



THE ST MARY'S MESSENGER

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2026

THIS WEEK

Dear Parents and Carers

As we draw into October and the nights are getting cooler, we begin to think about harvest. Helen from St Botolphs church came to share with us all the good things that God has made. She reminded us that like a tree we can show the fruits of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Butterfly class tasted lots of delicious fruit and did some wonderful still life paintings.

We had a brilliant turn out at the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) parent information session and I would like to think that parents who attended got a lot out of the session, especially around the importance of play. The most frightening statistic, from the research that was shown, for me was: By the time a child is 7 years old they will have spent 1 full year of 24 hours per day on an electronic device. I believe OPAL will give our children a real chance to build great skills and it is being fed into our after school provision: The Ark.

We will try to get the powerpoint uploaded onto our website, so that it is accessible for everyone.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend filled with fun, laughter and blessings.

Diane Wright

HAVE YOU FILLED A BUCKET

"Joanne is very kind to me"

"Victoria always makes me feel happy"

"Daniela is a wonderful friend"

"Ciara always makes me smile"

"Mr. Collins always makes me laugh and helps me when I am sad"

"Liliana G was my partner when I had nobody to go with"

"Lenny is a fantastic friend, he always looks out for me"

"Mrs Matthews helped me this week when I needed a friend"

"Fiyin is so helpful, he always opens and holds the door"

KEY DATES

14th October - 9.15am EYFS read-a-long with your child

20th October - 2.45pm Lions class worship

21st October - Lions & Doves trip to Cadbury World

23rd October - 9am Leopards class worship

23rd October - Break for half term

31st October - Deadline for Year 6 parents to enter their secondary school preference

3rd November - Return to school

17th November - 10am - 5pm - Open day for new EYFS intake 26/27

18th November - 5.15pm - EYFS & KS1 Bedtime story

19th November - 2.45pm - Doves class worship

25th November - 4.45pm - KS2 Reading under the stars



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EYFS 27/28

If you are considering sending your child here next academic year, or know anyone that might. We are holding an **open day** on **17th November 2026**, for parents and their children to come and look round the school. No need to book, just come to school any time between **10am and 5pm** and we will be happy to show you round.

CLUBS NEXT TERM

Next term, we have a number of new school clubs running, please see what is running below. An email will be coming out on how to reserve a spot before half term.

EYFS & KS1 Clubs

Monday – Football – This will be a continuation of the club that is already running, you will not need to rebook your child's place.

Wednesday – Dance – This will be a continuation of the clubs that is already running, you will not need to rebook your child's place.

KS2 Clubs

Monday – Dance – This will be a continuation of the club that is already running, you will not need to rebook your child's place.

Monday – Sign Language club with Miss. Starks

Tuesday – Christmas Craft club with Ms. Starkey

Wednesday – Strong Girl's Society (year 5 & 6 only) with Mr. Collins (a club that looks at strong women from history, as well as, providing a calm, safe hang out space for girls to talk and share skills)

Thursday – School Football Team – This will be a continuation of the club that is already running, you will not need to rebook your child's place.

Friday – Skateboard Club – This will be a continuation of the club that is already running, you will not need to rebook your child's place.

KS1's Wonderful Wicksteed Adventure

What a fantastic two days of learning and fun KS1 have had! The children loved discovering the story of Charles Wicksteed and why he created Wicksteed Park. They got creative with some exciting craft and DT activities, designing and making their very own rides! We then enjoyed a fabulous visit to Wicksteed Park, exploring the main attractions, oldest rides, statues, memorials and beautiful sunken garden. We even had an unexpected treat when some lovely police officers invited the children to explore their police van and sit inside! To finish our adventure, we discovered how playground equipment has changed over time before enjoying some well-deserved playtime. Despite being very tired on the walk home, the children were still full of excitement, chatting about their adventures whilst spotting signs of autumn and looking out for squirrels along the way! What wonderful memories and learning experiences we have made! 🐿️🐿️

Thanks Amanda





St Mary's Primary School

Wrap Around Care

2026-27

AUTUMN TERM



TERM DATES

Starts:

Wednesday
2nd September 2026

Half term

Monday 26th - Friday
30th October 2026

Ends

Friday 18th
December 2026

EVERY SESSION INCLUDES



Fun & Engaging
Activities



Healthy
Snacks



Safe & Caring
Environment

EACH WEEK WE WILL...

Get creative

Mark making

Explore & discover
Build & construct

& creating
Listen, read & share

Play tabletop games

Learn through ICT
Get active outdoors

THEME: ADVENTURE & DISCOVERY



Week 1: New Beginnings

Week 2: Travel with the Ark

Week 3: Coding without
Computers

Week 4: Justice

Week 5: Autumn Abundance

Week 6: Reaching for the Stars

Week 7: Pirates and Treasure

Week 8: All the fun of the
Circus

Week 9: Sparks and crackles

Week 10: Remembering those
who served

Week 11: Discovering our
planet

Week 12: Science investigation

Week 13: Winter warmth

Week 14: Life skills

Week 15: Christmas countdown

AUTUMN TERM IN DETAIL



Week 1 - 02/09

- Icebreaker games
- "All about me" crafts
- Setting goals for the term
- Singing - Who built the ark

Week 2 - 07/09

- Making Arkpassports
- Creating their own challenge sheets
- School values activities
- Team building games
- Music

Week 3 - 14/09

- Story sequencing
- Coding cups
- Coding obstacle course
- Magic mazes
- 14th - Roald Dahl Day

Week 4 - 21/09

- Activities linked to Justice
- Identifying foods that are fair trade
- Making cardboard planes
- Making fairtrade foods from clay

Week 5 - 28/09

- Art activities linked to autumn colours
- Apple bobbing
- Making bird feeders
- Harvest-themed snacks

Week 6 - 05/10

- Building rockets
- Making space-themed crafts
- Learning about planets & astronauts
- Stargazing

Week 7 - 12/10

- Making treasure chests
- Creating jewels for the treasure boxes
- Pirate themed games
- Making pirate ships, personal pirates with personal pirate names

Week 8 - 19/10

- Clown face painting
- Learn circus tricks
- Create a big tent
- Making balancing acrobats

Week 9 - 02/11

- Making sparklers from paper
- Printing with bonfire colours
- Firework inspired art
- Listening to bonfire night stories

Week 10 - 09/11

- Making poppoes
- Learning about Remembrance Day
- Listening to stories about war
- Friendly football lined to WWI

Week 11 - 16/11

- Making maps
- Map jigsaws
- World food snacks
- Animals around the world
- Creating world buildings

Week 12 - 23/11

- Discover how things work
- Gravity investigations
- Skittles rainbows
- Paper roller coasters
- Make a square bubble
- Looking after our bodies

Week 13 - 30/11

- Making hot chocolate
- Make a hibernating hedgehog
- Building a blanket fort
- Calming music
- Creating winter art
- Building playdoh snowmen

Week 14 - 07/12

- Sewing activities
- Making our own food
- Create a bag
- Environment &
- Respecting others activities
- Setting the table & making placemats
- Yoga & Just Dance

Week 15 - 14/12

- Christmas crafts - Decorations & cards
- Christmas songs & carols
- Baking Christmas treats
- Make my own elf on the shelf
- Christmas Party