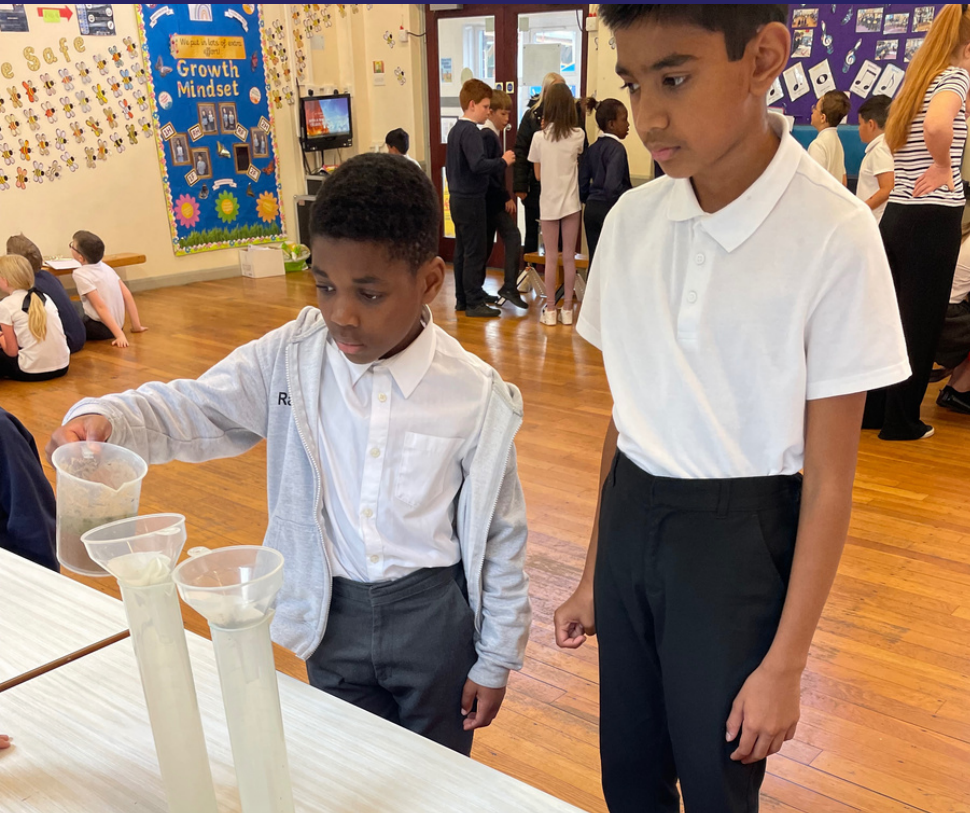




# FRIDAY NEWS

23RD JUNE  
2023

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



## SCIENCE FESTIVAL

This week, some of our year 5 pupils visited Highfield Primary School for a science festival as part of their Farnworth Matters project.

Highfield put on an impressive display of investigations and experiments that explored a range of scientific concepts. The children had so much fun and were engaged in the learning provided by their peers. They learned more about the planets; planting and growing plants; building electrical circuits; and separating materials.

As usual, the children's behaviour was amazing! Later on this term, it will be our job to put on a science festival for Highfield. We're sure the children will enjoy planning and organising the event.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Class 1 - Dua A

Class 2 - Scarlett L

Class 3 - Jessica C

Class 4 - Brooke B

Class 5 - Bibi S

Class 6 - Michael M

Class 7 - Awab A

Class 8 - Cole HC

Class 9 - Raimundo N

Class 10 - Abel W

Class 11 - Melanie R



## GOLD SCROLL

All of the school choir,  
Ali A, Liliana C, Don D,  
Tallulah Rose L, Jerry S,  
Aizah C, Prisa W, Zohan A,  
Brooke B, Sheriff C, Luiza P,  
Lucy G, Flynn D, Manha M,  
Eesa S, Seth R, Faith A,  
Dakota G, Abel W, Leah H,  
Brooke G, Bradley J,  
Jaiden N, Miley A, Zach C,  
Harvey R, Tianna-Leigh W,  
Blossom K

## CHRISTIAN VALUE

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

## BIBLE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*For I know the plans I have for you,  
declares the Lord, plans for welfare and  
not for evil, to give you a future and  
hope. **Jeremiah 29:11***



## ONLINE SAFETY

There has been an increasing amount of online safety incidents being brought into school via the use of mobile phones outside of school. These have mainly involved SnapChat. If your child has a mobile phone, please check the contents and talk to them about the appropriate use of the internet. Please read the SnapChat guide below for more information.

## TOMBOLAS FOR THE SCHOOL FAIR

This year our summer fair is on Friday 14th July at 2 pm. To help us prepare for this and fully stock our stalls for the tombola, we are asking our families for donations of bottles and chocolates. As a thank you, children can wear their own clothes on specific days.

- Friday 30th June - Non-uniform for bottle donations.
- Tuesday 11th July - Non-uniform for chocolate donations.

## SPORTS DAYS

Sports Days are planned for the following days:

- **Upper KS2 - Friday 30th June at 9:30 am.**
- **Lower KS2 - Tuesday 11th July at 1:30 pm.**
- **Key Stage 1 - Date to be confirmed (Parents to be notified of new date).**

Please note that we look carefully at the weather forecast for sports days. Unfortunately, this may result in last-minute changes to the dates. We will contact parents/carers as soon as possible if any changes occur.

Don't forget that you can find lots of information on our website:

[www.st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk](http://www.st-james-farnworth.bolton.sch.uk) or follow us on



@stjamesfarn



@stjamesfarnworth

## ATTENDANCE

OUR TARGET IS 96%

<b>Whole School</b>	<b>91.5%</b>
Class 1	97.6%
Class 2	93.8%
Class 3	87.7%
Class 4	85.7%
Class 5	95.7%
Class 6	85.2%
Class 7	89.3%
Class 8	92.4%
Class 9	93.5%
Class 10	89.7%
Class 11	96.6%

Green - 100% - 95%

Yellow - 94.9% - 90%

Red - Below 90%



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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.

## 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).

### 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.

### 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.



### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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).