

Stretton St Matthew's Church of England Primary School

'Work Together, Aim High, Shine Bright'

Friday 17th October 2025



Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for the new school year and the beauty of autumn.

Thank you for the cool air that energizes us, for the colors in nature that inspire creativity, and for the harvest that fills our tables with food.

As the leaves fall and the days shorten, help us find comfort in your constant love.

May we be mindful of your presence in the people around us and live with gratitude for the gifts we have been given.

Bless our school community, our teachers, and our families, and help us to be kind, patient, and helpful to one another.

Amen

School Safety and Security

For safety and security reasons, please do not use the green button in the foyer to let anyone into the building, even if this is known parents. It is essential that office staff manage building access so that all visitors can be properly greeted and any necessary safety checks can be completed.

Thank you for helping us maintain a secure and welcoming environment for all.

Reception Show arounds

A huge thank you to our wonderful House Captains who have helped to show around perspective families. The children were well prepared and acted in a mature and professional manner they showcased our school fantastically!

If you missed our show arounds and are looking for a Reception place for Sep 2026, please contact school.



CDAT Football Competition

A huge congratulations to everyone who took part in the Year 5/6 football competition - what an amazing effort from all players!

Thank you to Mr Aspinall, Mr Thompson and Mr Mottram for organising such a fantastic event for the children. We really enjoyed playing with the other schools from the Trust.

Well done to our incredible Sports Captains for managing their teams so confidently and showing great leadership throughout the day!



Year 6 Girl's Football

Well done to the Year 6 girls who took part in the football competition at Bridgwater High School. They all showed great determination and team spirit. Despite the weather, they represented the school brilliantly.

Thanks Mr A for taking the children and thanks to those who supported with transport to allow this to happen.



Remembrance Service

Apologises, we missed the date for our Remembrance Service, it has now been added to the calendar. This service will have children from Yr 1- Yr 6 (Reception will be producing some artwork on that day and will discuss Remembrance at an age-appropriate level in class.)

The Remembrance Service will start in church at **10:30am on the 11th of November** and we hope that you can all join us for this.

Please can we kindly ask that you sit on the chairs at the back, we do need all the pews for our children to be able to be seated comfortably.

Once we have seated the children, if there are pews available, we will invite you to take a seat.

We apologise in advance that there isn't a seat for everyone, but we do not want to restrict inviting our whole school community to our church events. This may just mean it is a bit of a squeeze!

World Mental Health Day

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors have led world mental health day.

They were giving out kindness tokens to children to recognise the importance of being kind and looking after one another, the children that were given these tokens were awarded with an extra play.

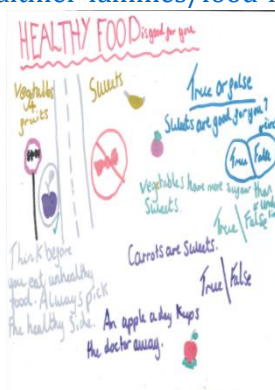
As staff we also voted for our most kind member of staff - well done Miss Fisher!



Healthy Snacks

Our School Council are promoting healthy eating at break time. We are encouraging children to think about the snacks that they bring in to school. Raffle tickets and prizes will be given for bringing in healthy snacks.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/>



School Garden Donation

Thank you to Henry in Year 3, who brought us a lovely little donation for our garden.



Our Wonderful Reading Council

Our reading council have been very busy visiting classes to deliver inspiring book events. Our children delivered some lovely reading experiences to the younger children.

- Year R – Milly – Goldilocks: story sack
- Year 1 – Alice Aliens love underpants: story sack
- Year 2 – Zara: The lost bear – puppets
- Year 3 – Georgia: Finding bear – drawing activity
- Year 4 – Rishab – Neymar: quiz
- Year 5 – Florence - Charlie and Chocolate Factory: drawing activity
- Year 6 - Jack – Narnia



Parent Pay

In line with other schools, and at the request of Warrington School Meals, we are taking steps to reduce the overall debt on Parent Pay.

From Monday 20th October, when an account accumulates a debt of £8.00 or more, children will not be able to order a school snack. They can, however, have the free fruit from school or they can bring in their own healthy snack from home.

Parent Pay do send regular email reminders out to parents if a child has a debt on their account. Therefore, please make sure you are checking your emails as well as your child's Parent Pay account on a regular basis.

Warrington School Meals will inform school when a child's account has been cleared, so that they can continue to purchase a school snack.

<https://app.parentpay.com/>

Harvest Service

Thank you to everyone that attended our Harvest Service in Church.

It was a lovely event with everything from pictures to a song from our Reception children, to beautiful prayers led by Ethos.

A big well done to our Reception children in particular, they spoke with such confidence and sang and showed their pictures. These children have only been in our school five weeks, and it was amazing to see them at the front in a jam-packed church being so confident and enthusiastic.

We gave thanks for our beautiful world and specifically the food that we have to eat.

Children also explored themes of eating seasonally, supporting British farmers and also buying fair trade.

Year 6 even handed out cakes they had made with fair trade ingredients; these went down a treat!

The Church was full and it was lovely to have so much of our school community together.

Thank you so much for all your generous donations to Warrington Food Bank.



Extra-Curricular Clubs

Autumn term 2 clubs will go live on Monday 20th October. Please see a list of the clubs that will be running in Autumn term 2.

Clubs will run from w/c Monday 3rd November – w/e Thursday 18th December 2025 – 3:20pm-4:20pm. Mindfulness, cookery, gymnastics and Tennis will only run for 6 weeks, all other clubs will run for 7 weeks.

There will be no clubs running on Friday 19th December.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS1 & KS2 Dodgeball £7 per session Click here to book Pro Sport (7 weeks)	KS1 & KS2 Football £7 per session Click here to book Pro Sport (7 weeks)	KS1 Multisport £7 per session Click here to book Pro Sport (7 weeks)	KS1 & KS2 Netball £7 per session Click here to book Pro Sport (7 weeks)	KS1 & KS2 Gymnastics £7 per session Click here to book Pro Sport (6 weeks)
KS1 & KS2 Mindfulness Club £4 per session Click here to book Mrs Calder (6 weeks)	KS1 & KS2 Choir £4 per session Click here to book Mrs Marshall (7 weeks)	KS2 Cookery Club £9 per session Click here to express interest Hayley Orford (6 weeks)	KS2 Christmas Sewing/DT Club £5 per session Mrs Smith Click here to book (7 weeks)	KS1 & KS2 Tennis £6 per session Click here to book Mr Aspinall (6 weeks)

Our Amazing PTA

Our amazing PTA met last week and have been busy coming up with plans for our whole school community this year.

First up is Crazy Hair Day, which will take place on Friday 24th October.

The children can come into school with funky and crazy hair, and we are kindly asking for a donation for the children to partake,

They have set a funding goal of £400, and this money is set to go on some outside seating for our wellbeing ambassadors. Our wellbeing ambassadors are operating daily at break and lunch to support children at play time - they offer a friendly chat, craft, colouring and calming activities.

School has purchased all the items for the ambassadors to use.

Kitty's shed has been painted, complete with Rainbow handprints.

The seating will allow more children to be able to engage in the activities. It will also restore Kitty's shed and the surrounding space.

The remaining money will be spent on some 'Book Swap Shops' that will be placed at the front of school and on the playground to encourage children to share their books.

Thank you to families that have already donated some beautiful items for the refurb of the shed.

We really appreciate your ongoing support and can't wait to see the children's crazy hair. Hopefully, we will reach our target to be able to support the Wellbeing Ambassadors and Reading Council on improvements to school that the children would like to see and that will benefit all our children.

Please give what you can -

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stmattscrazyhair2025>

Class Dojo

Important points to note with use of Class Dojo

- During school hours, teachers are either classroom-based, in meetings or attending training; therefore, responses to messages will usually come before and after school hours and within the working day between the hours of 8am and 4:30pm. This means you can expect a response from teachers outside of their teaching/duty hours from 8.00 – 8.30am and then from 3.30-4.30pm.
- As Dojo is a service only to be used during the working day, we kindly ask that teachers are not messaged late into evenings or on weekends. Dojo messages will not be checked or responded to outside of these hours, as teachers will not be working during these times and it is important that, as a school, we aim to protect staff mental health and wellbeing and protect their work-life balance.

What Dojo is **NOT for –**

- We kindly ask if there are any concerns regarding school provision or complaints, please ensure these are being addressed to class teachers directly (please book appointments, request a phone call via the office or catch them at the start and the end of the day).
- If you feel it is necessary, please send in complaints via our school email account. We have staff that man these throughout the school day and are able to direct your concerns and alert staff that are busy with face-to-face work with the children, to ensure we can deal with these in a timely manner.
- Requesting a phone call or meeting with staff gives the opportunity to fully discuss and understand your concerns, queries or grievances.

This also means that staff and families are able to work together on developing solutions in a timely and effective manner.

- Class Dojo does not replace methods for reporting absences, so please continue to contact the school office for this. Again, we have staff to man this and follow attendance procedures daily so we can ensure we know where our pupils are each day and can record their attendance in line with our policies and procedures

School Calendar 2025-2026

Autumn 1st Half Term		
Monday	20 th October	Y2 Martin Mere Trip
Tuesday	21 st October	Y3/Y4 Big Sing – Audacious Church Project (In School)
Friday 24 th October		PTA Crazy Hair Day https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stmattscrazyhair2025
		Year 5 Football Competition
		Y4 Residential Deposit due https://app.parentpay.com/
Friday	24 th October	School Closes – Autumn 1 – 3:20pm
Thursday 30 th October		Y5 Residential Deposit due https://app.parentpay.com/
		Y6 Residential Deposit due https://app.parentpay.com/
Autumn 2nd Half Term		
Monday	3 rd November	School Opens – Autumn 2
Tuesday	4 th November	Y4/Y5 Swimming
Wednesday	5 th November	Chip Visit – Assembly and Book Signing
Monday	10 th November	Year 1 Phonics Talk to Parents (2:30pm)
Tuesday 11 th November		Y4/Y5 Swimming
		Remembrance Service in Church 10:30am (All Welcome)
		Parents Evening (Face to Face) (time tbc)
Wednesday	12 th November	Parents Coffee Morning in School (9:00am –10:30am – with Miss Calder, Mrs Watson & Early Help representatives)
Thursday	13 th November	Parents Evening (Virtual) (time tbc)
Tuesday	18 th November	Y4/Y5 Swimming

Wednesday	19 th November	Year 6 Class Assembly (Year 6 Parents Invited 2:30pm-3:00pm)
Thursday	20 th November	Year 3 Norton Priory Trip
Friday	21 st November	Y4 Residential Second Payment due https://app.parentpay.com/
Monday 24 th November		PTA Christmas "Kick Off" Movie Night (3:30-5:00pm) & Light Switch on (5:30pm-7:00pm) https://www.tickettailor.com/events/strettonstmatthewsprimaryschoolpta
Tuesday 25 th November		Y4/Y5 Swimming
		Y3/Y4 Big Sing – Audacious Church Project (In School)
Wednesday	26 th November	Year 3 Class Assembly (Year 3 Parents Invited 10:00am-10:30am)
Thursday	27 th November	YR-Y6 Flu Immunisation
Friday 28 th November		Scholastic Book Fair (2:30pm-4:00pm)
		Y5 Residential Second payment due https://app.parentpay.com/
		Y6 Residential Second payment due https://app.parentpay.com/
Saturday/Sunday	29 th /30 th November	Christmas Tree Festival at Church (3:00pm)
Monday	1 st December	Scholastic Book Fair (2:30pm-4:00pm)
Tuesday	2 nd December	Y4/Y5 Swimming
Friday	5 th December	Musical Evening in Church (time tbc)
Saturday/Sunday	6 th /7 th December	Christmas Tree Festival at Church
Sunday	7 th December	Y4 Big Sing Concert
Monday	8 th December	Christingle (2:30pm – All Welcome to Church)
Tuesday	9 th December	Y1/Y2 Nativity (9:30am - Y1 Parents) Tickets on sale shortly
Wednesday	10 th December	YR Nativity (9:30am) Tickets on sale shortly
Thursday	11 th December	Y1/Y2 Nativity (9:30am - Y2 Parents) Tickets on sale shortly
Tuesday	16 th December	RockSteady Concert (9:30am – RockSteady Parents Welcome)
Wednesday	17 th December	Y4 Residential Parent Briefing 8:20am in the hall
Friday	19 th December	Y4 Residential Third payment due https://app.parentpay.com/
Friday	19 th December	School Closes – Autumn 2 – 2:00pm
Tuesday	30 th December	Y5 Residential Third payment due https://app.parentpay.com/
Spring 1st Half Term		
Monday	5 th January	School Opens – Spring 1

We appreciate your understanding that school tries to provide a wealth of experiences and at times due to staffing or unforeseen circumstances, diary dates need to change.