



# FRIDAY NEWS

9TH FEBRUARY  
2024

The official newsletter of St James CE Primary School



## SAFER INTERNET DAY

As well as enjoying a range of different mental health and wellbeing activities this week, the children also engaged in Safer Internet Day, which was held on Tuesday 6th February.

The children used this day as a reminder of how to keep themselves safe when using the internet or when on other online services, such as gaming.

The day was marked by a special class assembly from Class 9. They gave an informative presentation to all of Key Stage 2 and their families.

For more information about Online Safety, how school teaches and keeps children safe whilst online at school, please visit our school website or you can speak to your child's class teacher. Look out for our Online Safety posters that we publish every week on Friday News.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

- Class 1 - Toby T
- Class 2 - Brayden FS
- Class 3 - Harley L
- Class 4 - Mason C
- Class 5 - Kasper S
- Class 6 - Ellie-Rose B
- Class 7 - Doc Divin N
- Class 8 - Terri L
- Class 9 - Cole CH
- Class 10 - Sophia B
- Class 11 - Destiny B

## GOLD SCROLL

Lola H, Anthony H,  
Jessica C, Sophia B,  
Ayoub A, Kasper S,  
Rogan J, David O,  
Seth R, Lexi G, Henry W,  
Jessica C, Renae L,  
Isabella P, Cole CH, Tyler M,  
Summer-Leigh J, Atlanta C,  
Faith Y, Harry G,  
Ibrahim K, Myles C, Levi C,  
Don-Divin N, Jacob J,  
Eva-Rose S, Isla W,  
Rosie E, Yara S

## CHRISTIAN VALUE

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

## BIBLE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Let all that you do be done in love.*  
**Corinthians 16:14**



## MEASLES OUTBREAK

Due to recent outbreaks of measles elsewhere in the UK, The UK Health Security Agency has advised that it is likely that we will see measles cases in Greater Manchester.

Measles is highly infectious and can cause serious health consequences. The MMR vaccine is a safe and effective way to protect from measles, mumps and rubella. Please check that your child has had their MMR vaccines, and if unsure speak to their GP. More information can be found on the leaflets below.

## UNIFORM

When children have PE, children are expected to arrive at school in full uniform. They will change into their PE kits before the lesson and change back into their uniform after the lesson.

## REMINDERS

- Friday 16th February - School closes for half term.
- Monday 26th February - School re-opens at 8:40 am.
- Tues 27th & Wed 28th February - Parent Consultations (face to face). Booking forms have been sent out via text. Forms close on Sunday evening 9th Feb. Reminder text will be sent out over the weekend.
- Wed 28th February - Book Fair begins for a week.
- Monday 4th March - KS2 SATs Meeting @ 2:45 pm.
- Friday 8th March - World Book Day

## ATTENDANCE

**OUR TARGET IS 96%**

<b>Whole School</b>	<b>88.3%</b>
Class 1	91.3%
Class 2	89.4%
Class 3	77.8%
Class 4	95.4%
Class 5	88.8%
Class 6	89.9%
Class 7	88.0%
Class 8	83.8%
Class 9	96.0%
Class 10	81.0%
Class 11	92.7%

Green: 100% - 95%

Yellow: 94.9% - 90%

Red: Below 90%



@stjamesfarnworth

# MEASLES

## Don't let your child catch it

– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible\*
- if you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

\*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.



# Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

## Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

## When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

## Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

## Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

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For more information about measles and MMR go to [www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/)

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MONKEY

AGE RESTRICTION  
**17+**

(although the lack of age verification means that someone younger could easily log in with a false date of birth)

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.



### IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of 'Knock Knock chat' (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.



### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.



### INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.



## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers; that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.



### RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.



### REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is 'self-governing.' If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the 'police' emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.



### SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indications that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.



### 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.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday