



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

Luke 2: 32

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 13.01.23

Eloquent

and

Truthful

Catholic Social Teaching Focus

The Dignity of Work (linking with Fairtrade Fortnight 21.02-06.03)

Everyone's work is of value. There are many kinds of work. In each job, workers deserve to be treated with respect; work safely; work reasonable hours, and earn fair wages. They deserve this because they are made by God. Our work gives us the means to live, but it is also a chance to use the talents God gives us. Our work is our way of cooperating with God to help create a better world.

Focus Hymns – 'Lord of the Dance' and 'You are my Brother'

Goodbye and Good Luck Father Michael

Sadly, today we say goodbye to our Parish Priest, Father Michael. He has been a constant reassuring presence in both our parish and our school for a number of years and we will all really miss him. Father Michael is a lovely man and a dedicated priest. He has shown kindness, flexibility and patience with us and we thank him for that. Father Michael has also served on our Local Governing Body and has made time to attend every meeting; support inspections and generally 'have our backs' when we've needed him.

We wish him happiness and good luck in his new parish in Uttoxeter.



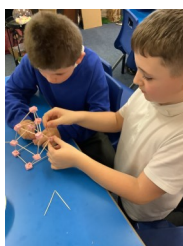
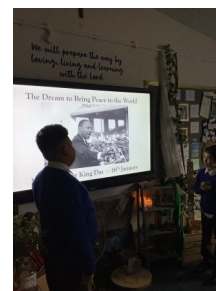
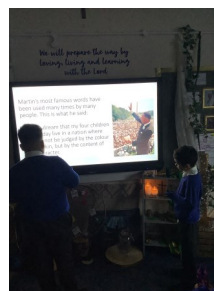
Class Activities - KS2

This week Year 3 used Godly play in their R.E lesson to explain how the Shepherds had felt for their journey to Bethlehem. Good work!



In Year 4 the children have been learning about Martin Luther King, listening to his famous 'I have a dream' speech.

We also have some Year 4 D.T superstars!
Take a look at some of their marvellous makes!



This week Year 5 have been exploring multiplication using lots of different methods.

We have also had the opportunity to go swimming for the first time this term and we loved it!



Thank you to the children who were involved in our whole school mass. It is wonderful to see you taking a leading role in our masses.

Well done Year 5!

Well done to our Year 6 pupils for completing 6 hours of training to qualify as a 'Peer Listener'. The training was provided by the Mental Health Support Team and focused on the importance of good communication, confidence, wellbeing and emotional self-care.



Year 6 Reading Curriculum

Please find two QR codes below. One QR code is for our English curriculum; one QR code is for our Reading curriculum.

I would be extremely grateful if your child were to complete these electronic pupil voice surveys over the weekend, where they will get the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences on our English and Reading curriculums.

Each pupil voice survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

Your child will need to use their school email address and password to access the surveys.

These QR codes can also be found on our website underneath the relevant curriculum page.

Thank you for your continued support,
Mr Craggs



Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th February 2023

3.15pm - Break up for February Half Term

Tuesday 28th February 2023

8.55am - Children return to school

Friday 31st March 2023

3.15pm - Break up for Easter Holiday

Monday 17th April 2023

8.55am - Children return to school

Inset days 2022 - 2023

Monday 27th February 2023

Monday 5th June 2023



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National Online Safety

As National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, links and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OF WORLD WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION 12+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywoodisation, *Dragonflight*, launched last November and makes the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host ofapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-playing Game. Players can choose to play solo, or team up with others to earn rewards and complete quests. The game's environment is constantly evolving and it can only be played online on PC or Mac. As there's a high probability of young Warcraft fans playing it, it's important to know the risks.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMOs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular updates for the game (usually every 18 months). These updates often include new content, which means that players will need to continue buying the game's expansion packs, which cost around £30.

IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre counterparts, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £15 per month, although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription. There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but do have an effect on a player's character.

VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is a social game, it's easy for users to type out what they're saying in chat. This can be a double-edged sword. If you're talking to a friend, it's a great way to stay connected. However, there's also the risk of being harassed or bullied by other players. It's important to know how to use these features safely.

SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is a fantasy game doesn't mean that it's free from violence. In fact, it's quite the opposite. The game is full of simulated violence, which can be quite graphic. It's important to know that while the game is rated 12+, it's not suitable for all children.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can be a very addictive game. It's easy to get lost in the game's world, and it's easy to spend hours on end playing. It's important to know that while the game is fun, it's also a game that can be addictive. It's important to know how to play safely and to take breaks.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely addictive game for players of all ages. It's important that your child doesn't let their gaming habits get in the way of their schoolwork, or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits – such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly homework or doing their housework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will also help them to build good, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

World of Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively 'pays' for the regular new content, but there's also a free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until level 20 for free, which is plenty of time to get a feel for the game. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest not allowing in-game spending by not linking it to a credit card or to their account.

REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

ADVENTURE TOGETHER

World of Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you're accomplishing something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

Meet Our Expert

Legal Director is a specialist in technology and consumer law. He has been working in the gaming industry for over 10 years. A long-time player of World of Warcraft, he is also a parent and has seen the importance of online safety. Working closely with our legal and technical teams, he provides guidance on how to keep children safe while playing the game.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/jul/26/world-of-warcraft-what-parents-need-to-know> | <https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/news>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com | [@nationalonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/nationalonlinesafety) | [/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/nationalonlinesafety) | [@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

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Attendance



Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Year 2 and Year 5 with 96.4%. Well done!



Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Aidan H, Angel L, Kayley C, Tiana N-S



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Understanding Your Child A Solihull Approach group for parents and carers

- ✧ Would you like to know more about your child's development?
- ✧ Do you understand your child's behaviour?
- ✧ Would you like the chance to meet other parents with children of a similar age?

The **Understanding Your Child** group offers parents and carers the opportunity to learn more about their parenting, how children develop and begin to understand their behaviour.

Evaluation of previous groups has shown they have helped to reduce parental anxiety, enhance the parent/child relationship and improve their child's behaviour.

Issues explored include:

- ✧ Having fun together
- ✧ Development needs
- ✧ Behaviour difficulties
- ✧ Communication
- ✧ Parenting styles
- ✧ Sleep



Solihull College
Woodlands Campus
WEDNESDAY

9.30am – 11.30am

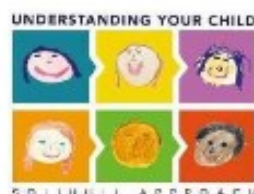
18/1/23 – 29/3/23

Excl. half term 22/2/23

The group is led by two trained facilitators, who have a wide range of experience in working with children and families.

Groups are held during each school term, running for 2 hours, once a week, for 10 weeks and are completely free of charge.

Funding for childcare may be available for children requiring care whilst you attend the group.



To book a place, or for further information about parenting groups in Solihull, please contact the Parenting Team via email to bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net or follow us on our Facebook page – Solihull Parenting Team



Science Superstars



EYFS have enjoyed learning all about Edward Jenner. The children learned about how he helped people by studying small pox and discovered a vaccination to protect people against the terrible disease. We looked at ways to protect ourselves from disease and illness and conducted our own experiment to see how quickly germs travel. We used glitter to represent the germs and we could see how quickly the germs spread throughout our environment just by simple actions of holding hands and playing with equipment. We used soap and water to wash our hands and the germs were quickly eradicated. We saw with our own eyes the importance of washing our hands and learned a song to make sure we wash our hands thoroughly for 20 seconds at least.

Reminder- Reception Admissions 2023

The closing date for Reception applications is Sunday 15th January.

Applications have to be made via the council website : <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/admissions>
If you live outside Solihull you must apply to your local council even if you want to include Solihull schools on your application.



Our Pope's Prayer Intentions

JANUARY

For educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



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Mr G's Recommended Reads

As we are forecast to see some of the white stuff next week, my book choices, this week, are linked to the theme of snow.

For our younger readers...

'Snow Ball' by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet



A lonely young snowball, stuck at the top of a mountain, decides to visit the local town for a bit of fun – but on his way he trips, falls, and starts to roll . . . and when a snowball rolls through snow, we all know what happens! This snowball picks up not only snow, but a myriad of other odd things on his way down – a sheep, a line of washing, a bicycling bear, ending up in the Zoo.

For our older readers...

'The Way Past Winter' by Kiran Millwood Hargrave



When Mila's brother disappears, she believes he's been taken by the Bear, a hooded stranger of legend who sought shelter at their home. Mila and her sisters follow his trail into the frozen north, determined to find a way past winter and bring their brother home.



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

God of light, you sent the Spirit down upon your Son so that others might know who he was. Send your Spirit on us, so that we might spread your message of love and peace to others

In this Sunday's gospel, we hear how something special happened to Jesus after his baptism. The Holy Spirit came down and rested on him.

Gospel: John 1:29-34

The next day John saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "There is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.' I did not know who he would be, but I came baptizing with water in order to make him known to the people of Israel."

And John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and stay on him. I still did not know that he was the one, but God, who sent me to baptize with water, had said to me, 'You will see the Spirit come down and stay on a man; he is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen it," said John, "and I tell you that he is the Son of God."

John tells us how he saw the Holy Spirit come like a dove to rest on Jesus. Because of this John believed that Jesus was the Son of God.

A dove is one way that the Holy Spirit shows itself, but most of the time the Spirit is invisible. We cannot see it.

Another way to think about the Holy Spirit is the wind. You cannot see the wind, but you can see the branches of the tree moving when the wind blows. Or you can see a windmill spinning round. The wind can be very strong. The wind can also be very helpful.

Like the wind, the Holy Spirit is very strong and helps us. We receive the Holy Spirit when we are baptised and the Spirit stays with us all through our lives, helping us to do things that are difficult.

Jesus asks us to love other people, to care for people who are sick and to bring good news to people who are poor. This is not always easy, especially when people are in different countries to us. But when we do these things, other people can see the Holy Spirit working through us, just as we can see the wind in the trees.

The Holy Spirit can help us to be kind and generous and brave and to work together with others to make the world a better place for all people. Can you think of ways that we can do this?



What could you do this week so that other people can see the Holy Spirit working through you?

Have a lovely weekend.

I. Gallagher
Mr I. Gallagher
Headteacher