



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 1 Team: Mrs Finch, Mrs Rooney, Mrs McAndrews, Miss Quinn, Mrs Pearce and Mrs Lundy.

Key Stage 1 Phase Leader: Mrs E Chisnall

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

Mathematics: We will be consolidating basic number skills, addition and subtraction within 20, money, time, shape and measure. We will also be introducing counting in our 2s, 5s and 10s. There will be lots of opportunities given to the children to do reasoning and problem-solving activities to further develop their learning.

English: We will explore diaries, poetry, character descriptions and instructions. We will be using different punctuation, continuing handwriting practice and extending our sentences with conjunctions. Our phonics sessions will focus on alternative spellings of sounds, as well as recapping all previously learnt sounds.

Religious Education: In RE we will be learning about Jesus, his disciples and Easter. The children will be learning about the life of Jesus through reading stories, drama and craft activities.

Science: This term we will be sorting and classifying materials. We will plan an investigation to test the properties of different materials. As the weather changes, we will be looking for the signs of spring, learning about different parts of a flower and investigating whether all plants come from seeds.

Computing: Year 1 will be learning about algorithms and how to debug simple programs on Purple Mash. We will also learn about using technology and the internet safely.

Topic (History and Geography): We are learning about the Great Fire of London and exploring the causes and effects of the fire. In Geography we will be learning about the UK and its four countries, capital cities and their special characteristics.

Music: We will be finding the pulse in different kinds of music and introducing basic recorder skills to focus on performing to an audience.

Physical Education: We will be developing skills in gymnastics and Invasion games. The Intra School Sport challenges this term is 'Drop-Step-Catch' task.

Art and Design: We will be using printing techniques to create a textile painting and looking at the artist Queenie McKenzie.

Design and Technology: We will be planning, designing, creating and evaluating a structure for the three little pigs, using different joining skills.

Relationships and Health Education (PSHE): We will be learning about how to work together in our community, focusing on different types of jobs and appreciating our differences.

Spring Term Focus Themes

London's burning!

"London's Burning!" delves into the history of the Great Fire of London. Through the focus text 'Toby and the Great Fire of London' by Margaret Nash and Jane Cope, children gain insight into this significant event. A workshop about the Great Fire of London brings the past to life, deepening their understanding of the fire's impact. To further engage with the history, children create a model of one of the 17th-century houses, helping them visualise how the fire spread and the architectural differences between then and now.

Marvellous Materials

"Marvellous Materials" introduces children to the science of everyday materials and their uses in construction. Linked to Design Technology, children explore building structures by designing a house for the Three Little Pigs. The focus text 'Iggy Peck, Architect' by Andrea Beaty inspires creativity and problem-solving as children learn about different materials and their properties. A materials hunt around the school further enhances their understanding, allowing them to identify and categorise various materials in their environment, and consider their suitability for different building purposes.

School Social Media Accounts to follow:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stwilfridsceprimary/>

X (Formerly Twitter): @St_Wilfrids_CE

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 be used within school and available for children to use at home.

Home Learning

Spellings: Children will be given age-appropriate spelling lists every half term and will be tested each 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. In Year 1, Reading Records must be brought into school every day for teachers to monitor. Children will be given opportunities to change their reading book every week.

Maths (Year 1 to Year 6): Children will be given a weekly home learning task in Maths, to be given out every **Friday**, 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 **Wednesday**.

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.

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 **Friday**. 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 you 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.