



St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

7.10.22

#4

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in collecting food for the Harold Hill Foodbank. This food will be used to complete packs that provide three days' worth of nutritional food for local people in crisis. If you would like to continue supporting the Harold Hill Foodbank, please click on the following link: <https://haroldhill.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/> If you are a family that are in need of support from the Harold Hill Foodbank, contact Mrs Walsh (Home School Support Worker), who will be able to discuss the support options available.

We continue our charity work on Monday 10th October, where we will be celebrating World Mental Health Day through Young Minds #HelloYellow campaign.

Pupils and Staff are asked to wear something yellow to show young people that how they feel matters. As we have already asked for charity donations this half-term, the school will be making a donation on behalf of community; however, if you wish to donate, please send it via SchoolComms. There is no expectation for parents to purchase new yellow clothing for their children—it can be as simple as wearing yellow socks, a yellow headband or a yellow badge!

We are excited to announce that the money raised during last year's #HelloYellow day is being used to create a 'Calm Room' at St Ursula's. This room will be a place for pupils to remove themselves from the hustle and bustle of the school day and take part in wellbeing activities. This room will be opened in Autumn Term 2. I look forward to sharing more news on this room in the coming weeks! Mr Ashburn

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS DURING ASSEMBLIES—ARE THEY ALLOWED?

The question is often asked as to whether parents/carers can take photographs or make video recordings of assemblies and similar school events. It is for the school to decide whether to allow videos or photographs to be taken and at St Ursula's we do allow this and this has been the practice in the past. We want our families to record these special memories; however, for this to continue, I ask that parents/carers use their photos and videos correctly.

Parents/carers are not permitted to take photographs or to make video recordings for anything other than their own personal use. You would not, for example, be permitted to share these on the internet or social media. Sharing via the internet or Social Media would require the consent of all the other parents/carers whose children may be included in the images or video.

When taking photos and videos, please be considerate of the parent behind you whose view you may be impeding.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITIES AND CAROL SERVICE—PUT THEM IN YOUR DIARIES!

Nursery Nativity—Wednesday 14th December 2022 @ 2:00pm in Key Stage 1 Hall

Reception, Year 1 & 2 Nativity—Thursday 15th December 2022 @ 9:30am in St Dominic's

Key Stage 2 Carol Service—Friday 16th December 2022 @ 1:30pm in St Dominic's

PARENTS' EVENING BOOKING SYSTEM CLOSES ON SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER @ 4:00PM



It has been reported to the school that cars have been seen stopping on Straight Road with multiple pupils inside but clearly not enough seats, meaning that not all children in the vehicle are wearing a seat belt. Please support us in teaching our children the importance of road safety and to the small minority please put your child's safety before convenience.

Attendance TOP FIVE

1	St Edmund's	99.56%
2	St Matthew's	99.17%
3	St Thomas'	99.14%
4	St Jude's	98.75%
5	St Paul's	97.50%
5	St John's	97.05%

BREAKFAST CLUB

The Breakfast Club is open. To book a place for your child/ren please use our Schoolcomms booking system. If you require any help or guidance with this booking system, please contact the school office on 01708 345200.

WITH God
AT THE
heart
OF OUR
St Ursula's
family
WE WELCOME
ALL AS WE
learn
AND GROW
TOGETHER

10 tips for parents and carers

HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper – often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers?
Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

1 DONATE THEM TO CHARITY

There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in the UK or in developing nations. If your old products are still working, this is a great option – as it means that new products don't have to be made. Search online for your nearest place that does this.

2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES

Almost all batteries can be recycled – even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though – button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.

3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE

If you're recycling, selling or repurposing any of your devices, make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.

4 REUSE THEM

Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone.

5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW

Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's quite easy to create a new computer – you could use an old TV as a monitor, meaning you just need a mouse and keyboard. There are also small devices you can buy which let you do the same with iPhones.

6 RETURN THEM

Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back, to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.

7 SUPPORT SCIENCE

Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.

8 SELL THEM

This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.

9 RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS

If your device is beyond repair and no one wants it, get rid of it safely through a specialist tech disposal company. Check that your device won't be shipped off to another country for processing.

10 KEEP THINKING

There's no such thing as 'too many' ways to help our planet! If you come up with a better idea than ours, contact National Online Safety and tell us.

Meet Our Expert

Nell Atkin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: www.rubbishscience.com.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

USEFUL LINKS: Places to donate old electrical items: www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk/donate-electrical-goods | How to turn an old smartphone into a computer: www.makuseed.com/tag/ways-to-turn-smartphone-into-pc
The rules about shop responsibilities on tech: www.gov.uk/electrical-waste-producer-supplier-responsibilities | Two scientific research schemes which old devices can support: www.zooniverse.org/get-involved and www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/streamlab | Find your local tech recycling centre: www.recyclenow.com