

# St. Mary's News

"SHINE AS A LIGHT IN THE WORLD" Matthew 5:16

Newsletter No: 35



Dear Families,

This week we have welcomed in the team from Veolia to teach the children about the importance of recycling and waste management. All of the children had great fun wearing VR sets to explore the recycling center at Stafford.

We had a wonderful Harvest festival at church on Friday. The children read and sung beautifully as we listened to the story of 'Stone Soup' told by Rev Rachel. Thank you so much to all of the family members who came with us to enjoy the service and also helped us to walk the children safely to and from church. We couldn't do it without you.



Our Pupil Leadership Team have been busy creating posters for next week's Hello Yellow event. We are asking everyone to come in something yellow to help raise awareness of mental health.

Hello Yellow was designed to ensure that no young people (or adults) are worried about asking for help linked to mental health. The following support is Available should you or someone you love or know need it:





Call 0800 1111 or on the web: https://www.childline.org.uk/



SAMARITANS Call 116123 or on the web: https://www.samaritans.org/

Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs. NR Brennan Head Of School



Hello vellow

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October children to wear something yellow for raising awareness for children's mental health. This is the first event being run by our Pupil Leadership Team.



Parents evening Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th October, Please contact the school office to book your appointment.



PCSO visit Willow class Thursday 12th October to discuss our topic 'People who help me'

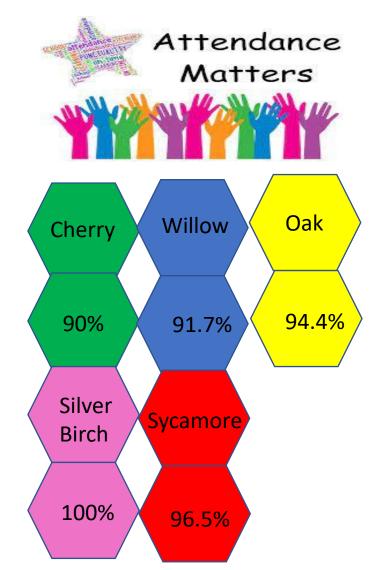
Wroxeter Roman City Monday 23rd October Sycamore will be visiting Wroxeter Roman City this is to help with heir topic 'Romans'



A B B					
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Hello Yellow- Children to wear something yellow for raising awareness for children's mental health.				
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening (Please note the change of date)				
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening				
12 <sup>th</sup> October	PCSO visiting Reception to talk about 'People who help me'				
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Hate, crime awareness week,				
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Sycamore trip to Wroxeter roman City				
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance day at Church - Information to follow.				
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti Bullying week.				
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks day - All children and staff to come in odd socks.				
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need - Children to come dressed down for a £1 donation.				
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Wheaton Aston light switch on.				
20 <sup>th</sup> November	International children's day.				
30 <sup>th</sup> November	St Andrews day - All staff and children to wear something blue.				
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Sycamore leading worship - Theme Advent sycamore parents welcome 2:45pm				
5 <sup>th</sup>	Book look parents welcome				

2:45pm - 3:15pm

December



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



## Star of the week

Class	Pupil	
Cherry	Luca	
Willow	Layla	
Oak	Harry	
Silver Birch	Felix	
Sycamore	Jenson	

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



Are you entitled?



Are you entitled to Free school meals, please use the link below.

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-

online.aspx

## WEEK 3

Allergy information available on request

		18th Sep, 9th Oct		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	6.	Main		
Cheese and Bean Slice with Wedges (v)	Chicken, Leek and Sweetcorn Pasta	Roast of the Day with New Potatoes and Gravy	BBQ Chicken with Rice	Fish Fingers and Chips
		Vegetarian		
Roasted Tomato and Basil Pasta (v)	Veggie Biryani (v)	Vegan Sausage with New Potatoes and Gravy (v)	Broccoli and Cauliflower Cheese Rice Bake (v)	Samosa and Chips (v)
		3rd Options		
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Coleslaw	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese, Salmon Mayo or Coleslav
		Deli Option		,

Deli Option with Ham, Cheese, Tuna Mayo or Egg Mayo

Vegetables Vegetables Vegetables						
Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables	Hot Seasonal Vegetables		
		Dessert				
Fruit Shortbread	Iced Carrot Cake	Jelly	Summer Loaf	Fruit Cheesecake		
Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt	Fruit/Yoghurt		

Fresh seasonal salad and bread available daily. Fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily as an alternative to the dessert of the day.











## PTA UPCOMING EVENTS SAVE THE DATE!



PTA AGM MEETING

WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 8PM

AT THE COACH AND HORSES



PUMPKIN PARTY

THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER – TIME TO BE CONFIRMED

AT THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB



SCARECROW FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER 1-5PM

PTA WILL BE SERVING REFRESHMENTS AT THE COACH AND HORSES



CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON

SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 3-6PM

SANTA'S GROTTO AND WATER2WINE



BAGS2SCHOOL

TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

PLEASE TAKE ANY DONATIONS INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THESE CAN BE DROPPED OFF ANYTIM

BE STORED UNTIL THEY ARE COLLECTED.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about 0

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which also allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the pandemic, with many young people utilising it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivalling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

## Connecting with Strangers

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they may still receive friend requests from strangers. Snapphat's links with apps such as Wink and Hoop have increased this possibility. Accepting a request means that children are then disclosing personal information through the Story. SnapMag and Spatlight Features. This could allow strangers to gain their trust for sinister purposes.

## Inappropriate Content

Some videos and posts on Snapchat are not suitable for children. The hashtags used to organise content are determined by the poster, so an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's Discover function lets users swipe through snippets of news stories and trending articles that often include adult content. There is currently no way to turn off this feature.

### Compulsion and Excessi

Many users spend vast amounts of time trying to become a Snap Star. Snapchat is affering a share of SI million, and the chance of online terne, to users who create and share the best videos. Children are therefore bec

## Sexting

Sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat. The app's 'disappearing messages' teature makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse. While these pictures do disappear – and the sender is notified if it has been screenshotted first - users have found alternative methods to save images, such as taking pictures with a separate device.

## Damage to Confidence

Snapchat's signature filters and lenses are a popular way for users to enhance their 'selfie game'. Although many are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' filters on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Continually comparing themselves unfavourably against other Snapchat users could threaten a child's confidence or sense of self-worth.



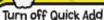




## Advice for Parents & Carers







our child that this feature could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We scommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings accessed via the cog icon).

## Choose Good Connections

Snapchat has recently announced that it is rolling out a new safety feature: users will receive notifications reminding them of the importance of maintaining connections with people they actually know well, as opposed to strangers. This Friend Check up encourages users to delete connections with users they rarely communicate with to maintain their online safety and privacy.

#### Talk about Sexting

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it is important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Discuss the legal implications of sending, receiving or sharing explicit images, as well as the possible emotional impact. Emphasise that your child should never feel pressured into sexting – ar that if they receive unwanted explicit images, they should tell a trusted adult straight away

### Keep Profiles Private

Profiles are private by default, but children may want to make them public to gain more followers. You may wish to customise the settings so that your child's Stories can only be viewed by people they know well in real life. In SnapMaps, enabling 'Ghost Moder (again via settings) prevents your child's location being seem; it also nullifies SnapMap 'status', which visibly displays a user's exact location for as long as they stay there.

#### Be Ready to Block and Report

If a stranger does connect with your child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through buffying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending explicit images to them, your child can select the three dets on that person's profile and choose report or block. There are options to state why they are reporting that user (anneying or malicious messages, spam, or masquerading as someone else, for example).

#### Chat about Content

Talk to your child about what is and isn't wise to share on Snapchat (e.g. don't post explicit images or videos, or display identifiable details like their school uniform). Remind them that ance something is online, the creater loses control over where it might end up, and who with , Snapchat's 'Spotlight' feature has a #chailenge like TikTok's: it's vital that your stands the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.

### Meet Our Expert

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









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www.nationalonlinesafety.com





