



FRIDAY NEWS

18TH
OCTOBER
2024

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



STARS OF THE WEEK

- Class 1 - Joy B
- Class 2 - Humayl H
- Class 3 - Gideon M
- Class 4 - Charlie H
- Class 5 - Christophe N
- Class 6 - Lucas W
- Class 7 - Markela N
- Class 8 - Bobbi-Raye B
- Class 9 - Dawson G
- Class 10 - Ruby-River P
- Class 11 - Evie C
- Class 12 - Myles C

ASTRONAUTS IN-TRAINING

On Thursday, we went to St Gregory's Primary School to complete activities about space and learn how to become an astronaut.

We completed activities to test our speed, our multi-tasking skills, and used our memory skills to make sure we were fit to become astronauts.

We ended our 'Space Camp' with a drink and some delicious biscuits in our space tent.

Featured reporters Jaxon T, Aziza L, and Orianna H

HARVEST

Thank you for all your generous donations for the harvest assembly. Class 6 did an amazing job! All donations will be taken to The Farnworth & Kearsley Food Bank to support the immediate area.

GOLD SCROLL

Willow C, Oscar W,
Willow R, Liliana C,
Joy B, Jason L,
Eshaal M, Ayokunmi O,
Teddy C, Lucas R,
Ruby Y, Eva S,
Theo S, Bavin O,
Charlie H

CHRISTIAN VALUES

Our Christian value this half term is **Respect**.

"Do to others what you would have them do to you."

Matthew 7:12

"With God, there is no limit to what you can do. There is no obstacle you can't overcome. Through Him all things are possible."
(Matthew 19:26)

ICYMI

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

OFSTED

As you will probably already, we were visited by OFSTED on Tuesday and Wednesday. Unfortunately, we are unable to share the outcome of the inspection until the report is published. However, the inspection team did want us to pass on a huge thanks to staff, children and parents for the warm welcome to school. Also, we would also like to extend our own thanks for your continued support.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Next week, we will be holding our parent consultation meetings via telephone. Please look out for the link to book a time with your child's class teacher.

Please remember that school operates an open-door policy. If you would like to speak to any leaders or teachers, you can make contact on the school playground at the beginning or end of the day. Alternatively, you can make an appointment at the school office.

STAY AND LEARN

After half-term, we will resume our parent's Stay & Learn sessions.

The theme of the sessions will be based on No Outsiders to promote equality and inclusion.

Tuesday 5th - Class 3, 4 & 5 @9am

Wednesday 6th - Class 9 & 10 @9am

Thursday 7th - Class 6, 7 & 8 @9am

Friday 8th - Class 10 & 11 @9am

THINGS COMING UP

Monday 21st October

PINS meeting at school - 9am

Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd October

Parent Consultation phone calls
Invite to follow.

Thursday 24th October

School closes for half term. Re-opens 4th November.

BREAKFAST CLUB

We have lots of breakfast club space available for after half term. From 8:15 am, children can access a nutritious breakfast and take part in activities to prepare them for the school day.

Breakfast club is £10 per week.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



HOLIDAY DATES





Bright Sparks

To coincide with Bonfire Night, Tuesday 5th November, we are inviting children to come to school in their brightest colours for a small donation of £1.

Money raised will go towards school funds to provide additional opportunities and experiences our children.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.



CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.



REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them: this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.



DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.



USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.



Meet Our Expert

John Insley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.

