



NEWSLETTER: 5th July 2024

Dear Families,

Prayer Garden

Determined to make full use of the good weather, we enjoyed our whole school Celebration of the Word outdoors again at the start of the week. We focused on St Peter and St Paul using Matthew 16:13-19.

Local Governing Committee

We celebrated our end of term mass of thanksgiving, this week, with Father Shaun. Our pupils were as brilliant and respectful as ever. We gave thanks for Mrs Catherine Horsley, who recently retired as Chair of Governors.

Mrs Horsley has volunteered in this capacity – giving her time and expertise – for 23 years! Thank you, for your amazing service to our wonderful school.

If anyone is interested in becoming a foundation governor, please have a chat with Fr Shaun or pop into school to arrange a time to meet with a member of the senior leadership team and we can give you some insight into this role.

Year Group Celebrations

Thank you, for all those who have been able to join our Year Group Celebrations. What a joy to see our classes present their highlights of the past year – so much learning and fun to share (from inside and outside the classroom). We hoped you found it helpful to meet your child's next teacher and that you now have greater insight into the curriculum and year group expectations.

Our Nursery and Reception celebration events will take place next week:

Reception Celebration Tuesday 9th July 2pm

Nursery Celebration Friday 12th 9.15am

Year 6 transition

Our Year 6 pupils have begun to spend time in their new schools this week. We are sure they will carry forward all they have learned here at St Joseph's, and they will 'do us proud' when the new school year begins.

Food bank donations

A reminder that our Community Club led by Mrs Ashby, is collecting food items (packets, tins, pasta etc) which will be shared between Stanley Food bank and PACT House. There is a box in the main entrance to school for your donations. Whatever you are able to give, would be greatly appreciated. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

Election Day

Yesterday, Election Day, we had lots of fun exploring the British Values of democracy and individual liberty. Our older children learned all about the electoral system, read the party manifestos and took part in discussion and debate about the policies. We were extremely impressed with their mature and thoughtful input!

School Reports

School reports have been issued today via Arbor and should be in your Parent Portal on your Arbor account. If you have not yet verified your account and would like help with this, please contact the school office. Year Six SATs results will be shared next week.

Star of the Week

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



Nursery	Teddy	For being a good friend and role model in Nursery.
Reception	Jesse	For growing independence and confidence with his writing during phonics.
Year 1	Tejiri	For persevering and trying his best to learn something new.
Year 2	Clementine	For always being a wonderful role model and trying her best.
Year 3	Maisie	For her excellent attitude to all aspects of school life.
Year 4	Isla	For producing an excellent volcano description, using personification.
Year 5	Gracie-Mae	For excellent work in our Year 5 General Election.
Year 6	Lily-Beau	For an excellent speech in our Year 6 elections.

Times Table Rock Star

This week's 'Rockstar of the Week' is Tia! Well done, for your amazing multiplication and fantastic studio speed! She has received our new TTRS guitar to display in her class this week to remind her and her peers of how amazing she is at tables. Children can see all our TTRS winners on our 'Times Table Rockstars' display board in school.

Congratulations to Year 4, on another week's victory in the KS2 TTRS challenge! They now have over 3000 points and are cruising to victory in our termly challenge! Can Years 3, 5 and 6 make a comeback?

St Joseph's are currently 10th on the leaderboard for schools in our area. Let's try and get into the top 5 by the end of the term.

House Points

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

Congratulations to St Oswald's who have earned the most house points this week.

Attendance

This week's attendance is 96.5%

Our target is 97%.

Nursery	Reception	Year1	Year2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.8%	97.3%	98%	99.6%	97%	96.4%	95.9%	91%

Friday 5 th July	Whole School	Annual Report Issued (via Arbor)
Monday 8 th July	Whole School	Moving Up Afternoon
Monday 8 th July	Year 6	Bikeability Y6 have received additional information
Monday 8 th July	Year 6	Combined Y6 Leavers' Mass involving pupils from St Joseph's, St Patrick's, St Mary's and Sacred Heart. St Joseph's Church 6pm All welcome. All Year 6 children expected to attend
Tuesday 9 th July	Reception	Celebration Event 2pm- 2:30pm, Reception families welcome Followed by Meet the Year 1 Teacher
Thursday 11 th July	Year 6	Year 6 Leavers' Event 6pm - all welcome
Friday 12 th July	Nursery	Celebration Event 9:15am
Friday 19 th July	Whole School	School closes for summer
Monday 22 nd July	Whole school	Inset Day- School closed
Tuesday 23 rd July	Whole school	Inset Day- School closed

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ONLINE TROLLING

The term "trolling" refers to sending hurtful or provocative comments - often done anonymously online - to provoke a reaction or cause emotional distress. Anonymity can embolden people into saying things they wouldn't dare say in person. Euro 2016 and other tournaments tend to put an emphasis on this, with the abuse of both players and fans often increasing during such events.

BOO!

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ESCALATION

Many trolls begin with silly, banal comments before moving on to a broader pattern of offensive, insulting and spiteful. They can also turn their attention very quickly to a new target if they grow bored with an existing one, which makes engaging with one troll at a time - and potentially dangerous at all.

HIDING BEHIND A SCREEN

Because trolls tend to use identity masks, they avoid a sense of accountability. This often means they'll often have multiple profiles, potentially switching between them regularly or creating several aliases of their own name. Looking a target 'as though there's no screen' after all, does you think one because what's to stop them whispering something?

24/7 CONTACT

The internet has given us the ability to remain in contact at any time & in any place wherever it is. A troll's ability to reach you whenever they want can leave you feeling like they should be uncomfortable, while they don't see you in real life. They can harass you at any time, reach out to your parents and even try to discover your personal information to scare you.

HATE SPEECH

Sadly, many trolls resort to spouting racial abuse, homophobic attacks and sexist stereotypes, as these often stand the best chance of causing emotional harm. This can add a hefty degree of weight to their abuse, moving from what might normally be described as "teasing" into a genuine hate crime. After Euro 2016, three regional footballers were racially abused, resulting in several prison sentences.

IMPACT ON VICTIMS

It's not uncommon for the victims of trolls to shut down their accounts, disappear from public life and try to stay out of the spotlight for a long time. Some even leaving behind media footage. This can have a serious impact on children and young people's confidence in friends and the world at large, and they may even actually stop the troll. The victim's friends, for example, may have online profiles that trolls can still access.

NORMALISATION OF TROLLING

It's important, inevitably that some people will get used to their continued harassment, both online and in the real world. It can lead to many people seeing trolls and their abuse as just another part of social media - an inherent risk of interacting with digital content. This doesn't mean, however, that it should be considered "normal" or even harmless.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media problems become more troubling thanks to frequent and often always lighter abuse, responsibility for abusive behaviour, parents can set up screen time limits, as well as using age-restricted apps or content filters. There's always the potential for trolling to occur anyway - such as friends sharing screenshots to one another - but this level minimises the likelihood of children seeing it.

DON'T ENGAGE WITH ABUSE

If you receive reports of social media "abuse" that's "just a troll", it's important that you don't engage with that individual directly. Instead, consider setting up a log to gather evidence for reporting them later on, including screenshots and quality where possible.

ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

While social media abuse is often reported to be more high standards, it's important to separate the player from the person. A player's performance doesn't make them worthy of abuse, and that can't be forgotten by younger children who simply see the colour of the shirt without considering the person wearing it. For the children behind screens, it's essential to make understand that players are still human beings, with families and their own lives at sport.

BLOCK AND REPORT

While anonymous accounts make it difficult to block trolls permanently, it does help for the long term. It's also good practice to help children learn to control who can engage with their profile. It's not worth "feeding the trolls" and it's more helpful to block trolls, report them, and try to ignore on. Blocking and reporting is an anonymous process, so there'll be no indication of who specifically took the action.

Meet Our Expert

Guy Clouston is the Editor in Chief of *4mat*, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years, a long time for a troll! He's a general tech commentator, the importance of online safety, he's also a tech and fitness writer whose work has been published on sites including BBC, TechCrunch and many more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

**"THIS MORNING,
HE HAD A RUNNY
NOSE... BUT LOOK
AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Head to the NHS website to find out more.

