



St John the Baptist RC Primary

Preparing the Way

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Headteacher: Mrs H Bibby

15th May 2026

18th May

New reception class September 2026 parents' information sessions

19th May

Burnley school Maths Challenge Final

20th May

Numeracy Day

22nd May

May Procession in honour of Our Blessed Virgin Mary

25th -29th May

Half term holiday

3rd June

Class 5 on River Study at Towneley

4th June

Sacramental Programme meeting at St Mary's school

Sunday's Gospel

"Jesus lifted up His eyes to Heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you..."

John 17:1-2

Times Table Rockstars



Class 5 have the best participation this week with 100% of each class playing.

Most played this week: Class 3 – Gracie, Class 4 – Joseph, Class 5- Eshaan, Class 6 – Jaden and Class 7 – Samanta

Our top performers this week are:

1. Joseph Class 4
2. Eshaan Class 5
3. Jiyaan Class 4

New Parents' meeting

On Monday 18th May we have our information evening for our new reception class who start in September 2026. Please see separate information.

Arbor

As you are aware, we have changed our school communications to Arbor from ParentPay. Please can you ensure that you have activated the Arbor App and have set your notifications to 'on' so that you receive all communications from school. If you have any issues, please contact the school office.

Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Aria in Class 3 who has achieved their Silver Reading Challenge Award.

Maths Challenge

Good luck to our Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5 Maths Challenge teams who are competing in the local Maths Challenge finals on Tuesday 19th May.

Year 3/4 Sports Day

Members of our Year 3 and 4 will be representing the school at the Schools Sports' Partnership Sports Day at Barden on Tuesday 19th May. Good luck to those involved.

May Procession

Our annual May Procession in honour of Mary, the Mother of God, will take place on Friday 22nd May at 9:15am. Parents and carers are welcome to join us in school for this event.

National Numeracy Day

Wednesday 20th May is National Numeracy Day. Each class will take part in a fun active extra numeracy session that day. Please follow the link below for more information:

<https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/numeracyday>

New Era

New Era is running The Parenting Hub on a variety of dates in the coming months. See attached poster

Rosary Club

May is the month dedicated to Mary, the mother of God. As part of our devotions to Our Lady, we will be saying a decade of the Rosary each Friday morning in May at 8:35am at the Sacred Space. Parents and carers are most welcome to join us.



No Mow May

You may notice in the next few weeks some area of the school grounds will be left unmown. This is part of our commitment to Laudato Si. By leaving some parts uncut, we aim to encourage bees, butterflies and other insects. Please see the attached poster.

Please follow the link to the No Mow May website for more information:

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>

NAS Autism Help

Please find attached a leaflet from Autism Support which contains information and support available for parents and carers.

This week's winners

	Class Winners	Reader of the Week	Writer of the Week
Class 1	Yuvin	Lewis	Nishtha
Class 2	Ali	Annie	Anthony
Class 3	Khushaal	Aria	Hanna
Class 4	Reid	Cady	Anahat
Class 5	Olivia	Jasim	Eryk
Class 6	Evania	Finley	Charlie
Class 7	Whole Class	Jenson	Duron

Faith Life Winners: Abhishek Class 6

St John's Superstar: **KS1** Usmaan Class 1 **KS 2** Freddie Class 6

Attendance: Class 3

Phonics

Next week's phonics learning:

Class 1

Sound	<i>As in</i>
i-e	<i>time, like, kite, bike</i>
o-e	<i>rope, bone, home, joke,</i>
u-e	<i>June, flute, salute, rule</i>
soft c	<i>Mice, ice, rice, space</i>

Class 2

During this term Class 2 will be preparing for their Phonics Screening Check by revisiting and revising all Phase 3, 4 and 5 sounds. Please see separate letter.

Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions regarding our phonics scheme.



Our services

Advice and guidance

autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance

Autism Services Directory

A searchable directory of national and local services, support groups and resources. autism.org.uk/autism-services-directory

Online Community

Autistic adults and families can connect, share experiences and find support. autism.org.uk/community

Branches

Our volunteer-led branches across the UK offer support, information and social activities for autistic children, adults and their families.

autism.org.uk/branches

Parent to Parent

Emotional support from trained volunteers who have lived experience of supporting an autistic child. autism.org.uk/parent-to-parent

Get support

Find trusted information, practical tools and support: autism.org.uk

Training: autism.org.uk/training

Newsletters: autism.org.uk/what-we-do/newsletter-form



The National Autistic Society is a charity registered in England and Wales (269425) and in Scotland (SC039427) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England (No 1205298), registered office Weston House, 42 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3NH.



Autism support

Autism information and services
for autistic people and families



Advice and guidance

What is autism?

Autism influences how people experience and interact with the world. It is a lifelong neurodivergence and disability. Autistic people are different from each other. But, for a diagnosis, they must share differences from non-autistic people in how they think, feel and communicate.

Being autistic means you may feel things and react to them differently to non-autistic people. You may find socialising confusing or tiring, and you may become overwhelmed in loud or busy places. You may have intense interests, prefer order and routine, and use repeated movements or actions to calm yourself or express joy. You might mask your discomfort to fit in, which can lead to mental illness.

How many autistic people are there?

More than one in 100 people are autistic. In the UK, this means at least 700,000 autistic adults and children. This includes some people without a formal diagnosis, as many face barriers to assessment, particularly people from marginalised groups.



The greatest discomfort for autistic people can be the social one. For me, I was confused by the way people behaved.



Chris Packham CBE,
National Autistic Society Ambassador

The spectrum

Autism is understood as a spectrum, but it's not a straight line from 'less' to 'more' autistic. Each autistic person has a unique combination of characteristics, strengths and challenges. A person's characteristics can vary over time, in different situations, or if they are masking. It's important not to make assumptions about an individual's abilities or support needs.

Autism is not a learning disability or a mental health condition. But around a third of autistic people also have a learning disability, and autistic people are more likely to experience mental health problems.



To find out more visit:
autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance

Understanding autism and diagnosis

Understanding autism

Our understanding of autism continues to develop. Most autistic people see being autistic as central to who they are. They may need support, but often the challenges they face come from barriers in society, not from being autistic.

Medical texts often describe autism differently to how autistic people describe it, and sometimes use language that many autistic people and others find inaccurate and offensive. Everyone's brain is different. So a neurodiversity approach views autism as a natural variation in people.

Core characteristics needed for diagnosis

To receive an autism diagnosis, a specialist team must agree that a person shows lifelong differences compared to non-autistic people in:

Communication

Autistic people may use and understand words, tone of voice and body language differently. Some use little or no speech and may communicate through writing, sign language, gesture, sounds, or Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC).

Behaviours and interests

Autistic people may have focused and dedicated interests, repeated movements and behaviour (known as stimming) and a preference for order, predictability or routine.

Sensory processing

Autistic people can be much more or less sensitive to sound, light, touch, taste or smell, and to body movements and internal sensations. Their experience and reactions may be different to other people's, and this can vary depending on the environment and situation.

Before diagnosis

We provide clear, practical information and resources, including:

- Signs that a child or adult may be autistic
- Deciding whether to seek an autism assessment
- How to request an autism assessment
- How to bring up that you think someone may be autistic.



To find out more visit:
autism.org.uk/diagnosis-advice



The Parenting Hub

PARENTING ISN'T ALWAYS EASY

and you don't have to do it alone

Join our friendly monthly meetups — connect, share experiences, and navigate the ups and downs of parenting together in a supportive space.

@New Era Burnley

21st April: Emotionally Based School Avoidance

2nd June: Supporting your child with Emotional Regulation

30th June: Navigating Bereavement & Loss

21st July: Supporting your child with Low Mood

1st September: Understanding and managing your child's Anxiety

6th October: Understanding Childhood Phobias

3rd November: Sleep Habits & Routines

1st December: Protecting your child in the Digital World & Phone addiction

Time: 9:15 AM – 11:30 AM

Venue: New Era, Burnley BB11 1LE

Open To: All Parents & Caregivers

Connect with us

@Tay Street Family Hub

9.15am - 10.30am

26th May: Supporting your child with Emotional Regulation

23rd June: Navigating Bereavement & Loss

14th July: Supporting your child with Low Mood

25th August: Understanding and managing your child's Anxiety

29th September: Understanding Childhood Phobias

27th October: Sleep Habits & Routines

24th November: Protecting your child in the Digital World & Phone addiction



For more details and updates about these events, please visit our website or follow us on social media

Call or text 07877 714693 | info@neweraburnley.co.uk

New Era, Chapel Annexe, Chapel Place, Hammerton Street, Burnley BB11 1LE

