Purple Pages

Weekly Newsletter: 21st March 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

We are now half way through Term Four and the children continue to be working hard both in and out of the classroom.

This week our Year Fives having been filling the corridor with smells of baking, having created their own banana muffins. The third group of the year has also been busy achieving their cycling proficiency awards through the Bikeability scheme.

Also this week, some members of our choir were asked to sing at a very special celebration. Heather, who regularly plays piano for us at church, had a tea party to celebrate her 80th birthday. St John's showed their appreciation for all her support to us as a school by singing a few of our favourite songs at the celebration. I'm sure you will join us in wishing her a very happy birthday!

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our Year Six SATs meeting yesterday. Hopefully you found this informative and have everything you need to support your child over the next few weeks. For those of you who couldn't attend, we will upload the PowerPoint to the website next week and give you your child's Easter revision packs at parents evening.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs West-Gaul





Dates For Your Diary

April 1st & 2nd	Parents Evenings
2nd	Easter Services:
	9am: Seedlings, Birch, Elm, Holly, Oak, Rowan, Willow.
	1.45pm: Acorns, Ash, Chestnut, Hazel, Maple, Pine, Sycamore.
4th	PTA Non-Uniform Day End of Term 4

Mothering Sunday

Come and join us as we celebrate all who mother and care for us!



With prayers and posies courtesy of St John's School. 10am Sunday 30th March 2025



St John's Primary School, Midsomer Norton www.stohnsmsn.org.uk | 01761 412019 | office@stjohns.mnsp.org.uk

News

A polite reminder to everyone that bicycles and scooters, including e-bikes and e-scooters, should not be used on the school site by children or adults.

This is for the safety of everyone on site and we appreciate your cooperation.

Thank you to all of the parents and guardians who have downloaded the new Arbor Parent Portal app - we now have 88% onboard!

Thank you especially to those of you who have had issues getting connected - we have been working through the issues all week, so we appreciate your patience.

You will have seen our email regarding the emails that are generated by Arbor being sent to spam/junk boxes. This is being looked at by our IT department as a matter of urgency - in the meantime, we will continue to use Parentmail, so you should not notice any difference. We will relaunch emails from Arbor when we are confident that you will not miss any information.

Parents evenings bookings have been slightly delayed, but we hope these will go live on Monday evening - look out for an email with further details.





Awards and Achievements Well done to all our pupils who have achieved an award.

	Star of the Week	Star Readers
Acorns	Woody Leo K	Florence Presley
Ash	Elsie	Jacob
Birch	Bellatrix	Eva
Chestnut	Harry	Jesse
Elm	Shontae	Lexi
Hazel	Noah	Rosie
Holly	Orri	Sophie
Maple	Isaac	Amelia L
Oak	Leah	Louie
Pine	Joshua	Oliver
Rowan	Ralphy	Josh
Sycamore	Olive	Frank
Willow	Murray	Nyla

Top Doodling Class 1A Well done!



PE Stars of the Week

Year 6 Sycamore - Finley G Year 6 Willow - Corben Year 5 Rowan - Elsie Year 5 Pine - Joshua Year 4 Oak - Thomas Year 4 Maple - Tom Year 3 Hollie - Shaqai Year 3 Hazel - Eva Year 2 Chestnut - Harlowe Year 2 Elm - Maeva Year 1 Ash - Jenner Year 1 Birch - Albie

Well done!

Hot Chocolate Friday

Out of School Achievement



Well done to Lucas who has achieved his Stage 3 and 10 metres at swimming.













Book Week Events

Bedtime Stories - Thursday 13th March

It was great to see so many children returning to school last Thursday evening for 'Bedtime Stories' all dressed snuggly in their onesies and pyjamas as part of our World Book Week celebrations!

The teachers all enjoyed sharing their favourite stories with their children. Some teachers were even in their pyjamas and onesies! Lots of our classrooms looked incredibly cosy and just right for relaxing and listening to a lovely story.

A big thank you goes to the PTA for supplying and serving hot chocolate to all the children, it really helped to make it feel even more special.

Whole School Book Swap

On Friday all the children from across the school visited the Book Swap Shop in our school hall. There was a huge range of books to choose from including non-fiction, sport, history, geography and a great range of fiction stories. There truly was something to suit everyone's reading taste!

I hope that the children are all enjoying sharing their 'new to them' books with you at home. Thank you all for your kind donations of lovely books that the children brought into school to allow us to run our Book Swap Shop!

Mrs Haigh Class Teacher and Reading Lead





Citizenship and Character Award

This week, a small group of children from St. John's visited a residential care home. The children enjoyed playing games with the residents, as well as sharing some of the stories that they have written. In doing so, they had a great time and learned about what Midsomer Norton was like in the past. This also counts towards the 'Local Me' section of the Citizenship and Character Award.



Reading in Year Six

In Year Six this term, we have continued to read 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll, along with a variety of poetry and non-fiction texts to support our learning elsewhere in the curriculum.

Many of our children also engage beautifully with reading out of school, so this term they have chosen to present some of their book reviews, which they have written in their own spare time.

An Amazing Fact a Day Book Review The longest novel ever written is 'A la recherche da temps perdu' by Marcel Proust. It consists of 3031 pages in 7 volumes and contains over a million words.	An Amazing Fait a Day Book Review The longest novel ever written is A la recherche du temps perdu' by Marcel Proust. It consists of 3031 pages in 7 volume and contains over an million words. Write a review for a book you have read recently.	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Book Review} \\ travel over written is 'A la recharche du temps pardi 'by Marcel Proust. It consists \\ gives in 7 volumes and contains over an million work. \\ they for a book you have real recently. \\ \hline \\ $
Write a review for a book you have read recently. Book Title: Ending Bear Autor: Ho anal Geld Fiction or Non-fiction: Edicor Rating: Art of the second	Autor: David Wallans the Bunders to Why? Fiction or Non-fiction: Lickians to crick og Rating: Rating: Work together Work together What ages and interests is this book suitable for? Why? I think that is Ur way on the suitable for a good What ages and interests is this book suitable for? Why? I think that is Ur way on the suitable for? What ages and interests is this book suitable for? Why? I think that is Ur way on this of the suitable for? What ages and interests is this book suitable for? What ages and interests is the book State of the suitable for? What ages and interests is the book State of the suitable for? What ages and interests is the book State of the suitable for? State of the suitable for suitable for suitable	Book Title as her friend the Author: Satt Margan Fiction or Non-fiction: Eichen Rating: What is the book about? The 's called Chrisking and Mary who are Some in large Some in large this she book about? All of the people who are interest while the people who are interest while the book and interests is this book suitable for? Why? My and can read so what is approximately over front



What is Neurodiversity Week?

Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. It aims to transform how neurodivergent individuals are perceived and supported by providing schools, universities, organisations, and others around the world with the opportunity to recognise the many skills and talents of neurodivergent individuals, while creating more inclusive and equitable cultures that celebrate differences and empower every individual.

Some of our St John's staff have received training on how to develop Executive Functioning skills with our neurodivergent learners. We are excited to put some of these skills in to practice.

If you are keen to learn more about the neurodevelopmental pathway, see the link below.

https://bathneshealthandcare.nhs.uk/services/neurodevelopmental-pathway/



If you would like to discuss this is more detail regarding your child in school, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange an appointment.

Sport

On Wednesday evening, Year Six students attended the Midsomer Norton cross country event.

The children were challenged with a lengthy and hilly course and all demonstrated amazing resilience to complete it. The school achieved a third place finish in the girls event and a fourth place finish in the boys event.

Well done to all those who participated!





Mr Smith's Running Challenge 2025

This year, I have decided to complete my first marathon in London and in the build up will be doing two half marathons in Bath and Reading. I am raising money for the Army Benevolent Fund which supports British soldiers, veterans and their families. I have a very ambitious goal to raise £2,000 so any donations would be enormously appreciated. I will be completing the following events:

- Bath Half Marathon 16th March
- Reading Half Marathon 23rd March
- London Marathon 27th April

https://events.armybenevolentfund.org/s/22801/37738/e

It was amazing to see so many of you at the Bath Half Marathon, thank you all for your continued support. Best wishes, Mr Smith



PTA NEWS

Hello All,

My name is Jess Hart and I'm the new Chair of the PTA.

Firstly, I would like to thank the previous chair Chrystal for doing such a great job over the past 2 years. I know my son Stanley has really enjoyed the discos and fetes that have been organised by the all of the volunteers of the PTA.

I'm a local girl and have grown up in the town of Midsomer Norton since 1981. I have very fond memories of my own time at St John's, and I feel privileged to now get the chance to give something back.

So, what's the aim of St John's PTA?

It's simple. To raise cash to provide the children cool things to do while they are at school, whilst having fun on the way and boosting the community spirit. It's important to remember that the budget the school gets from the Department for Education is to support the curriculum. It's not for disco's, climbing frames or fetes. All those extra things have been

provided by the PTA at some point in the past.

PTAs would not exist without the time given by volunteers. And when we running an event with the potential to raise thousands of pounds, we will need more of you than at any other time. For many PTAs, the summer fair is the biggest event of the fundraising year. Any amount of voluntary time is valuable. Could you be someone who volunteers for a short time, in a small way, and without necessarily having a long-term commitment? More details coming soon.

So what is next?

We will be arranging and inviting you to an event where you can meet the team, have something to eat and drink and have a look at some of our ideas and perhaps give us some of yours.

There are some funds available to spend on the children from fundraising last year. You will have the opportunity to discuss at the event on how we will spend that money. You will also have the opportunity to discuss what kind of things we should be raising money for going forwards. It's always good to have something to aim towards. More details coming soon.

Communication is key, we have a Facebook page where you can keep up to date and join in with what's going on - <u>https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1AF1yyJ756/?mibextid=wwXlfr</u> All key information will also be mirrored on the school website.

On behalf of myself and the committee, thanks for taking the time to read this letter and we will look forward to meeting you soon.

Jess

v	Ve are getting ready for our Summer Fete and this year will
b	e creating a Rainbow Raffle, and we need your help! Each
у	ear group has been allocated a colour, and we're asking for
n	on-perishable donations in your child's year group colour.
Т	hink chocolates, toiletries, stationery, drinks, or anything
n	on perishable that fits the theme! 🎁 🛧
H	lere's the colour guide:
	🛡 Reception – Red
•	🦻 Year 1 – Orange
•	🦻 Year 2 – Yellow
(🛡 Year 3 – Green
(🛡 Year 4 – Blue
9	🛡 Year 5 – Purple
9	🥐 Year 6 – Pink
Ρ	Please bring your donations into school on Friday 4th April fo
t	he non uniform day donation 😕 🚹
	hank you for your generosity and support – every donation
n	nakes a difference! 💞
#	RainbowRaffle #PTAFundraiser #SupportOurSchool 🌈 🛧





