



St. Wilfrid's Church of England Primary Academy

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



Autumn Term 2025 Term Newsletter

Wishing you all a very warm welcome to Reception!

Reception Team: Mrs Horton, Mrs Clay, Mrs Mullen, Mrs Kohler, Mrs Causey, Mrs Dickinson
Mrs Stokes. Early Years Foundation Stage Phase Leader: Mrs Newman

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 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. We will be using the computers to create images.

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. 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 scissor and 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.

Autumn Term 1 Focus Theme: Good to be me!

"Good to be Me!" centres on helping children learn about themselves as they begin their journey in school. Using the focus text Starting School by Janet and Allan Ahlberg, children explore their feelings about starting in Reception, discussing their emotions and how they feel about new beginnings. They learn about their bodies, senses, and families, reflecting on how they have grown and changed from babies to their current selves. The topic also encourages children to consider their personal history, looking at how they have developed over time. Discussions will include what they are good at, the uniqueness of their families, and the changes they will experience as they grow. This exploration of self, fosters confidence and a sense of identity as they embark on this new chapter.

Autumn Term 2 Focus Theme: Come and celebrate!

"Come and Celebrate!" invites children to explore and learn about the many cultural and religious festivals that take place during the autumn, using 'The Christmas Story' by Heather Amery as a central text. Throughout this half term, children will discover how different cultures and communities celebrate occasions such as Harvest, Diwali, Bonfire Night, and Christmas. The topic emphasises the importance of respecting and appreciating the diverse traditions and beliefs that make each person unique. Children will share their family and community customs, learning that people celebrate in various ways around the world. Supporting texts like 'Where the Poppies Now Grow' by Hilary Robinson and 'Sparks in the Sky' by Twinkl will enrich their understanding of celebration and remembrance.

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/>
X (Formerly Twitter): @St_Wilfrids_CE

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 2025 Diary Dates:



Friday 26th September	Non-Uniform Day for September Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 25 th September due to PE)
Friday 26th September	9.30am Reception & KS1 Harvest Festival at Church (Y1 to lead) 10.30am KS2 Harvest Festival at Church (Y6 to lead)
Wednesday 8th October	3.30 – 5.30pm Parents' Evening for Rec – Year 6
Thursday 9th October	Individual and Sibling School Photographs
Friday 10th October	Mental Health Themed Day (wear something yellow)
Wednesday 15th October	6.00 – 8.00pm Parents' Evening for Rec – Year 6
Wednesday 22nd October	Open Evening for prospective parents (Nursery: 5.30pm, Reception 6.30pm)
Thursday 23rd October	Non-Uniform Day for all October Birthdays
Thursday 23rd October	School closes for half term (INSET day on Friday 24 th October)
Monday 3rd November	School reopens for Autumn Term 2
Monday 10th November	Anti-Bullying Week (wear odd socks to launch on Monday)
Tuesday 11th November	Act of Remembrance at St. Wilfrid's Church for Year 6 children
Friday 21st November	Non-Uniform Day – Children to bring an item for the Christmas Fayre
Friday 28th November	Non-Uniform Day for November Birthdays (Y1 & Y3 non-uniform on Thursday 27 th November)
Thursday 4th December	Christingle Themed Day and 6pm Christingle Service at Church (Year 5 to lead)
Friday 5th December	3.30pm Christmas Fayre (Non-uniform day)
Tuesday 9th December	2.15pm Year 1 Nativity
Wednesday 10th December	2.15pm Reception Nativity
Thursday 11th December	2.15pm Year 2 Nativity
Tuesday 16th December	9.15am Nursery Carol Service at Church
Thursday 18th December	9.30am EYFS & KS1 Carol Service at Church (Y2 to lead) 10.30am KS2 Carol Service at Church (Y4 to lead)
Friday 19th December	Non-Uniform Day for December Birthdays
Friday 19th December	School closes for Christmas

Autumn Term 2025 Worship Themes:

w/c 1.9.25	New Beginnings
w/c 8.9.25	Heritage (succession of King Charles)
w/c 15.9.25	How we face challenges
w/c 22.9.25	Harvest
w/c 29.9.25	How we show kindness
w/c 6.10.25	Saint Wilfrid
w/c 13.10.25	Standing up for what you believe in
w/c 20.10.25	Trust
w/c 3.11.25	Remembrance
w/c 10.11.25	Peace
w/c 17.11.25	Christ as King, Lord and Saviour
w/c 24.11.25	Advent
w/c 1.12.25	Hope
w/c 8.12.25	Joy
w/c 15.12.25	Christmas

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.