



**St. John the Baptist**  
Catholic Primary School

We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord



"Here is the light you will reveal to the nations"

Luke 2: 32

# Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 14.02.20

*Compassionate*

*and*

*Loving*

## Safer Internet Day

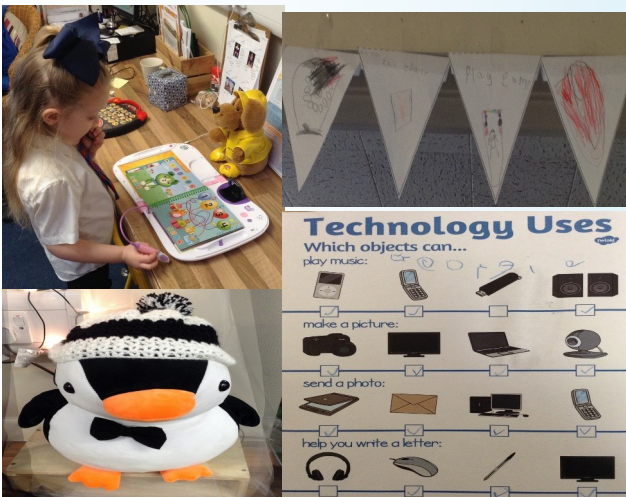


All classes took part in Safer Internet Day on Tuesday. Nursery met Smartie the penguin and read his story about how he stays safe when he goes on his tablet.

Reception explored the different devices they use to go on the internet at home and what they can do to stay safe. Year 1 enjoyed looking at their online identity and created a 'This is Me' profile about themselves.

Years 3-6 explored their own online identities by filling in an identity wheel. They explored different scenarios and discussed whether they were true or false.

Year 5 also asked questions about how to be a good digital citizen to help them produce their own video. It was an informative day and was enjoyed by all. #SaferInternetDay #FreeToBeMe @UK\_SID



Nursery met Smartie the penguin and read his story., Reception discussed different devices and Year 1 looked at their online identities.

Years 3-6 explored their online identities and explored different scenarios and Year 5 also asked questions about how to be a good digital citizen.

## STARS OF THE WEEK!



Congratulations to

Jasmine McN in

Reception, Ethan W in Year 3

and

Ellie B in Year 5

We're all really proud of you.

This week's virtues awards were given to

Ashton B	NN
Kelsey H	Reception
Charlie M	Year 1
Jasmine N & Rhian B	Year 2
Nikita B	Year 3
Alissia M	Year 4
Courtney C	Year 5
Litzy D	Year 6

For being compassionate and loving.

### Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 4 with 98.3%

*Well done!*

### Ready to learn Award



Congratulations, our most punctual class this week was Year 4.

### Birthdays



Happy birthday this week to: Ocean H, Luke K and Casey G.

We would also like to wish a happy birthday to those children who celebrate their birthday during half term: Quinton B-J, Kayleigh G, Grace P and Kye S.



## Dates for your Diary

### Monday 24th February

8.55am - Children return to school

### Thursday 27th February

All day - NSPCC, Speak out. Stay safe. Programme/workshops

### Friday 3rd April

2.00pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

### Monday 20th April

8.55am - Children return to school

### Friday 8th May

All day - May Bank Holiday (school closed)

### Friday 22nd May

2.00pm - Break up for Half Term

### Monday 1st June

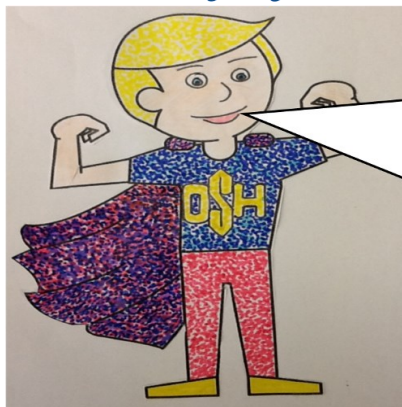
All day - Inset Day (school closed to children )

### Tuesday 2nd June

8.55am - Children return to school

## Online Safety - tip of the week!

*Online safety hero says...*



*Be free to be ourselves online, be proud of who you are.*

*Be free to be kind, treat people online how you would treat them in real life.*

*Be free to play online but make sure your parents know what you are doing*

*Be free to be safe, remember to keep your personal information safe.*

*Be free to talk, if anyone upsets you online, always tell a grown up.*

*#SaferInternetDay #BeFreeToBeMe*



On Tuesday Year 2 welcomed in our 'Wonder Women' to celebrate our topic.

The children lovingly made biscuits before enjoying them, with some delicious squash to wash them down.

Thank you to all of the wonderful women who joined us!



# SJB Sports

## Talent Show



On Tuesday, 10 children represented the school in a talent show at the Royal Spa Centre, Leamington. The SJB Dance Troop has been working hard for several months to perfect their performance.

They had a fantastic time performing at a professional theatre in front of 1000+ people. Also, they got to watch a performance by a professional dance duet.

They should be really proud of their efforts and we hope that this gives them the inspiration to keep working hard and developing their skills further.

Thank you to Mrs Parnaby for giving up her time to help the children practice.

Coach Steve treated everyone to a McDonald's the next day to say thank you and well done."

"The boys' and girls' indoor football teams enjoyed their last games of the season on Tuesday evening. All players should be proud of what they have achieved this year and we hope they keep on enjoying their sport.

Thank you to all the staff involved who have helped drive the minibus and come along to support. Without you, the children would not be given such opportunities.

## Athletics Festival



On Thursday, Year 6 were given the opportunity to compete against neighbouring schools in an Athletics Festival.

All pupils represented St John's very well. Displaying great sportsmanship and excellent teamwork.

Well done Year 6!

## Sports Star of the Week



This week's 'Sports Star of the Week' goes to our SJB dance troop, who all worked so hard and delivered a fantastic performance at the talent show at the Royal Spa Centre. Well done to you all!

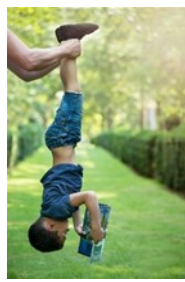


# TWO NEW CHALLENGES FOR WORLD BOOK DAY



## Story Box

What is it? A story box is a miniature setting, a shoe box-sized stage with a background and objects within it relating to either a specific book, or to a common story scenario. Why do it? Story boxes are a great resource to support children's exploration of stories. They form areas in which to retell a favourite story, as well as creative arenas for children to make up new stories too- encouraging talk, imagination and literacy skills. What can I do? Encourage your child to create one! Choose a favourite story and create a scene from the story using art and craft materials. Share the story box with older or younger siblings asking some of the story box questions. We would love to see some of your story boxes. Please send them in to Mr Smith by 5<sup>th</sup> March, as we would like to create a display in school.



## Extreme Reading photographs

Where is the most interesting place your child has ever read a book? Whether it is up a tree or on top of a mountain, we want your photos! Your challenge is to take a picture of your child reading somewhere extreme and send it in to school by 5<sup>th</sup> March. We are doing this as part of the school's celebration of World Book Day.

We will run a competition for the most extreme places reading has taken place; a display will also be made from the photos. To help us with the display, please send in your photos with the child's name and class on the back. There will be a prize for the best photos from KS1 and KS2.

*We are really looking forward to seeing who in school has such a passion for reading that they have to do it anywhere and everywhere!*

**Please note that we will not be having a dressing-up day on World Book Day this year. This is in support of parents/guardians who have mentioned the financial burden that this can place on families and allows us all to focus on other ways to express creativity.**

Mother of God and Guardian Angels Parish

Invite you to our

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

# Free Lenten Lunch

Friday 6 March 2020

12 – 2pm

Guardian Angels Parish (GAP) Room

A fabulous  
selection of  
delicious home  
made soups with  
freshly baked  
soda bread

On  
the  
menu



Fruit crumble



Guardian Angels  
famous cheese and  
potato pie



Homemade jams and marmalade to take away

Donations to CAFOD Family Fast Day





Our fabulous tweets continue!!! Have a look at some of our most recent tweets! Please don't forget to join our tweeting community by tweeting us @SJBsolihull



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 12m  
#SaferInternetDay Yesterday, year 3 enjoyed learning about how to stay safe, when using the internet, through a variety of fun activities.



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
The Year 5 children were answering questions about how to be a good digital citizen for their @eCadets challenge. They were recording some of the answers ready to create their video. #SaferInternetDay @UK\_SIC



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
Year 5 were answering the question "Who are you online?" The children put a lot of thought in to their answers and were also really honest. #SaferInternetDay #freetobeme @UK\_SIC



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
#SaferInternetDay Year 6 used the character 'Bradley Chalkers' from the book #Theboyinthegirlsbathroom to explore online identities. The children really enjoyed the link to the text. #freetobeme @UK\_SIC



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
Year 4 enjoyed discussing their online identities during their #SaferInternetDay lesson. #freetobeme @UK\_SIC



#### Who to follow



Kingshurst Primary  
@KingshurstPS  
Official twitter page of Kingshurst Primary School

Follow



Yorkwood School  
@Yorkwood  
Yorkwood School is a 'Good' school according to Ofsted 2014 but we think it is AICE (Achievement, Inclusion, Commitment and Enjoyment)

Follow



Fordbridge Primary  
@fordbridge2013

Follow



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
Year 1 enjoying their #SaferInternetDay lesson about online identity. #freetobeme @UK\_SIC



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
As part of #SaferInternetDay Nursery listened to the story of Smartie the penguin. They then explored lots of different technology #freetobe @UK\_SIC



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
FKS & KS1 enjoyed the #SaferInternetDay assembly, they explored their online identity. #freetobeme @UK\_SIC



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
Today Year 2 made biscuits for some very special guests! We invited our 'Wonder Women' in to celebrate our topic!



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 13h  
The Reception children enjoyed role playing a Baptism. The children have been learning about the importance of Baptism and being part of God's Family.



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · 14h  
The early years children enjoying the snack area. Some of the early years school fund money goes towards their favourite healthy snacks. Thank you for your weekly donations.



St John the Baptist @SJBsolihull · Feb 10  
Plenty of opportunity for outdoor lessons in Year 4 last week. Let's hope the weather picks up again this week ☀️🌧️







TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**12+**  
If under 18, supervision of a parent or legal guardian required.



What parents need to know about

# TIKTOK



## MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

## INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

## TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

## ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

## ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

## IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.

**NOS** National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

## Safety Tips For Parents

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



### ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



### EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.



### LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



### MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



## Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



SOURCES:

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

Twitter - @natonlinesafety

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

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## **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Loving God, when we do wrong and hurt others help us to be brave and say sorry. Help us to forgive others who say sorry to us, so that we may all live in peace together.*

We are all God's children and we are all part of one family. In this Sunday's gospel we hear about how we must not argue with our brothers and sisters and how, if we do, we need to make peace with them.

Jesus tells us that we must try hard not to get angry with each other or call them names. If we do argue with them; we must try to make it up with them and become friends again as soon as possible.

**Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37**

*"I tell you, then, that you will be able to enter the Kingdom of heaven only if you are more faithful than the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees in doing what God requires.*

*"You have heard that people were told in the past, 'Do not commit murder; anyone who does will be brought to trial.' But now I tell you: whoever is angry with his brother will be brought to trial, whoever calls his brother 'You good-for-nothing!' will be brought before the Council, and whoever calls his brother a worthless fool will be in danger of going to the fire of hell. So if you are about to offer your gift to God at the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and make peace with your brother, and then come back to offer your gift to God.*

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But now I tell you: anyone who looks at a woman and wants to possess her is guilty of committing adultery with her in his heart.*

*"You have also heard that people were told in the past, 'Do not break your promise, but do what you have vowed to the Lord to do.' But now I tell you: do not use any vow when you make a promise. Do not swear by heaven, for it is God's throne;*

*"Just say 'Yes' or 'No' – anything else you say comes from the Evil One."*



Sometimes people spend too much time thinking about the differences between us, rather than seeing that we are all part of the same family. This can lead to arguments and problems. In some cases, it can lead to war or fighting between countries which means that people get hurt and have to leave their homes.

*God of mercy and peace, forgive us when we get angry with others and help us to make our peace with them so that we can all work together to make a better world.*

*Amen.*

***Have a lovely and rested half term.***

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***I. Gallagher***

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