



# FRIDAY NEWS

15TH  
MARCH  
2024

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



## READING BREAKFASTS

Class 5 kicked off an amazing week of reading breakfasts on Monday and we have seen equally successful sessions in classes 3 and 4, Reception, Nursery and Little Saints.

It is wonderful to see so many parents come into school to help celebrate reading and promote reading for pleasure. Thank you to all who attended, we hope you enjoyed sharing our lovely books and listening to the stories.

At St James, we value the importance of reading and the impact reading has on all aspects of the curriculum, and we do all we can to promote a love of reading. We look forward to seeing more parents next week.

**Monday 18th - CL10**

**Tuesday 19th - CL11**

**Wednesday 20th - CL9**

**Thursday 21st - CL8**

**Friday 22nd - CL7**

**Monday 25th - CL6**

THE MORE THAT YOU READ, THE  
MORE THINGS YOU WILL KNOW.  
THE MORE THAT YOU LEARN, THE  
MORE PLACES YOU'LL GO.

- DR. SEUSS

[BilingualKidspot.com](http://BilingualKidspot.com)

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Class 1 - Cole L

Class 2 - Anna E

Class 3 - Dominic H

Class 4 - Theo S

Class 5 - Renesmae S

Class 6 - Awen H

Class 7 - Tallulah-Rose L

Class 8 - Alfie H

Class 9 - Jonathon LL

Class 10 - Ebony H & Mitzy W

Class 11 - All Year 6

## GOLD SCROLL

**Tobi-Jaye B, Blossom K,  
Ebony H, Toby SB,  
Alicia Y, David W,  
Ibrahim K, David M,  
Myles C, Faith Y,  
Ashaal A, Lola H,  
Gideon M**

## CHRISTIAN VALUE

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

## BIBLE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Let all that you do be done in love.*  
**Corinthians 16:14**



## PARKING

Please can parents/carers be more considerate when parking around the school during drop-off and pick-up times.

School are receiving an increasing number of complaints from residents about driveways are being blocked. Our school community does not stop at the school gates and does include those around us. Help helps us support and maintain good relationships with our neighbours.

## EASTER BINGO

On Thursday 28th March, we will hold an Easter Bingo in school time. Like last year, this will be held for the children only in their classrooms. Tickets will be £1.50 and will include games of bingo and refreshments - more details to follow.

**Therefore, we need donations of chocolate/Easter eggs to make up our prizes. We are asking for donations to be brought to school on Friday 22nd March in exchange for children wearing non-uniform for the day.**

**As always, thank you for your continued support!**

## THINGS COMING UP

- Tuesday 19th March - Year 5 trip to Bolton Parish Church for Experience Easter.
- Friday 22nd March - Chocolate donations for non-uniform.
- Thursday 28th March - Easter Bingo in classes.
- Thursday 28th March - School closes for Easter.
- Monday 15th April - School Re-opens for the summer term.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

**OUR TARGET IS 96%**

<b>Whole School</b>	<b>93.2%</b>
Class 1	95.0%
Class 2	94.4%
Class 3	94.6%
Class 4	97.7%
Class 5	90.4%
Class 6	91.3%
Class 7	92.3%
Class 8	89.3%
Class 9	92.3%
Class 10	94.8%
Class 11	94.8%

Green: 100% - 95%

Yellow: 94.9% - 90%

Red: Below 90%



@stjamesfarnworth

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Snapchat is an instant messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to people in their friends list. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures and messages 'disappear' 24 hours after they've been viewed; however, this content isn't as temporary as many believe - with some users saving screenshots or using another device to take a photo of their screen. This year, Snapchat added 'My AI': a customisable chatbot with which people can chat and share secrets, as well as asking for advice and suggestions of places to visit.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects with people they know, they may still get friend requests from strangers. The Quick Add option lets users befriend people the app recommends - but these 'friends' are merely a username, which could have anyone behind it. Accepting such requests reveals children's personal information through the Story, SnapMap and Spotlight features, potentially putting them at risk from predators.

### EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). Spotlight Challenges tempt users into spending time producing content in search of cash prizes and online fame, while it's easy for children to pass hours watching Spotlight's endless scroll of videos.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat aren't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people (teens in particular) to share explicit images on impulse - so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

### ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body-image expectations - creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

### VISIBLE LOCATION

Snap Map highlights a device's exact position on a virtual map which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, only you (Ghost Mode) or selected friends. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to ensure friends have reached home safely - but which could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.



## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add feature helps people find each other on the app. This function works based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turns off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

### CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

In 2021, Snapchat rolled out a new safety feature: users can now 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 that they rarely communicate with, to maintain their online safety and privacy.

### DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage your child to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.

### CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind your child that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up - and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some challenges which become popular on the platform may have potentially harmful consequences.

### KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone your child adds, unless they change the settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled (again via settings). It's safest not to add people your child doesn't know in real life - especially since the addition of My Places, which allows other Snapchat users to see where your child regularly visits and checks in.

### BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

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

### 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.



Sources: <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/2028760358932-What-is-My-AI-on-Snapchat-and-how-does-it-work> | <https://uk.esurance.com/en-GB/online-safety/warnings-from-my-ai-and-new-safety-enhancements> | <https://uk.esurance.com/2023/04/18/snapchat-loc-location-sharing-challenge/> | <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/20200498464>