



St. Mary's News

"SHINE AS A LIGHT IN THE WORLD"

Matthew 5:16

Newsletter No: 4

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A huge thank you to all parents and guardians who have come into school this week for our 'Book Look'. I hope you enjoyed seeing your child's books and classroom. We have also had a very successful charity event, raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Together, we have raised over £100.

Next week we will be going to church for our Harvest Festival.. Please can as many parents and guardians join us to help escort the children to church and back. We will be taking gifts for The Well in Wolverhampton with us on Friday. A 'shopping list' will be sent via Parent Pay and also on Class Dojo.

Have a wonderful weekend and see you all on Monday.

Many thanks

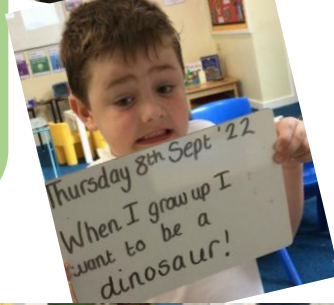
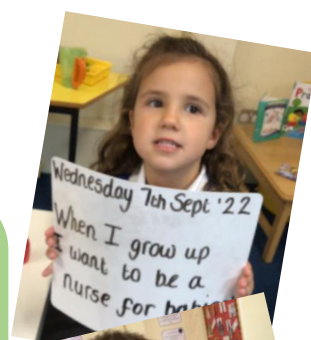
Mrs NR Brennan

Willow Class

In Willow Class our topic is 'Marvellous Me'. We have been thinking about what we would like to be when we grow up.

We have been using a range of media to build our homes, in our classroom and in our outdoor classroom.

We have been looking at who is special to us, who we live with and beginning to think about our feelings using the text 'Ruby's worry'.

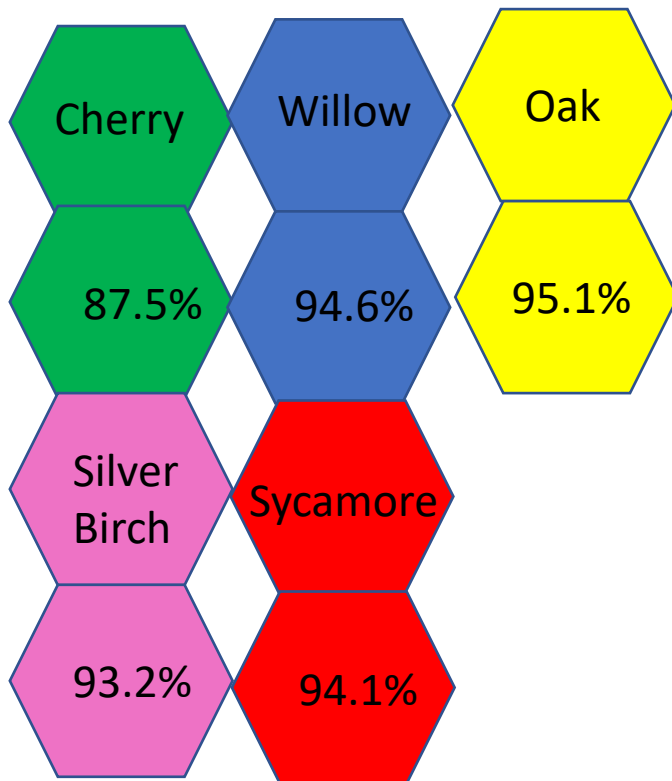




Attendance Matters



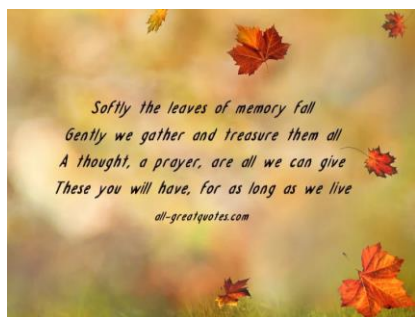
4 th & 5 th October	3:30 – 6:30pm Parents Evening.
7 th October	Harvest Festival 9.15am
24 th – 28 th October	Half term
9 th November	Athlete event for all children.
11 th November	Whole Academy walk to church.
29 th November	Parent book look 2:45pm onwards.
1 st December	Sycamore leading worship 2:30pm parents welcome.
8 th December	Rocksteady Concert 2:30pm
13 th December	Nativity 2pm
14 th December	Nativity 2pm
15 th December	Carol concert
19 th December – 2 nd January	Christmas holidays
3 rd January	Inset Day – School closed to Pupils.



Congratulations to all our classes who have reached our government's expectation of 96% or above..

★ Star of the week ★

Class	Pupil
Cherry	Thomas
Willow	Lily
Oak	Harry D
Silver Birch	Walter G
Sycamore	Ella



A massive well done to all children for all their hard work this week. We are proud to call you a part of our St Mary's Family

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

PLAY NOW

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity. Although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

18

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Gayle Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.education.gov.uk/documents/about/governance>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>, <https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. Notability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.12.2021