



FRIDAY NEWS

9TH
OCTOBER
2026

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



Celebrating Harvest at St James

As we approach Harvest, we will be taking time at St James to reflect on the importance of gratitude, kindness and supporting one another within our community.

Harvest reminds us that even small acts of kindness can make a difference. We would like to invite families who are able to do so to contribute a non-perishable food item to our Harvest collection. Donations will help us support those in our local community who may benefit from a little extra help.

We recognise that times can be challenging for many families, and we want to stress that donations are completely voluntary. Every family is valued and appreciated, whether or not they are able to contribute.

What items can be donated?

If you are able to support our collection, useful items include:

- Tinned and jarred foods
- Pasta, rice, and other dried foods.
- Breakfast cereals and porridge oats
- Biscuits and crackers

Unfortunately, we cannot accept fresh, chilled or frozen food.

We are delighted that Class 8 will be leading our Harvest Worship on Wednesday 14th October at 2:45 pm. Parents and families are warmly invited to join us as the children share their reflections on thankfulness, generosity and caring for others.

Together, we can show that our community cares. 

STARS OF THE WEEK

Reception - Ava H & Ghaith G ★
Class 3 - Dabira S & Kingsley Q ★
Class 4 - Enoch O & Caleb Da ★
Class 5 - Ghofran G & Mahir Q ★
Class 6 - Cole G & Harlow A ★
Class 7 - India-Rae B & Peter O ★
Class 8 - Daanya K & Christophe N ★
Class 9 - Nora D & Thomas W ★
Class 10 - Elisabeth C & Amelia T ★
Class 11 - Oscar W & Blaine D ★



VISION AWARD

Reception - Ghaith G & Sally G
Class 3 - Reggie MB & Oliver H
Class 4 - Hunter R & Hudson A
Class 5 - Muhammad F
Class 6 - Oscar H & Chester H
Class 7 - Fatima B & Zara U
Class 8 - Emmie T & Talia K
Class 9 - Zara K & Leah L
Class 10 - Lexa L & Felicity P
Class 11 - Gracie-Ella B & Robyn G

"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

Monday 12th October - Donations for Harvest needed for Wednesday.

Wednesday 14th October - Panto - Snow White

Wednesday 14th October - Harvest Assembly by Class 8 at 2:45 pm.

Friday 16th October - Show Racism the Red Card - Wear red to school - non-uniform (no donation needed).

Tuesday 20th October - School Photographs

Wednesday 21st October - Bonfire & Firework Safety assemblies in class.

Wednesday 21st October - Movie Night (Years 1, 2 & 3) @ 3:30 pm

Thursday 22nd October - Movie Night (Years 4, 5 & 6) @ 3:30 pm

Friday 23rd October - School finishes for a one-week half-term.

Monday 2nd November - Return to school.

Monday 2nd November - Swimming lessons start for Years 4 and 6. Information letters will go out soon.

WB 9th November - Parent Consultations - phone calls. Please sign up to Class Dojo as appointments will be made via this.

Tuesday 10th November - Reception Stay & Learn @ 2:15 pm

Wednesday 11th November - Class 11 Remembrance Assembly @ 2:45 pm

Friday 13th November - Trsust Service for Year 5 & 6 at Bolton Parish Church

Friday 13th November - Children In Need (Non-uniform)

Monday 16th November - Swimming lessons start for Years 3 and 5. Information letters will go out soon.

WB 16th November - Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 16th November - Odd Socks Day

Wednesday 25th November - Worship Play Super Learning Day

Tuesday 1st December - Cafe Church @ 3:30 pm

Gold Scroll

Tobi-Jaye B

Mirha H

Dominic K

Jaiden T

Anna E

Ashantie O

Isaac H

Lilly May H

Harlow A

Milena P

Kealan Mc

Markela N

Harrison HF

Jason L

Kingsley Q

Dabira S

Alexa W

Amelia T

Ghofran G

Isaac W

Bobbi-Raye B

Zahir A

Anthony H

Milena P

Cole G

Lucas W

Humayl H

Hudson A

Noor

Genesis M

Harriet QG

Isabella P

Hunter R

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as 'experiences' made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. ITV News has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it extremely difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children, though a June 2026 update has improved things greatly.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A PLATFORM RATHER THAN A GAME

Roblox differs from traditional video games in that it hosts millions of user-created experiences rather than a fixed set of developer-produced content. Each experience is self-rated by its creator rather than independently age-rated in advance, as is the case with PEGI-rated games. With millions of user-created experiences, moderation is largely automated which means that inappropriate content may reach younger players and have a harmful effect.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox encourages repeated and extended play. Many experiences are made of short tasks, rewards, and progression systems that can prompt users to keep playing for longer periods of time. Some games also use reminders, daily rewards, or timed events to encourage frequent logins. These designs can make it difficult to stop playing. Spending long periods online may affect sleep, schoolwork, or other activities if boundaries are not in place.

IN-GAME SPENDING

Roblox is free to play, but many experiences and cosmetics include optional purchases using Robux, the platform's virtual currency, to get advantages in games. This business model is common across online games, but reporting has highlighted cases where children have spent large amounts of money unintentionally or without understanding the real-world cost.

MATURE CONTENT



With much of Roblox's moderation automated through AI and creators self-certifying suitability, inappropriate content frequently appears on the platform. Some experiences may include content intended for older players. As of June 2026, Roblox defaults to only showing games from trusted developers to under 15s, following tests with older players to filter out riskier content. But these automated systems are not infallible, and younger players may encounter content you deem unsuitable.

COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER USERS



Roblox includes text and voice features that allow players to chat in shared game spaces. While the platform uses automated filters and moderation tools, media investigations have found that inappropriate and potentially harmful messages can still get through. There are risks that children could be targeted by groomers. In a June 2026 update, Roblox changed its default settings to prevent under 8s from chatting entirely, with gradual relaxation of restrictions between the ages of 9 and 15. The platform plans to use facial age-estimation technology to enforce these rules.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox's parental controls provide an important starting point. Linking a child's account to an adult account allows parents to apply spending controls, limit communication features, and review recent activity. Regular supervision, use of parental controls, and conversations with children about what they see online can help reduce the risk of exposure to inappropriate content.



CONSIDER LIMITING OR DISABLING CHAT

Although Roblox has introduced tighter age-based chat restrictions, some parents and educators may prefer to disable chat entirely to avoid the risk of stranger danger. This is the default for under 8s, but can be applied for all accounts up to the age of 16. Children can still play games while communicating with friends they know through other platforms, such as Discord.



PLAY TOGETHER WHERE POSSIBLE

Playing Roblox with a child can help adults understand the types of experiences available, how monetisation works, and how children interact online. This shared engagement can also make it easier for children to raise concerns if something feels wrong. Parents and educators should monitor all games played on Roblox due to its largely self-rating nature.



ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Many Roblox experiences are creative and age appropriate, and for many children, the platform is an important way to socialise with friends. Rather than banning it outright, parents and educators should talk openly with children about online safety, spending, and how to respond to inappropriate behaviour.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website



ST JAMES
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM • BELIEVE • LEARN • ACHIEVE

Working Together
for a Safer
Online World 

Online Safety at Home

Helpful tips for parents and carers

At St James CE Primary School, we want all our children to be safe, happy and confident online. The internet can be a brilliant place to learn, play and stay in touch, but it also has risks. Working together, we can help our children make safe and positive choices.

Be aware
Be involved
Be supportive



Talk regularly

Chat with your child about what they do online. Show an interest and listen without judgement.



Set boundaries

Agree clear rules about screen time, what apps and games are suitable, and when devices should be turned off (e.g. at bedtime).



Know what they use

Be aware of the apps, games and social media your child uses. Check age ratings and privacy settings.



Spot the signs

Look out for changes in behaviour, mood or sleep that might suggest something is worrying them online.



Encourage positive use

Support your child to use the internet for creative, educational and social activities. Celebrate their achievements online.



Keep them safe

Use parental controls where appropriate, keep devices in shared spaces and remind them not to share personal information.

Remember...

- ✓ Not everything online is true.
- ✓ It's OK to ask for help.
- ✓ If something makes you feel uncomfortable, tell a trusted adult.



Where to get support

If you are worried about your child's online safety, please speak to a member of our school team.

childline

childline.org.uk
0800 1111



thinkuknow.co.uk

Internet Matters.org

internetmatters.org

Let's work together to keep our children safe online.



A SAFER
BRIGHTER
FUTURE

"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



ST JAMES

C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM • BELIEVE • LEARN • ACHIEVE

Parents, Carers
and Grandparents
— You Can Make
a Difference!



We Need You!

Can you spare a little time to help with our fundraising events?

We're looking for friendly, enthusiastic parents, carers and grandparents to volunteer and support our school by helping with upcoming events throughout the St James school year.

Here are some ways you can help:



To help set up events

Get involved with preparing venues, setting up stalls and making sure everything runs smoothly.



To run stalls

Help out on the day with our stalls, games and activities — meet families and be part of the fun!



To support with new fundraising ideas

Share your ideas, creativity and suggestions — big or small, they all make a difference!



Meet other
parents, carers
and grandparents



Be part of a
supportive school
community



Help create
memorable events
for our children



Make a lasting
impact

Every helping hand makes a big difference!

