



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

Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

Year 5 Team: Mrs. Prentki, Mrs. Cunliffe, Mrs. Melling & Miss Beckwith

Key Stage 2 Phase Leader: Mrs. Prentki

Our Curriculum: (Curriculum Overviews can be accessed on the school website)

Mathematics: This term, we will be looking at fractions, negative numbers, Roman Numerals, and measurement including area, perimeter and measuring and calculating angles.

English: This term in English, we will be looking at the theme of journeys through journey poetry and the non-fiction text 'Shackleton's Journey'. We will produce poems, journals, persuasive letters and a biography.

Religious Education: In RE, we are studying 'Jesus the Teacher' and 'Why do Christians believe that Easter is a celebration of victory?' We will look at how Jesus used Bible stories to teach and deliver important messages and look at the sacrifice God made by giving His only Son, Jesus Christ.

Science: Properties and changes in materials (reversible and irreversible changes). The children will learn that melting, boiling, freezing, solidification and evaporation are processes which involve reversible and irreversible changes.

Computing: Children will develop their coding skills using Scratch by designing and creating their own game. After half term, they will build on their spreadsheet knowledge in Microsoft Excel, learning how to create graphs, use formulae, and even plan a simple budget, giving them practical skills they can use beyond the classroom.

Topic (Geography): Our topic this term is Rivers. We will study the Water Cycle, formation of rivers and their various features. Additionally, we will look at some of the most famous rivers both in the UK and the wider world. We will study the North American continent exploring human and physical features.

Music: Year 5 will be studying Sun Sundar Sargam, by the composer Reena Esmail. After half-term they will be learning to sing and accompany a variety of rounds.

Physical Education: This term the children be taking part in Sportshall Athletics and gymnastics.

Art and Design: In Art, we will be practising our weaving skills and creating a collage based on a river. We will be looking at the work of Monet as our main influence.

Design and Technology: The children will develop food technology skills by preparing a North American inspired dish.

Relationships and Health Education (PSHE): Children will explore the themes of relationships and living in the wider world.

French (KS2 only): Children will study the topics 'at school' and 'classroom objects'.

Spring Term Focus Theme: Exhilarating Expeditions

"Exhilarating Expeditions" takes children on a journey through some of history's most daring adventures, focusing on exploration and discovery. Through texts like 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes and 'Animal Migrations' by Jon Richards and Josy Bloggs, children explore various expeditions, both human and animal, that push the boundaries of endurance and survival. The topic is mainly linked to their geography unit on rivers, where they study the physical and human aspects of these waterways, with a special focus on the rivers of the world, including those in North America. This includes gaining locational and place knowledge of major rivers like the Mississippi, understanding their role in shaping human activity and the environment. In art, they create river-themed textiles and collages inspired by Claude Monet's work, capturing the fluidity and beauty of rivers. The focus text 'Shackleton's Journey' by William Grill ties these elements together, illustrating the challenges of exploring harsh environments. A field trip to Cuerden Valley allows students to experience a river ecosystem firsthand, reinforcing their geographical and artistic studies, and enhancing their understanding of rivers globally.

Purple Mash: Children have access to this online platform at home, where they can enjoy educational games and use resources to enhance their learning. This **will not** be used for homework this year, but will be used within school and available for children to use at home.

Home Learning

Spellings: Children will be given an age-appropriate spelling list every **Monday** in their Spelling Record Book and will be tested the following **Monday**.

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. Reading Records must be brought into school on **Monday**, for teachers to sign and monitor. Children will be given opportunities to change their reading book every week.

Library (KS2 only): Children will have the opportunity to change their library book once a week. Year 5 library afternoon is **Monday** - Please ensure that your child brings their library book on this day if they wish to change it.

Maths (Year 1 to Year 6): Children will be given a weekly home learning task in Maths, to be given out every **Monday**, to consolidate the learning that has taken place in school during the week. This needs to be returned to their child's class teacher by the following **Monday**.

Multiplication Tables (Year 1 to Year 6): Children have got access to **TT Rockstars**, a maths programme focusing on multiplication tables [link](#). Please encourage your child to use this online programme on a regular basis. If you do not know your child's username and password please contact helpdesk@saintwilfrids.wigan.sch.uk stating your child's full name and class.

Home Learning Project: Children will be set a Home Learning Project, related to their termly focus theme. This is usually a practical task, which families can work with children on together and share in school.

Spring Term 2026 Diary Dates:

Friday 9 th January	Non-Uniform Day for Perryn (red) House Point Winners from Year 1 to Year 6 (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 8 th January due to PE)
TBC	Year 6 Trust 'Experience' to Edge Hill University
Friday 30 th January	Year 4 Sound Workshop
Friday 30 th January	Non-Uniform Day for January Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 29 th January)
Tuesday 3 rd February	Year 5 Educational Visit to English National Operal in Bolton
Wednesday 4 th February	Year 3 Ancient Egypt Workshop
9 th , 10 th , 12 th & 13 th February	Safer Internet Week: Online Safety Workshops (Y1 to Y6)
Tuesday 10 th February	Year 6 Chester Zoo Educational Visit
Friday 13 th February	School closes for half term
Monday 23 rd February	School reopens for Spring Term 2
Friday 27 th February	Non-Uniform Day for February Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 26 th February)
Thursday 12 th March	Year 1 Great Fire of London Workshop
w/c Monday 2 nd March	Themed Week 'Difference for Primary' Programme
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
6 th , 11 th and 18 th March	Year 4 Electricity Workshops
9 th & 10 th March	Year 5 Educational Visit to Cuerden Valley
Wednesday 11 th March	Parents' Evening 6 - 8pm
Friday 13 th March	Mothering Sunday Service at Church (9.30am Rec & KS1 and 10.30am KS2)
Wednesday 18 th March	Parents' Evening 3.30 - 5.30pm
Friday 20 th March	Year 4 Volcano and Earthquake Workshop
Tuesday 24 th March	Year 3 Trust Experience to Liverpool
Friday 27 th March	Non-Uniform Day for March Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 26 th March)
Monday 30 th March	Palm Praise Service at Church (9.30am Rec & KS1 and 10.30am KS2)
Tuesday 31 st March	Nursery Stay and play 9am-10.15am or 2pm-3.15pm
Thursday 2 nd April	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 23.2.26	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 **Wednesday**. Swimming lessons will take place on **Thursday**. 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.

Handwriting Pens (KS2 only): Teachers will issue a 'Pen License' if and when your child is ready to make the transition from pencil to pen.

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.

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.

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.

Mobile Phones (Year 5 & 6 only): Whilst children are not permitted mobile phones in school, children in Upper Key Stage 2, who walk to school, may bring a mobile phone to keep them safe if parents and carers allow this. On entering the school premises, children **must** turn their mobile phone off, and mobile phones will be collected in during registration and stored securely, and will be returned to children at the end of the school day.