



FRIDAY NEWS

1ST
MAY
2026

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School

You are Invited

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to join us for our upcoming **Big Coffee Morning** - a relaxed and welcoming opportunity to spend time in school, connect with others, and enjoy some well-earned refreshments.

 **Date:** Thursday 21st May

 **Time:** 9:00am - 11:00am

Come along for tea, coffee, biscuits and friendly conversation - with no need to bring purses or wallets, as everything is provided free of charge. It's a great chance to meet other families, chat with staff, and feel part of our school community.

We are also excited to be welcoming a wide range of local services and organisations who will be joining us on the day. This is a valuable opportunity to:

- Ask questions and seek advice
- Find out what support is available for you and your children
- Learn more about services within the local community
- Access help in a relaxed, informal setting

Services attending include Jobcentre Plus, Believe Achieve, Family Hubs, Smoke Free Bolton, and the New Bury UCAN Centre, along with many more.

Whether you're looking for guidance, support, or simply want to explore what's available, there will be something for everyone.

We will also be holding a raffle with a range of fantastic prizes - and the best part is that every attendee will receive a free entry!

We hope you can join us for what promises to be a warm, supportive and enjoyable event. We look forward to seeing you there!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Class 1 - All of Class 1

Class 2 - All of Class 2

Class 3 - Ruby L

Class 4 - Jack Mc

Class 5 - Anna E

Class 6 - Arianna K

Class 7 - Jorja Mc

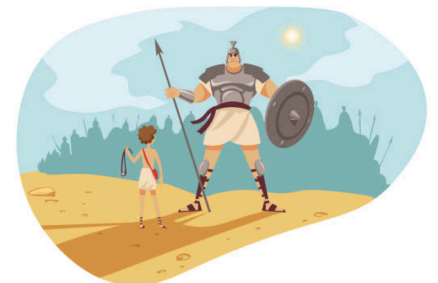
Class 8 - Jessica C

Class 9 - Teagan W

Class 10 - Khalil A

Class 11 - Pawel B

Class 12 - Alfie H



VISION AWARD

Class 1 - Dabira S

Class 2 - Mirha H

Class 3 - Humayl M

Class 4 - Menorah B

Class 5 - Oluoma N

Class 6 - Paisley G

Class 7 - Lucas R

Class 8 - Anthony H

Class 9 - Blaine D

Class 10 - Joshua D

Class 11 - Jamin U

Class 12 - Thomas F

"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

MAY



Monday 4th May – School closed for Bank Holiday. School re-opens Tuesday, 5th May.

Tuesday 5th May – Little Saints Stay & Learn – 10:30 am & 2:30 pm

Tuesday 5th May – Reception Ready Meeting – 10:45 am & 2:30 pm

Monday 11th May – Year 6 SATs begin.

Thursday 14th May – Reception Sports Day – 2:00 pm

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:

Mrs Whitton & Mrs Pilling are extremely proud of all of Reception this week for their amazing effort in their first class assembly!

To Grayson, I am proud that you always ask really interesting questions during lessons. From Miss Symonds.

To Essa W, I am proud of you because you became a 'Rock Legend' in TTRS. From Hammad.

To Jason L, I'm proud of you for practising your handwriting at home. From Miss Berry.

To Oliver C, You are a great friend and you make me smile a lot. You have great handwriting. From Isaac.

To Miss Aldred, In my first days in this school, you helped me learn new things. That is why I am giving you a proud post. From Ana.

Gold Scroll

Linkon K
Eleonora M
Peyton Y
Daniel O
Olly BM
Moeed I
Dabira S
Arianna D
Burhan K
Jack Mc
Michael Mc

Jasmine U
Emmie T
Eli G
Jason L
Dominic H
Jorja Mc
Lexa L
Mustafa W
Ruby Y
Lexi G
Ayokunmi O
Peter O

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APP & PLAY STORES

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE

Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS

Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES

App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN

Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

SIDELoaded BANNED APPS

'Sideloaded' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS

Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

DO YOUR RESEARCH

If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS

App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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

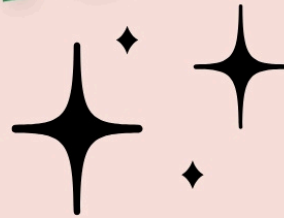
TRUST



PRESENT



The Wizard of
OZ &
Wicked



BOLTON PARISH CHURCH

TUESDAY 7TH JULY 6-8PM



GRAB A PARTY BAG AND ENJOY THE SCHOOLS'
PERFORMANCES