

St. Mary's Newsletter



Friday 9th October 2026

Bi-weekly Newsletter

Dates for your diary

Hello everyone, I cannot believe two weeks have passed since our last newsletter. As you are aware, last week we welcomed a SIAMS inspector to St Mary's. Once again, I am left feeling incredibly proud of our school community. The inspector recognised our strong sense of family, how our Christian vision shapes school life, and children's confidence to make a positive difference. Thank you to the parents who contributed to the visit and to all our families for your continued support. Our children and staff wonderfully shared what makes St Mary's such a special place. We look forward to receiving the written report and will share it with you as soon as it arrives.

Bethan Scriven

Helping Children Build Friendships

Friendships play an important role in children's wellbeing. Encourage children to be kind, take turns, listen to others, and include everyone in play. Talking about feelings and helping children resolve disagreements calmly can strengthen relationships.



Remind children that friendships can change over time and that making and keeping friends takes practice. Positive role models and open conversations at home can help children develop healthy, supportive friendships.



Mode Star Shift

We are delighted to have received the **Bronze Travel Award** in recognition of our commitment to sustainable travel to school. Well done, St Mary's! Walking, scooting or cycling to school helps children stay active and keeps the roads around our school safer and less congested.



For families who live further away, parking in the shopping centre car park closest to McDonald's and walking the final part of the journey is a great way to join in.

Miss Stell will continue working with our Lead Changemakers to explore more ways to encourage sustainable travel.

Thank you to every family helping to make a difference!

Well done to the following students who have received a certificate in the last few weeks

Eliza C, Ollie Wi, Jayden D, Poppy F-W, Grace J, Molly-Mae, George W, Olivia P, Isabella G, Lily E, Freya Q, Florence M, Jesse A, Ellaria, Oscar M, John, Chevonne, Cherahleigh, Louis L, Emily W, Leo H, Peter, Imogen, Alfie B, Tobias, Nelly W, James, Violet, Chester A, Isabella S, Effie, Remi, Kaleb, Poppy H-Y, Ellis, Isla-Rose, Piper, Eduard, George B, Nikita, Ini, Michael, Benny & Amelia

Parent Governor elections

Our parent governor elections have now taken place. Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward and to all the parents who took the time to vote.

We are delighted to welcome Andy Munday and Kelly Reed to our Local Academy Committee as our newly elected parent governors. They will bring a valuable parental perspective to the committee's work, helping to support and challenge school leaders in the interests of all our children. We look forward to working with them.

We would also like to express our sincere thanks to Allison Deboubert, our outgoing parent governor, for her commitment and support. Alongside her contributions in meetings, Allison has generously given her time to support monitoring activities in school. We are very grateful for everything she has contributed to St Mary's.

2026/2027 Term Dates

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Start 1 st September End 23 rd October INSET 1 st September	Start 2 nd November End 18 th December INSET 22 nd October INSET 23 rd October	Start 4 th January End 12 th February	Start 22 nd February End 25 th March	Start 12 th April End 28 th May	Start 7 th June End 21 st July INSET 25 th June INSET 28 th June

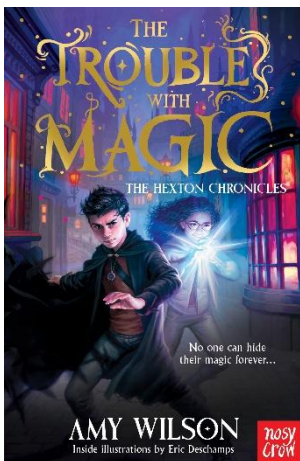
Newsletter continued...

Thank you to the Friends of St Mary's

Following their AGM last week, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to the Friends of St Mary's. Alongside raising valuable funds that make a positive difference to our school, they organise events that bring our community together and create fabulous memories for our children.

Thank you to last year's core committee—Jen Smith, Sarah-Jane McMclachlan, Susan Baird and Hayley Turner—and to everyone who has given their time so generously to support events throughout the year.

After many years as Secretary, Hayley is stepping down from her role. We are incredibly grateful for the time, care and commitment she has given to the Friends and our school community. We warmly welcome Natalie Woodward, who will take on the role of Secretary alongside Jen, Sarah-Jane and Sue, who were re-elected to their roles. As trustees, this core committee enables the charity to continue, but they cannot plan and run events alone. There are many ways to help, whether you can offer an occasional hour, lend a particular skill or help organise an event. Please look out for requests for volunteers or come along to the next meeting on **Monday 19th October at The Lawns Yate**. Every contribution helps keep these much-loved opportunities going for our children.



Meet the Author

Our KS2 children were very lucky to welcome local author Amy Wilson to school on Thursday! Amy shared her journey to becoming an author, treated us to a reading from her latest book, *The Trouble with Magic*, and encouraged the children to follow their passions and, most importantly, enjoy writing. Amy also kindly signed books for the children who had ordered a copy, making it an extra-special experience. We hope her visit has inspired some budding authors of our own!



Harvest Festival – Wednesday 21st October

This year for our harvest festival we will be collecting for the local homeless charity
Blonde Angel Street Team.

Please see poster for items they are in desperate need of.

Due to us holding the service in our school hall unfortunately we will not have the
space to invite parents along.

BLONDE ANGEL

STREET TEAM



HELPING THE HOMELESS WITH ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES ♡

THESE ARE THE SUPPLIES WE NEED

FOR STREET TEAMS - ALL HELP IS APPRECIATED



POT NOODLES



PORRIDGE POTS



POT MASH



CUPPA SOUP



JUICE CARTONS



FIZZY CANS



LONG LIFE
MILK CARTONS



BOTTLED WATER



TEA BAGS /
COFFEE SACHETS



JARS OF COFFEE



CRISPS /
SAVOURY SNACKS



CHOCOLATE /
SNACK BARS



PUDDING POTS



FRUIT POTS



WARM HATS



GLOVES



SCARFS



BOXERS



JOGGERS



SOCKS



CLEAN TRAINERS



WET WIPES



DEODORANT



SOAP



TOOTHBRUSH



TOOTH PASTE



SHOWER GEL



LIP BALM



HAND WARMERS



SLEEPING BAGS



THANK YOU

FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

TOGETHER, WE CAN
BRING HOPE, KINDNESS
& WARMTH ♡



lots of making
fun activities
all-together time
songs, prayers, story



+ we finish off
with tea together.



@ St Nix Church Yate

2 Chargrove, Yate, BS37 4LG

4.00-6.00pm This Sun 11th Oct

*No-one's too young or too old!
Bring the whole family!*



STARTS THIS
MONDAY 12TH OCT!



@ YATE PARISH



FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS & SERVICES EVERY WEEK

After School Family Time

TOAST & DRINKS
TABLE TENNIS
BOARD GAMES



@ St Mary's

MUSIC



PLAY SPACE & TOYS
CRAFT TABLES
BIBLE THEME

EVERY MONDAY TERM-TIME 3.15-4.15pm

All children need to be with a supervising adult. It's all free (donations welcome).

Just come
along!

ST MARY'S CHURCH, Church Road, Yate, BS37 5AB

check out www.yateparish.org

SEND Stay & Play

UNIQUE
VOICE

We are delighted to be able to offer relaxed Stay & Play sessions in the school holidays during 2026 for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and their families. Scan the QR code for registration details and locations!

SCAN ME



FOR MORE INFO
& TO BOOK

OR CLICK TO REGISTER

What to Expect:



Arts & Crafts



Drama & Storytelling



Food Activities



Support / Signposting

"My son really enjoyed attending the sessions today. He was able to take part in activities that would otherwise be difficult to attend. He was able to feel safe and express himself in an environment that was understanding of his needs."

Free*
Entry

Dates in all school holidays throughout 2026!

Scan the QR code for more information

*Supported by:



Unique Voice are delighted to host another Stay & Play for young people with SEND in Yate YMCA Hall in October. This will take place on Tuesday 27th October from 9:30am - 1:30pm. You are welcome to join us at any time during these hours.

We will be hosting a range of arts & crafts, games, food crafts and sensory play, led totally by the young people in our session. We love being able to offer autonomy and creative choice to all children who come to our session and we look forward to seeing you there in October. To reserve your fully funded place, please follow this link: eequ.org/book/34902. For any queries, please contact clubs@uniquevoice.org or call our office on 0117 428 6240. See you there very



West of England
**MUSIC
& ARTS**

Strum and Play!

**Ukulele Experience
Morning at Little Stoke
Music Centre**



**Come and learn the ukulele or improve
your skills if you already play! Perfect for
children age 6 - 11.**

Saturday 17th October

Little Stoke Primary School BS34 6HY

Arrive at 9.20am for a 9.30am start. Short performance for
parents 10.20am - 10.30am.

Ukuleles will be available to borrow if you don't have your own.



Scan to sign up

wema.org.uk/form/ukulele-experience-morning

Registered Charity Number 1204508

Supported using public funding by
  **ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Noticeboard

Posters from outside organisations are shared for information purposes only and do not imply endorsement by the school



junior parkrun

Walk, jog, run,
be active,
have fun!

YOSC junior parkrun

Everyone welcome!

Free, fun, weekly 2km events
for children aged 4–14.

 **Sundays at 9am**

 **Briefing at 8:45am**

 **Fully on an athletics track**

 **Free onsite parking**

 **Undercover seating & viewing area**

Experience running on an athletics track

 **YOSC**
Yate Outdoor Sports Complex,
Broad Ln, Yate,
Bristol BS37 7LB

 [///coarser.spud.clown](http://coarser.spud.clown)
What3Words location

