



NEWSLETTER: 19TH JANUARY 2024

Dear Families

We had a wonderful 'try a school meal' event in school this week, with the vast majority of children taking up this offer. We had some excellent comments from children who normally have a packed lunch about how much they enjoyed their school dinner.

Thank you, Donna and Diane!

Extra-Curricular After School clubs

Clubs have started this week. If your child is not signed up to a club, and would like to take part, please contact the school office as we still have spaces available on a number of clubs. We are only charging for Cookery Club and parents/carers who paid for other clubs last week have been issued with a refund.

RHE Parental Consultation

Relationships Education and Health Education became statutory in all primary schools in England in 2020/21. As part of our ongoing commitment to seek parents' views and keep you informed, we periodically consult parents on this topic. We would like to have your feedback on our approach. To this end, we have opened a consultation period during which we welcome your feedback. To take part in the consultation, please do the following:

- Access the Parent Consultation Tool here:
www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-consultation-primary

You will need the following login credentials for our school:

Username: **st-joseph-dh9**

Password: **wood-9**

- Undertake the Parent Consultation course provided.
- Complete the following questionnaire:
<https://forms.office.com/e/M8S3TMWkfe>
- Send us your feedback by **Friday 26th January 2024**

We hope that our approach assures you about the subject and that you are able to participate in this an important opportunity for you to be a voice within our school community.

First Holy Communion

A message from our trust...

We are delighted to invite you to attend our very first "Pre-Loved First Holy Communion Wear" event on **Saturday 10th February 2004 between 10am and 2pm.**

We have a small range of dresses, all in excellent condition, which have been donated to our Trust and are FREE to borrow! All we ask is that you return the outfits in a clean condition after the holy communion, ready for the next young person to wear.

The PRE-LOVED shop is located at Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education HQ, Barmston Court, Turbine Business Park, Nissan Way, Washington, SR5 3NY.

To book an appointment, please email ethos@bwcet.com stating your preferred time.
Thank you.

A message from Nursery...

Wow! What a wonderful start to the new term we have had in Nursery. We have welcomed new friends into our class and we are so proud of how well they have settled. We have been busy getting to know them and have all been such wonderful friends.

This week, we have been reading 'Supertato' and have some fantastic discussion about the story particularly thinking about what had happened when Evil Pea came into our classroom and captured the Super Vegetables on the climbing frame! We have also been learning about healthy food and made some vegetable soup which we all tasted and agreed was delicious.

Nursery – it's all go!

Times Table Rock Star

This week's 'Rockstar of the Week' is **Lydia!** Well done for your amazing multiplication and fantastic studio speed! Children can see all our TTRS winners on our 'Times Table Rockstars' display board outside the Year 6 classroom.

St Joseph's are currently **8th** on the TTRS leader board for schools in our area. This is a brilliant start to the new year. What an improvement. Well done, everyone!

Star of the Week

The following children have received a Star of the Week certificate this week:



Nursery	Cora	For excellent ideas when discussing what we thought had happened to Supertato!
Reception	Theo	For using lots of lovely language when telling us all about his first Jouvert, a Caribbean carnival, and for showing great knowledge about this celebration and his culture.
Year 1	Freddie	For working hard in phonics and trying his best to improve his reading!
Year 2	Clementine	For her excellent geographical knowledge when talking about the equator.
Year 3	Toluwalase	For excellent presentation and neat handwriting across all subjects.
Year 4	Alfie	For excellent presentation and neat handwriting across all subjects.
Year 5	Arjun	For excellent effort with handwriting and super maths skills this week.
Year 6	Lily-Beau	For some excellent long multiplication and ratio work in maths.

House Points

Children can earn house points from all staff during the week.

Congratulations to St Cuthbert who earned the most house points this week.

Attendance

We aim to provide the highest quality education for our pupils. We know that they will only benefit fully from this high-quality school experience if they attend regularly and on time. When pupils are absent, they risk missing out on our carefully planned curriculum. Research also tells us that pupils who miss school can sometimes struggle to develop secure and lasting friendships.

This week's attendance is 95.84%

Our target is 97%

Nursery	Reception	Year1	Year2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
94.6%	98.4%	93.6%	95.9%	96.7%	92.86%	97.9%	96.4%

Lateness

This week, on average, **20 children were late for school**. This is a slight decline in numbers – which means a slight improvement in those arriving on time. We understand, of course, there may be unavoidable and genuine reasons for lateness. We do, however, want to work closely with you to ensure all children are in school every day on time. Children are welcomed into school from 8.40 in readiness for 8.45 start. If you are still approaching school at 8.45, your children will arrive late into class which is unsettling for them. Please give your children a relaxed start to the school day by arriving on time.

If your child arrives late, this may well be recorded as an unauthorised absence. All incidents of lateness result in lost learning time. Lateness can have a disruptive impact on pupils already engaged in their learning.

Online Safety

All 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 feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

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You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nifty amount! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore those feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though; they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos; this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and texting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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