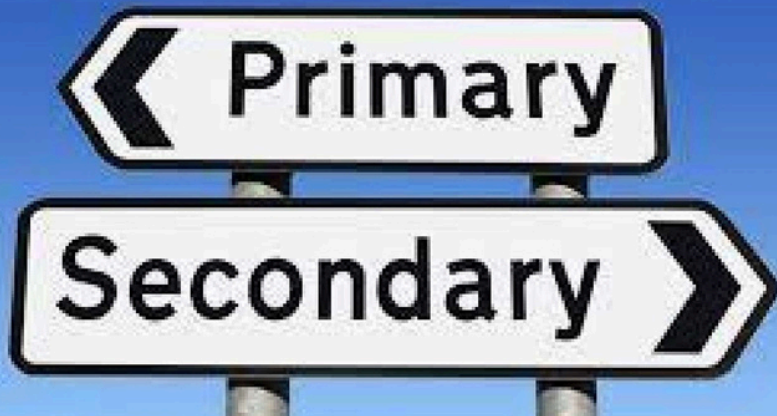




FRIDAY NEWS

19TH
SEPTEMBER
2025

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



TRANSITION WORKSHOPS

We are holding two 'Transition to Secondary' sessions for parents/carers of children who are under SEN support or on the SEN monitoring list. Letters have been sent home with children from Y3-6 who are monitored under SEND.

We will have space available for other parents to attend, if they feel this transition would be difficult for their child and would like some information regarding this.

In the workshop, we will be talking about choosing the right school, discussing the right support for your child, ensuring the correct SEND information is passed to the new school, and how to appeal if you are not happy with your child's mainstream allocation.

The workshop will be held on Tuesday, 23rd September at 1:15 pm and 4:30 pm. You only need to attend one.

Please let the office know if you are interested in attending.

GOODBYE, MR TOPHAM

Next Friday, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Topham, who has worked with children across the school for the past two years. We are sad to see such a valuable member of staff leave, but we wish him well and all the best in his new ventures.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Class 1 - Olivia B

Class 2 - Noah N

Class 3 - Ashantie M

Class 4 - Jack W

Class 5 - Jon Y

Class 6 - Tamara B

Class 7 -

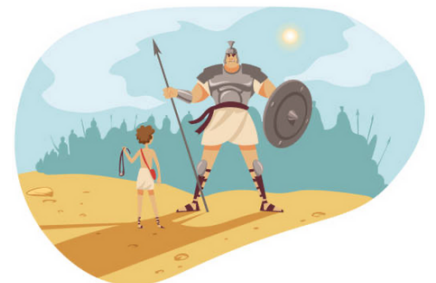
Class 8 - Souhaila L

Class 9 - Willow R

Class 10 - Tyler S

Class 11 - Isaac W

Class 12 - Avniel A



VISION AWARD

Class 1 - Dabira S

Class 2 - Kyla C

Class 3 - Yusuf A

Class 4 - Harriet QG

Class 5 -

Class 6 - Daniel O

Class 7 -

Class 8 - Imogen L

Class 9 - Teagan W

Class 10 - D'Arcy BM

Class 11 - Izzik D

Class 12 - Lewis B

"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)

Reminders

MEET THE TEACHER

Thank you to the parents/carers who attended their child's Meet the Teacher session this week, and thank you for your understanding for those sessions that needed to be postponed. We will re-arrange these soon.

If you didn't manage to make it this time, don't worry. We hold Stay & Learn sessions each half term, and class newsletters will be sent out next week.

Thank you for your continued support.

CLASS DOJO



If you haven't signed up yet, please see your child's class teacher for your personal sign up code.

Please do not sign up for Class Dojo Plus. The version we use should be FREE.

COMING UP

Monday 22nd - Year 3 & 5 Start swimming lessons.

Tuesday 23rd - Transition to High School Sessions @ 1:15pm & 4:30pm.

Wednesday 24th - Reception Reading Meeting @ 2:30pm.

Friday 26th - Non-uniform day in exchange for Cake Donations for Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Monday 29th - Macmillan Coffee Morning @ 9am.

School Census



CENSUS DAY

School census day is Thursday, 2nd October.

It is essential that your child attends school on this day.

The government uses the number of 'bums on seats' rather than children on roll to determine how much money is allocated to schools.

These funds are vital to us in continuing to provide the very best for our pupils.

SWIMMING

Next week, Year 3 & 5 start their lessons.



Gold Scroll

Olivia B
Ava-Rose B

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn'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 to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

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.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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