William Barnes Primary School

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November 2026 - Autumn Term 2

Head teacher Update

I can hardly believe that we are in November already; the heatwaves of last year seem a long way away, and we are very pleased to have our brand new heaters in all the prefab. buildings! As the weather turns colder, please make sure that your child has their school jumper/cardigan or fleece with them every day, as well as a coat. I can't emphasise enough how important it is that these items are named; it is very difficult to reunite unnamed items with the right children! Please do check Lost Property in the hall before Christmas as all unnamed clothing will be donated.



Anti-bullying week

From the 16th – 20th of November is Anti-Bullying Week. During the week, we will be reminding children what bullying is and how to use their voices to keep themselves and others feeling safe and happy. We would like to invite you and your children to wear their odd socks on the 16th, to celebrate our individuality!

#WBProud



Church heating

As those of you who attend St. Mary's Church may know, their heating is not working! The work involved for a new system for a Grade1 listed building whose boiler was very old will take some time to navigate, as well as grants and fundraising, so the Church is likely to be cold on 18 December when our Christmas Service is due to take place. Depending on the temperatures, we will either attend all bundled up, or invite Reverend Mary to join us for a service in school; we will let you know nearer to the date.

Can you help? Reception Class is collecting clean medicine cups, measuring spoons/cups, milk powder scoops and any similar items (no china/glass). All donations to Reception class or the office, please!

Attendance

You can check attendance on the Arbor app.
As you know, regular school attendance links closely with future ambition and achievement as well as being so vital to those early social connections. The first thing KS1 & 2 do every day is read a story – a lovely, calm, start to our day together!



Autumn term dates for your diary

10th & 11th November –	Life Education Centre visits (**parent session 2:40pm, Tuesday**)
10th November –	orienteering (Hazelbury Bryan)
11th November, 11am –	Remembrance Day ceremony at the rec.
12th November –	Robins (Reception) visiting the library
13th November –	Children in Need: non-uniform
17th November –	orienteering (William Barnes)
18th November –	Mixed Davidson Cup (Shillingstone)
23rd November -	Wagtails trip to Gold Hill Museum in Shaftsbury
24th November –	orienteering (Shillingsstone)
27th November –	non-uniform for PTFA Christmas Market donations
28th November –	choir Christmas lights switch-on, 12pm
30th November –	Reverend Gubbins, Advent Assembly
1st December –	orienteering (Durweston tbc)
9th December –	Robins (Reception) Nativity, 9:30am; KS1 Nativity, 2pm
10th December, 2:30pm –	RockSteady concert *(invitations will come from RockSteady if your child participates)*
11th December, 2:45pm –	PTFA Christmas market
15th December, 6pm –	Sturminster Newton Pyramid Concert at The Exchange
16th December –	Christmas Lunch & Christmas jumper day (optional)
18th December –	Christmas Service (location tbc), 9:30am; last day of term, 3:15pm (all lost property items disposed of)

Head teacher

We are an allergy aware school; thank you for helping to keep all our children safe by not sending nut and sesame products into school.