



# FRIDAY NEWS

14TH  
MARCH  
2025

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



## NEURODIVERSITY WEEK

Next week, instead of celebrating Comic Relief, we will be joining schools across the country to celebrate the amazing strengths and talents of every child. Neurodiversity means that everyone's brain works in its own unique way. During the week, we will be learning more about conditions like Autism, ADHD, Tourette's, Dyslexia and Dyspraxia.

Each day, a different school in our trust will share information and fun activities to help children understand and appreciate neurodiversity. We want every child to feel valued and supported.

**To end the week, we are having a non-uniform day where children can wear colours that represent them or makes them happy. There will be no charge for this non-uniform day.**

## STAY & LEARN

Thank you to all the parents/carers that came to support your child at Stay & Learn this week. Don't worry if you were unable to make it this time - we will host another stay and learn next half term.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery - Oliver Hookhan

Class 1 - Toby S

Class 2 - Menorah B

Class 3 - River-Lea G

Class 4 - Eleonora M

Class 5 - Splendor O

Class 6 - Great O

Class 7 - Jan Y

Class 8 - Tommy W

Class 9 - Tianna W

Class 10 - Edita D

Class 11 - Sophia B

Class 12 - Lilianna W & Ahmed



## GOLD SCROLL

Eshaal M

Toby S

Genesis M

Jackson H

Sienna T

Joey G

Bonnie W

Oscar W

Andy S

Jessica C

## CHRISTIAN VALUES

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

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing"

**Luke 23:34**

"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)

# Things coming up in Spring

W/C	Events
17.03.25	<p>Neurodiversity Week</p> <p>17<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 SATs meeting @2:30pm</p> <p>18<sup>th</sup> - Class 9 Assembly @2:45pm</p> <p>21<sup>st</sup> - Dress in a colour that represents you. (free of charge)</p>
24.03.25	<p>26<sup>th</sup> - Reception Wiggle Stay and Learn (2-3pm)</p> <p>27<sup>th</sup> - Little Saints Stay and Play - 10:45am &amp; 2:45pm</p> <p>27<sup>th</sup> - Class 3 Assembly @2:45 - Mother's Day</p> <p>28<sup>th</sup> - Nursery Stay and Play - 10:40am &amp; 2:40pm</p> <p>28<sup>th</sup> - Non-uniform - chocolate egg donations</p>
31.03.25	<p>Experience Easter</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> - Phonic Screen parents' meeting @2:45pm</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> - Class 7 Assembly @2:45 - Easter</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> - Easter Bingo in school</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> - Closed for Easter</p>

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION  
PEGI  
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Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

### MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

### ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

### RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

### SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

### PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

### TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

## Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbbible.



#WakeUpWednesday

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