



3RD NOVEMBER 2023

GENTLE REMINDER

Please be considerate when parking near school many of our neighbours need 24 hours access to their drive ways . Thank you

Thursday 23rd November	3.15—5 pm	KS2 Cinema Evening
Thursday 30th November	3.15—4.15	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 5th December	3.15-4.30	EYFS/KS1 Supper with Santa
Thursday 7th December	EYFS Nativity 3.15 pm	tea/coffee mince pies
Tuesday 12th December	Y3 Ukulele Concert	2.15 pm
Wednesday 13th December	3.15	Y5 + Y6 Christmas Carol Concert
Thursday 14th December	KS1 Nativity 3.15 pm	tea/coffee mince pies
Tuesday 19th December	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Party	am KS2 pm
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Dinner	day

More details to follow in the next coming weeks



MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church Mass Times

There are two Churches in our Parish. Holy Family in Kirkholt and Sacred Heart on Kingsway. The Parish Priest is Father Simon and he resides in Sacred Heart Presbytery.

Saturday at Sacred Heart

5.15 Confessions

6.00 Vigil Mass

Sunday

9 am at Holy Family

11 am at Sacred Heart

PENALTY NOTICES



ODD SOCK DAY Monday 13th November for anti bullying week



ASSEMBLY DATES

Friday 17th November Reception Welcome 8.50 am

Friday 24th November Y3 8.50 am

TRIPS

Wednesday 15th November Y6 Lowry workshop pick up 4 pm

PHOTOGRAPHER

TUESDAY 14th November photographer in school to take family photographs (with children not of school age) from 8.15 am in The RETREAT and then individual photographs during the school day.

Christmas Fair

Thursday 30th November 3.15-4.15

Poor attendance

Children who miss more than 20 sessions/10 school days unauthorised absence in a 12 week period will receive a Penalty Notice which is £60 per parent.

Holiday absences

Children who miss 10 sessions/5 school days unauthorised absences will receive a Penalty Notice which is £60 per parent, per child. Holiday requests will be reviewed separately and in some circumstances may be approved.

CAPTAINS TABLE

Captains Table children (and friends) all chosen this week for always waiting quietly in the dinner line and having good knife and fork skills.



PIC•COLLAGE

HEADTEACHERS AWARD

Headteachers award children chosen this week for (R) always showing care, kindness and manners, working hard on her listening skills during carpet time (Y1) for being a helpful and kind member of the class, a big improvement in his phonics (Y2) for completing column addition across a ten (Y3) for showing kindness and care to a friend, always listening and trying hard (Y4) showing enthusiasm to learning and always prepared to contribute to class discussions, showing super listening and the ability to apply herself to the work set (Y5) for always being safe, ready and respectful in school, super descriptive writing in English (Y6) for a determined attitude and improvement in learning behaviours and for his fantastic artwork in the style of LS Lowry.

Well done everyone.



SCHOOL COUNCIL



Our School Council have been very busy preparing two assemblies for next week. One for Odd Socks Day on Monday 13th and one for the International Day for Tolerance on Thursday 16th.

Congratulations to Bella and Olivia who have today received the Golden Heart Award

GIFT TEAM



The GIFT team have started early with their preparations for Advent. They have all planned a liturgy to share with classes to celebrate the first Sunday of Advent and have focused on the theme of hope. They have also been collecting ideas for our upcoming Mission Day.

ATTENDANCE

Well done to Y4 on achieving the highest percentage attendance this week of 99% and to Y5 for most improved. Who will get to 100% first?



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TWITTER

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be 'trending'. Twitter users can engage with other people's posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or tweeting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.



INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person's Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a 'view count' feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweet (even if they haven't reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account's authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their "policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content: freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach". No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter's most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag's meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with 'trending' hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child's tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter's privacy settings so that your child can't be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won't be shared.

FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they've seen is true; remind them to watch out for scams and think about the message's possible motive. Emphasise that it's not a good idea to retweet something if they aren't sure it's correct.

ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child's tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child's again for seven days.

EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else's tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It's important that young people think about what they're about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed 'nudges': little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The 'mute' feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child's timeline. The other user won't know that they've been muted.

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 sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the 'blue tick' system, it's essential that young Twitter users understand what this means, in terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they've been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Source: <https://blog.twitter.com/common-thread/en/topics/stories/2022/how-twitter-is-nudging-users-healthier-conversations> | https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update | https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation | <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2131&context=std>