



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 Reception!

Reception Team: Mrs Mullen, Mrs Kohler, Miss Massey, Miss Cooper, Mrs Lochrie, Miss Yates, Mrs Sutton and Miss Hussain
Early Years Foundation Stage Phase Leader: Miss Clayton

Our Curriculum:

(Curriculum Overviews can be accessed on the school website)

Maths

This term we will be focusing on number. We will be working on number rhymes, reading numbers, writing numbers and making numbers. We will work mainly on numbers to 10, but will explore numbers to 20.

We will gather a deep understanding of each number, looking at subitising and composition, recognising quantities by sight and remembering number bonds to 5.

Literacy

We will be doing lots of work on letter recognition and beginning to spell some simple words. We will be practising our speaking and listening skills, during role play activities and circle time activities.

The children will receive their first reading book and phonics sheet next week. We will be concentrating on learning letter sounds to help us to read and write.

Understanding the World

This half term's topic is 'Good to be me!'. We will be looking at our emotions, our bodies, our families and our friends. We will be talking about similarities and differences and learning how to get along with each other.

We will also be learning about Autumn and the changes that occur. We will go on an Autumn hunt to collect items to investigate. After half term, our topic will be 'Come and celebrate!'. We will learn about different kinds of celebrations from our own and other cultures.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be looking at ourselves and others and seeing how we can make representations of these. We will be painting self-portraits and making collages of our names.

Physical Development

We will be working on a range of physical skills both during P.E. sessions and in our Outdoor Play area. 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 be working on fine motor control using scissors, threading skills and using pencils with the correct grip.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will be learning how to look after ourselves, our belongings and our classroom. We will learn new rules and routines and will talk about how to be a good friend. We follow the 'Think Equal' programme teaching the children how to regulate their emotions.

Autumn Term 1 Focus Theme: Good to be me!

'Good to Be Me!' celebrates children as they begin their journey in Reception, helping them develop a strong sense of identity, belonging and confidence. Through texts such as 'First Day at Bug School' Sam Lloyd, 'Elmer' by David McKee and 'Super Duper You' by Sophy Henn, children explore what makes them unique, their feelings and emotions, and the special people and relationships in their lives. They learn about their bodies, senses and families, while exploring how they have grown and changed from being babies to now. Children also begin to explore their own history, comparing themselves with parents and grandparents and noticing how people, toys and everyday life have changed over time. Through family photographs, conversations, self-portraits and a family questionnaire, children develop vocabulary, communication skills and confidence while celebrating the message that everyone is special and it is good to be me!

Autumn Term 2 Focus Theme: Come and celebrate!

'Come and Celebrate!' develops spiritual awareness by encouraging children to wonder about the meaning and significance of celebrations, traditions and special times in the lives of others. Moral development is fostered as children learn to respect different beliefs, values and ways of celebrating, recognising that traditions may be different but equally meaningful. Social development is nurtured through sharing experiences, listening to others, performing together and celebrating as a community. Cultural understanding is broadened through exploring Harvest, Diwali, Hanukkah, Bonfire Night, Remembrance and Christmas, helping children appreciate the rich diversity of cultures, faiths and traditions within their school, community and wider world.

Recommended Websites:

www.saintwilfrids.wigan.sch.uk Purple Mash
CBeebies. In particular Alphablocks and Numberblocks
Please help your child to develop their use of a mouse if you have a computer at home.

School Social Media Accounts to follow:

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

Home Learning

Please can you help your child develop their physical skills to put on their own coat, zip it up and use a knife and fork.

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.

Autumn Term 2026 Diary Dates:

Friday 11th September	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
Sunday 13th September	Non-uniform for September birthdays (Y2 on Thursday 26 th September)
Friday 25th September	3.30 – 5.30pm Parents' Evening for Rec – Year 6
Wednesday 30th September	6-8pm Parents' Evening for Rec-Year 6
Wednesday 7th October	Individual and Sibling School Photographs
Thursday 8th October	Mental Health Themed Day (wear something yellow)
Friday 9th October	Non-Uniform Day for all October Birthdays (Y2 on Thursday 22 nd October)
Friday 23rd October	School closes for half term
Monday 2nd November	School reopens for Autumn Term 2
Wednesday 11th November	10.45am Act of Remembrance at St. Wilfrid's Church for Year 6 children
Wednesday 11th November	Open Evening 5.30m Nursery and 6.30pm Reception
Monday 16th November	Anti-Bullying Week (wear odd socks to launch on Monday)
Friday 20th November	Non-Uniform Day – Children to bring an item for the Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 25th November	St. Wilfrid's Winter Fayre
Friday 27th November	Non-Uniform Day for November Birthdays (Y2 non-uniform on Thursday 26 th November)
Thursday 3rd December	Christingle Themed Day and 6pm Christingle Service at Church (Year 5 to lead)
Monday 7th December	9.15-10.15am Y5 Festive Singalong and 10.30-11.30am Y6 Festive Singalong
Tuesday 8th December	9.15-10.15am Y3 Festive Singalong and 10.30-11.30am Y4 Festive Singalong
Tuesday 8th December	2.30pm Year 1 Nativity (doors open at 2.15pm)
Wednesday 9th December	2.30pm Reception Nativity (doors open at 2.15pm)
Thursday 10th December	2.30pm Year 2 Nativity (doors open at 2.15pm)
Friday 11th December	Non-Uniform Day for all December Birthdays (Y2 on Thursday 10 th December)
Tuesday 15th December	Nursery Carol Service at Church
Thursday 17th December	9.30am EYFS & KS1 Carol Service at Church (Y2 to lead) 10.30am KS2 Carol Service at Church (Y4 to lead)
Friday 18th December	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**. 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 footwear (in Early Years children can wear black trainers to support outdoor play on school equipment). 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.