has been diving into a new book for Guided Reading. The book is 'The Real Fairy Storybook' (Stories that fairies tell themselves.) Written and illustrated by Georgie Adams and Sally Gardner.

We have been practicing our retrieval, inference and general comprehension skills. There are a variety of stories that we have enjoyed reading. These are: 'The Seahorse and the Kelpie King', 'When I was a Tooth Fairy', 'Princess Curly Locks' and 'The Shoemaker and the Robber Elves'.



My child doesn't want to go to school

- Understand your child's fear and help them to face it.



1. Talk to your child about school

It's natural for children to not want to go to school from time to time. For example, they might be worried about a test or about a problem with a friend. With a bit of support, most children attend school regularly and don't avoid it when things get a bit tricky.

However, sometimes children may become so anxious that they start to avoid school all together. When this happens, talk to your child about the things they like and the things they don't like about school to find out what might be making them anxious.

2. Acknowledge your child's distress

Show your child that you know they are finding going to school a real challenge. You might say "I can see that you are really worried about going to school, and that going in will be really hard for you."

It can be frustrating and stressful when our children don't want to go to school. Try and manage your own feelings so you can focus on helping your child.

3. Check in with your child's school

It's important to share any concerns your child has told you about as soon as possible. Make sure that your child is safe from harm at school. They could be affected by other children, teachers or simply the school environment.

4. Help your child to face their fears

It's important to encourage your child to 'face their fears' and to attend school, despite it being the last thing they feel like doing!

This can be tricky for you to do, as well as challenging for them! Be up front. Let them know it might be tough. Reassure them that you believe in them. Tell them you'll support them to do this difficult thing. You might say "I know going to school is a big worry for you. But I am here and we can be brave and do this together."

5. Praise and encourage your child for any small steps they take

You could say something like "I am so proud of how brave you are being, well done!"

6. Acknowledge your own emotions

It could be that your history or personal circumstances are part of the reason why your child is finding it hard to go to school, and that's common and normal. It's important to have an honest conversation with yourself so you can seek support as you try and help your child.

Ask yourself the following:

1. Is your child afraid to leave you because they are worried about you or another family member at home?
2. Are your negative experiences of school making it difficult to be positive with your child about going to school?
3. Do you feel lonely at home when your child is gone?

Read more on this topic and for further links:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/article/my-child-doesn-t-want-to-go-to-school>

Year Two Trip to SS Great Britain

On Thursday, Year 2 visited the SS Great Britain.

We were greeted by our lovely tour guide Alan who took us around the ship. He showed us the animals that were kept on top of the ship and the ship's wheel. We then went below deck to see where the First Class and Steerage passengers slept and ate. The children were excited to find rats in the ship's kitchen!



We had a wonderful workshop where the children time travelled to 1834 to learn how the ship builders built the ship with rivets and dressed up in Victorian costume to reenact the ship's launch.

We ended our day with a tour of the Being Brunel Museum where the children challenged themselves to draw a perfect circle on a moving train, just like Brunel!

The children were polite and enthusiastic all day and we had a fabulous time.



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

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



Please note, the school is able to provide paper copies of application forms if required.

Be a Boy Chorister for a Day!

Wells Cathedral has vacancies for boys who would like to join the famous Wells Cathedral Choir! If you know a boy who may be interested, the Cathedral is holding a *Be a Boy Chorister for a Day* event on **Saturday 15 March**.

Boys aged between six and nine who love to sing can experience what it is like to be a Cathedral Chorister. There will be fun singing workshops, and the day will end with them taking part in the Evensong service alongside the Boy Choristers of the Cathedral Choir.

Later in the year, on **Saturday 20 September**, there will be the annual *Be a Chorister for a Day* event which is open to all children.

If you would like further information or to register for a place at either event, please contact

Melanie Lawlor via musicoffice@wellscathedral.org.uk



Tesco Collection

Don't forget if you are doing your weekly shop at Tesco's over the next few weeks, we are taking part in the Stronger Starts project.

With the money raised we are hoping to purchase some music technology equipment to enhance our curriculum offer - so pop as many blue tokens in the tube as possible!

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.bristol-sport-foundation.org

BRISTOL SPORT FOUNDATION

FREE

BRILLIANTLY ENGINEERED

FESTIVAL
1ST-4TH MARCH 2025

AMAZING TECHNOLOGY
HANDS-ON STEM EXPERIMENTS
MEET YOUNG ENGINEERS & LOCAL COMPANIES

BRLSI.ORG/WHATS-ON
16 Queen Square, Bath, BA1 2HN

2 Q O Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution 1824-2024

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.

100% EXCELLENT	4 - 7.5 days absent = 22-41 hours of lost learning
98% Good	9.5 - 17 Days absent = 52 - 93.5 hours of lost learning
95% REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT	19 - 27 days absent = 104.5 - 148.5 hours of lost learning
90% PERSISTENT ABSENTER	28.5 - 38 days absent = 155.5 - 209 hours of lost learning
85% CRITICAL CONCERN	

MNSP
MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

01761 412019
WWW.STJOHNSMSN.CO.UK