



St. Wilfrid's Church of England Primary Academy

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



Autumn Term 2026 Term Newsletter

Wishing you all a very warm welcome to Year 3!

Year 3 Team: Mrs Wilson, Miss Cowburn, Miss Prentki, Mrs Aindow, Mrs Sutton, Miss England, Mrs Ali, Miss Woolstencroft, Mrs Chesney, Mrs Rosenthal.

Our Curriculum:

(Curriculum Overviews can be accessed on the school website)

Mathematics: Our focus in mathematics teaching is to ensure that pupils become increasingly fluent with whole numbers and the four operations including number facts and the concept of place value and reasoning and explain how they have reached that answer. By the end of year 4, pupils should know their multiplication tables up to and including the 12-multiplication table and show precision and fluency in their work. Therefore, there will be a greater emphasis on the teaching of multiplication tables throughout Year 3.

English: The children will write an aspirations letter, then will be reading 'The Fossil Hunter' by Kate Winter, which is linked to our science topic 'Beneath my feet' based on rocks and soils. Following this, we will write a biography and newspaper report based on Mary Anning. We will end the term by studying the Iron Man by Ted Hughes.

Religious Education: RE lessons will reflect upon their own experiences of Harvest Festivals before learning about Harvest celebrations around the world.

Science: Children will learn about the fossilisation process and how different types of rocks are formed, then will move on to studying forces and magnets after half term.

Computing: The children will learn about Digital Footprints in their online safety lessons and how everything they do online is recorded. They will also continue to improve their computer operational skills they learnt in Year 2.

Topic (History and Geography): History-The children will find out about the lives of famous 'Wiganers' such as George Formby and Billy Boston. Geography. We will learn about where our food comes from and discuss Fair Trade.

Music: The children will be learning about our classroom percussion instruments. They will explore how to hold them, the sounds they can create, use symbols in a graphic score and layer sounds to create soundscapes.

Physical Education: Topics this term will include Invasion games, including ball skills, followed by Tennis

Art and Design: The children will be studying the artist Alma Thomas and creating their own patchwork textile

Design and Technology: This term, children will research standing structures and create their own Iron Man watchtower.

Relationships and Health Education (PSHE): This term, we will be looking at healthy relationships, followed by studying how to keep our minds and body healthy.

French (KS2 only): Year 3 will begin by learning some basic French greetings this term.

Autumn Term Focus Theme: Beneath My Feet

"Beneath My Feet" takes children on an exploration of the Earth's layers, focusing on rocks and soils in their science unit. Children learn about the pioneering palaeontologist Mary Anning and her contributions to fossil discovery, connecting history with their scientific studies. The focus text 'The Fossil Hunter' by Kate Winter deepens their understanding of Mary Anning's life and work. In art, children create a fabric panel inspired by contemporary artist Mark Rothko, blending earth tones and textures. A Rocks and Fossils workshop provides a hands-on experience, allowing children to examine real specimens and solidify their knowledge of the natural world beneath their feet.

"Mechanical Marvels" links to science and engages children in the wonders of forces and magnets through hands-on exploration. Also linked to their Design Technology unit on 'Making things move,' children delve into pneumatics to understand how movement is created. The focus text 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes sparks their imagination and ties in with their learning on machinery and mechanics. An Iron Man Drama workshop allows children to bring the story to life, deepening their understanding of the scientific concepts by physically exploring the ideas of force, motion, and mechanical power in a creative and interactive way.

School Social Media Accounts to follow:

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

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 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. In Year 3, 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 3 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.

Autumn Term 2026 Diary Dates:

Friday 11th September

Sunday 13th September

Friday 25th September

Wednesday 30th September

Wednesday 7th October

Thursday 8th October

Friday 9th October

Friday 23rd October

Friday 23rd October

Monday 2nd November

Wednesday 11th November

Wednesday 11th November

Monday 16th November

Friday 20th November

Wednesday 25th November

Friday 27th November

Thursday 3rd December

Monday 7th December

Tuesday 8th December

Tuesday 8th December

Wednesday 9th December

Thursday 10th December

Friday 11th December

Tuesday 15th December

Thursday 17th December

Friday 18th December

9.30am KS1 & Year 3 Harvest Festival at Church (Y1 to lead)

10.30am KS2 Harvest Festival at Church (Y6 to lead)

10am St Wilfrid's Church Centenary Service

Non-uniform for September birthdays (Y2 on Thursday 26th September)

3.30 - 5.30pm Parents' Evening for Rec - Year 6

6-8pm Parents' Evening for Rec-Year 6

Individual and Sibling School Photographs

Mental Health Themed Day (wear something yellow)

Non-Uniform Day for all October Birthdays (Y2 on Thursday 22nd October)

School closes for half term

School reopens for Autumn Term 2

10.45am Act of Remembrance at St. Wilfrid's Church for Year 6 children

Open Evening 5.30m Nursery and 6.30pm Reception

Anti-Bullying Week (wear odd socks to launch on Monday)

Non-Uniform Day - Children to bring an item for the Christmas Fayre

St. Wilfrid's Winter Fayre

Non-Uniform Day for November Birthdays (Y2 non-uniform on Thursday 26th November)

Christingle Themed Day and 6pm Christingle Service at Church (Year 5 to lead)

9.15-10.15am Y5 Festive Singalong and 10.30-11.30am Y6 Festive Singalong

9.15-10.15am Y3 Festive Singalong and 10.30-11.30am Y4 Festive Singalong

2.30pm Year 1 Nativity (doors open at 2.15pm)

2.30pm Reception Nativity (doors open at 2.15pm)

2.30pm Year 2 Nativity (doors open at 2.15pm)

Non-Uniform Day for all December Birthdays (Y2 on Thursday 10th December)

Nursery Carol Service at Church

9.30am EYFS & KS1 Carol Service at Church (Y2 to lead)

10.30am KS2 Carol Service at Church (Y4 to lead)

9.15am Christmas Singalong for children



Autumn Term 2026 Worship Themes:

w/c 31.8.26	New Beginnings
w/c 7.9.26	Harvest
w/c 14.9.26	Heritage
w/c 21.9.26	Trust
w/c 28.9.26	Servanthood
w/c 5.10.26	Saints
w/c 12.10.26	Fairness
w/c 19.10.26	Togetherness (United Nations Day)
w/c 2.11.26	Remembrance
w/c 9.11.26	Celebration
w/c 16.11.26	Christ as King
w/c 23.11.26	Advent
w/c 30.11.26	Hope
w/c 7.12.26	Waiting
w/c 14.12.26	Preparation

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 **Tuesday**. 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 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.