



St. Wilfrid's Church of England Primary Academy

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.'
Philippians 4:13



Spring Term 2026 Term Newsletter

Reception Team: Mrs Horton, Mrs Clay, Mrs Mullen, Mrs Kohler, Mrs Dickinson, Mrs Stokes, Mr Pearce.

Early Years Foundation Stage Phase Leader: Mrs. K. Newman

Our Curriculum:

(Curriculum Overviews can be accessed on the school website)

Maths

This term we will again be focusing on number. We will be working on number rhymes, reading numbers, writing numbers and making numbers. We will work mainly on numbers from 5-10 this term. We will gather a deep understanding of each number, looking at subitising and composition, recognising quantities by sight and remembering number bonds to 5. We will also focus on capacity, height and length.

Literacy

We will continue to work on letter recognition, moving from phase 2 sounds to phase 3 sounds in our ELS Phonics, continuing to spell some simple words. We will be continuing to practise our speaking and listening skills, during role play activities and circle time activities.

We will be concentrating on learning letter sounds to help us to read and write.

Understanding the World

This half term's topic is 'All around us', followed by 'Spring time' in Spring 2. We will be looking at our immediate environment, exploring school and Standish. We will be talking about similarities and differences of the past and present of our local area and creating maps.

We will also be learning about Winter and the changes that occur. We will be doing lots of exploring inside and outside of school.

After half term, our topic will be 'Spring Time'. We will learn about Spring and The Easter Story.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be doing observational drawing of what we can see through the window, paintings of woodland animals and 3D models of vehicles.

Physical Development

We will be working with Mr Green, specialist PE teacher, on a range of physical skills both during P.E. sessions and in our Outdoor Play area. This half term we will focus on Gymnastics. The children will learn to use a range of equipment to work on climbing and balancing skills. We will also be working on moving to music and following instructions. In the classroom we will continue to work on scissor and threading skills and using pencils with the correct grip.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be learning about safety. We will be working together to learn how to keep safe in our immediate environments e.g., at home, in school, by the road, during P.E.

Spring Term Focus Themes:

All around us

"All Around Us!" offers exciting learning opportunities centered on the theme of travel. With the focus text 'The Journey Home from Grandpa's' by Jemima Lumley, children embark on an exploration walk around the school and take a virtual tour of Standish, discovering their local environment. This topic also includes visits from community helpers and emergency services, who bring their vehicles along, helping children understand the important roles these individuals play in society. Through diverse texts like 'Coming to England' by Baroness Floella Benjamin and 'We're Going on a Lion Hunt' by David Axtell, children gain perspectives on different experiences and communities. They explore various modes of travel and consider how they move through their local area and where they go on holidays.

Spring Time

"Spring Time" invites children to explore the wonders of the changing season through a variety of engaging activities and texts. With the focus text 'We're Going on an Egg Hunt' by Martha Mumford, children will embark on an exciting adventure to discover the signs of new life emerging all around them. A visit to St Wilfrid's Church, paired with a signs of spring walk, allows them to observe the natural world waking up after winter. The topic also introduces the concept of Easter, giving children the opportunity to learn about this important event in the Christian calendar. Through these experiences, children will gain an understanding of how the changing seasons affect the weather, environment, trees, and animals, fostering a deeper connection with the natural world around them.

Recommended Websites:

www.saintwilfrids.wigan.sch.uk, Cbeebies - Alphablocks and Numberblocks
www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people cbeebies

Physical Development:

Please can you help your child develop dressing skills to support them gaining independence. As the weather is colder, children need to be able to put on and zip up their own coats and put on their gloves, mittens are a good alternative.

Reading:

In order to be competent readers, children need to read regularly at home and school. Parents/Carers are asked to encourage their children to read regularly and to read for pleasure.

We ask parents/carers to sign and date Reading Records every time you hear your child read (we expect a minimum of four entries/comments a week). This is an ideal opportunity to question your child on their understanding of the text, to improve their comprehension skills and vocabulary. In Reception, Reading Records and books must be brought into school every day. Teachers will sign reading records and change their reading book every Friday. Children will read in class during the week.

Harder to read words and Spellings: Children will be given strips of 'harder to read' words to learn at home. They will receive a new strip once they have learnt the previous one. Once they are able to read all Reception words, they will begin to spell these in a Spelling book.

Writing:

Please help your child to be able to write their name by practising at home. Once they are able to write their first name, please practise writing their surname. It is important that children have the correct pencil grip and form letters correctly.

Our Home Learning project this term will involve making an Easter bonnet. Details of this will follow.

Spring Term 2026 Diary Dates:

Friday 9th January

TBC

Friday 30th January

Friday 30th January

Tuesday 3rd February

Wednesday 4th February

9th, 10th, 12th & 13th February

Tuesday 10th February

Friday 13th February

Monday 23rd February

Friday 27th February

Thursday 12th March

w/c Monday 2nd March

Thursday 5th March

6th, 11th and 18th March

9th & 10th March

Wednesday 11th March

Friday 13th March

Wednesday 18th March

Friday 20th March

Tuesday 24th March

Friday 27th March

Monday 30th March

Tuesday 31st March

Thursday 2nd April

Non-Uniform Day for Perryn (red) House Point Winners from Year 1 to Year 6

(Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 8th January due to PE)

Year 6 Trust 'Experience' to Edge Hill University

Year 4 Sound Workshop

Non-Uniform Day for January Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 29th January)

Year 5 Educational Visit to English National Opera in Bolton

Year 3 Ancient Egypt Workshop

Safer Internet Week: Online Safety Workshops (Y1 to Y6)

Year 6 Chester Zoo Educational Visit

School closes for half term

School reopens for Spring Term 2

Non-Uniform Day for February Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 26th February)

Year 1 Great Fire of London Workshop

Themed Week 'Difference for Primary' Programme

World Book Day

Year 4 Electricity Workshops

Year 5 Educational Visit to Cuerden Valley

Parents' Evening 6 – 8pm

Mothering Sunday Service at Church (9.30am Rec & KS1 and 10.30am KS2)

Parents' Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm

Year 4 Volcano and Earthquake Workshop

Year 3 Trust Experience to Liverpool

Non-Uniform Day for March Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 26th March)

Palm Praise Service at Church (9.30am Rec & KS1 and 10.30am KS2)

Nursery Stay and play 9am-10.15am or 2pm-3.15pm

School closes for Easter Holiday

Spring Term 2026 Worship Themes:

w/c 5.1.26 Epiphany
w/c 12.1.26 Baptism
w/c 19.1.26 Christian Unity
w/c 26.1.26 Presentation of Christ in the temple

w/c 2.2.26 Courage
w/c 9.2.26 Love

w/c 23.2.26 Lent
w/c 2.3.26 British Saints
w/c 9.3.26 Mother Church
w/c 16.3.26 Forgiveness
w/c 23.3.26 Palm Praise
w/c 30.3.26 Holy Week

Additional Information:

Playground Equipment and Games: Children are not allowed to use any of the playground equipment or bring in balls to play with before or after school. Also, children are not permitted to use bikes or scooters on the school grounds. This is for health and safety reasons. Children must not enter the school car park or climb on the blue railings.

PE Uniform:

PE lessons will take place on **Tuesdays**. Children will be expected to attend school in PE uniform on their PE day. This consists of a sky-blue T-shirt, school jumper, cardigan or hoody, and navy/black shorts (not short shorts e.g. Nike Pro), or navy/black leggings, or navy/black joggers, and a pair of dark-coloured trainers (no bright colours please). Children are also encouraged to bring a rainproof jacket for outdoor use in wet weather.

Parking: Please be reminded that parking on the school premises is for staff only, between 7am and 4.30pm. Please be respectful to residents when parking in the local community.

Pets: Dogs **are not** permitted on the school grounds, without formal consent.

Attendance and Punctuality: Good attendance is crucial in your child's education. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please notify the office staff.

School Uniform: Please ensure that children wear the correct school uniform and look smart. This includes black shoes. We strongly encourage you to have your child's name clearly marked or labelled in all items of clothing. Please ensure that your child comes to school with a coat. We encourage hair accessories, such as hair bands and bobbles, to be consistent with the colour of the uniform e.g., sky blue, navy, grey or black. Long hair should be tied back. Make up and cosmetics, including nail varnish or false nails, are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform and therefore, should not be worn. Children are allowed to wear a standard **watch** in school. However, any type of watch with a camera or recording device (e.g. smartwatches) are not permitted.

Earrings: Children **are not** permitted to wear earrings in school. This is for health and safety reasons.

Water bottles: Children are encouraged to drink water during the school day to keep them hydrated. They may bring in a plastic water bottle (not a Stanley-style cup with straw), preferably clear, with their name labelled on it. They should take it home regularly to be washed. Children can refill bottles in school.

Toileting: In case of toileting accidents, please can your child have a change of underwear in a labelled carrier bag that can stay in their tray. If your child needs to be changed in school and is given school supplies to wear please can you wash and return them.

Snacks: Children may bring in a snack of either **fruit, vegetables, rice cakes or toast** for morning playtime. Other items such as cakes, biscuits, crackers, sweets, pastries, yoghurts, cereal bars or fruit bars are not permitted at playtime. Please be aware that there are children in school with nut allergies. Therefore, can you please ensure that your child does not bring any items containing nuts into school as part of their packed lunch or snack. Please note that this may include some cereal bars. Any **grapes must be cut into quarters**.

Medication: If your child requires medication such as inhalers, please ensure that your child's class teacher is provided with medication that is within its expiry date and is clearly labelled. You will be required to complete a medical form from the school office.