



FRIDAY NEWS

15TH
MAY
2026

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



STARS OF THE WEEK

- Class 1 - Sybil N
- Class 2 - Noah N
- Class 3 - Yasmin J
- Class 4 - Isaac A
- Class 5 - Amelia B
- Class 6 - Ayokunmi O
- Class 7 - Theo S
- Class 8 - Kasper S
- Class 9 - Ronnie B
- Class 10 - Mohammed
- Class 11 - All of CL11
- Class 12 - All of CL12



SMITHILLS FARM VISIT

Some of our children had a fantastic visit to Smithills Open Farm as part of their learning about animals and life on the farm.

Throughout the day, the children enjoyed meeting a wide range of animals including goats, sheep, rabbits and donkeys. They were especially excited to feed some of the animals and learn how to care for them. The tractor ride was a big hit and gave everyone the chance to explore even more of the farm.

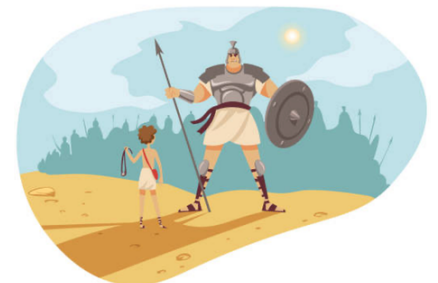
The visit provided lots of opportunities for the children to develop their communication, confidence and curiosity while enjoying new experiences with their friends. The staff at the farm were very friendly and helped the children learn lots of interesting facts about the animals and the work farmers do each day.

The children represented the school brilliantly and returned with lots of happy memories from a wonderful day out.

WELL DONE, YEAR 6

A huge well done to all of our Year 6 children for completing their SATs this week! We are incredibly proud of their hard work, resilience and positive attitude throughout.

They have shown great determination and should all feel very proud of themselves. Well done, Year 6!



VISION AWARD

- Class 1 - Salahuddin M
- Class 2 - Enoch O
- Class 3 - Grayson R
- Class 4 - Toby S
- Class 5 - AJ S
- Class 6 - Moeed
- Class 7 - Jasmine U
- Class 8 - Ana Beatriz O
- Class 9 - Willow C
- Class 10 - Joshua S
- Class 11 - All of CL11
- Class 12 - All of CL12

THINGS COMING UP

MAY



Monday 18th May – Poetry Week – Visiting Poet, Sean Perkins, in school.

Thursday 21st May – Year 3 & 4 (CL6, 7 & 8) Sports Day – 9:30 am

Thursday 21st May – The Big Coffee Morning in the hall (parents only) – 9:00 am

Thursday 21st May – Year 1 & 2 (CL3, 4 & 5) Sports Day – 2:00 pm

Friday 22nd May – Year 5 & 6 (CL9, 10, 11 & 12) Sports Day – 9:30 am

Friday 22nd May – Half term starts at 3:15 pm

JUNE



Monday 1st June – School Re-opens

Monday 1st June – Year 4 MTC begins (times tables tests)

Tuesday 2nd June – New to Reception Meeting – 5:00 pm

Monday 8th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening begins

Tuesday 9th June – Class 8 at Larkhill Place

Thursday 11th June – Class 6 at Larkhill Place

Friday 12th June – RE Super Learning Day

THINGS COMING UP



Monday 15th June – Assessment week (Year 1 – 5)

Wednesday 17th June – Class 7 at Larkhill Place

Wednesday 17th June – Class 9 worship – 2:45 pm

Thursday 18th June – Little Saints Stay & Learn – 10:30 am & 2:30 pm

Friday 19th June – Bottle tombola donations in exchange for non-uniform

Friday 19th June – World Music Day

Wednesday 24th June – Class 6 worship – 2:45 pm

Friday 26th June – Chocolate donations in exchange for non-uniform

Tuesday 30th June – Year 6 Leavers' Service at Manchester Cathedral (pupils only)

JULY



Wednesday 1st July – Year 6 visiting new high schools

Wednesday 1st July – Transition Day for school

Friday 3rd July – Summer Fair at 2:00 pm. School Closes at 1:45 pm.

Tuesday 7th July – Year 6 Show – 9:15 am & 2:00 pm.

Friday 10th July – Year 6 at Anderton Centre

Monday 13th July – School Reports to go home

Wednesday 15th July – Year 6 Graduation – 9:15 am

Wednesday 15th July – Reception Graduation – 2:00 pm

**Thursday 16th July – Pupil of the Year (Invites will go out to parents of pupil winners)
– 9:00 am**

Friday 17th July – School closes for Summer at 3:15 pm

Proud Post

Thank you so much for sharing your Proud Post with school. The children loved receiving these. Here are a few:

To Jean S, I am proud of you for doing super work in RWI phonics this week - keep it up! From Mr Gallagher.

To Hope, I am proud of you for donating your hair at the weekend! From Miss Walton.

To Miss Thomas, I am proud of you for completing your assignment. From Souhaila.

To Ronnie, I am proud you. Well done for a fabulous week during lunchtimes. From Miss Metcalfe.

To Nene G, I am so proud of how keen you are to learn. You are always the first one sat beautifully on the carpet, and putting you right hand to contribute in lessons, from Mrs Afzal.

To all Year 6 pupils and adults, I am so proud of how hard you have worked in the run-up to SATs. Have a great weekend and bring your best self on Monday! from Mr Booth

Gold Scroll

Nene G x 2

Jon Y

Jackson H

Zainab Z x 2

Oscar H

Khadeejah H

Ayeza R x 2

Oliver C

Hunter R

Dabira S

Tawheed H

Emmanuel O

Aaliyah A

Yusuf A

Jason H

Isaac Wi x 2

Dominic H

Rupert C

Hammad I

Jaiden T

Ariella K

Ara A

Zaid ZA

Isabella P

Toby S

Rohaam N

Peyton Y

Bibi S

Isla W

Cole L

Blaine D

Kasper S

Teddy W

Sybil

Emmanuel O

Eshaal M

Markela N

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

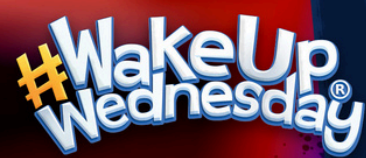
Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding a raffle - lots of prizes to be won!



All who attend will receive a free raffle ticket!

Thursday 21st May
9am - 11am

Join us for a relaxed and friendly coffee morning with drinks, biscuits, and great company – all completely free, so no need to bring your purse or wallet!

We'll also be welcoming a range of local services and organisations. It's a great opportunity to chat, ask questions, and find out what support and advice is available for you, your children, and the wider community.

job
centre
plus

NEW
BURY
UCAN
CENTRE

Bolton
Library and
Museum Services



keoth



Bolton
Family Hubs

FARNWORTH
FAMILY HUB



boltonfamilyhubs.org.uk

01204 334955

Smokefree
Bolton
Let's quit the habit for good

NHS
Bolton
NHS Foundation Trust

...and many more



ARCHBISHOP



TEMPLE

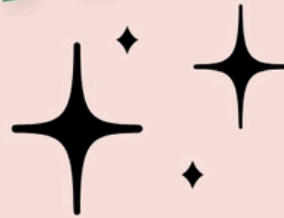
TRUST



PRESENT



The Wizard of
OZ &
Wicked



BOLTON PARISH CHURCH

TUESDAY 7TH JULY 6-8PM



GRAB A PARTY BAG AND ENJOY THE SCHOOLS'
PERFORMANCES