



# St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

#16

Dear Parents and Carers,

I was delighted to welcome parents and carers back in to school last week for our Curriculum Celebration Afternoon. The school building had definitely regained its buzz and it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces of parents, and children eager to share the fantastic work they have produced.

Below are some of the photos taken of the CLC/Art exhibition that took place in the KS2 Hall, during the Curriculum Celebration Afternoon. The children have enjoyed working on creative projects and it was a joy to see the great work completed at home!



### PARENT & CARER SURVEY

Your feedback is very important to us. Thank you to those who took the time to complete the survey. We will be using your responses to see where we can further develop on what we are already providing. It is always wonderful to read the positive comments but also important that we see where we can improve from a parent/carers perspective. The deadline for returning the survey has now passed (Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April) and feedback has now been collated.

### YEAR 6 SATS WEEK

Year 6 SATs will be taking place from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> until Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May. During this week, Year 6 children will be able to arrive at school **8:20am** where we will be providing hot chocolate, juice and toast in the KS2 hall. We hope this will make the week less stressful and provide children with a good breakfast and a chance to chat to their friends, before beginning the school day.

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling test: Paper 1 English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling test: Paper 2 (Spelling)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Reading Comprehension
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Maths paper 1: ARITHMETIC Maths paper 2: REASONING 1
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Maths paper 3: REASONING 2

### PARENT AND CARER WORKSHOPS

Our parent phonics workshop, led by Helen Dawes (Specialist Teacher Assessor: English Skills for Life and Family Learning) finished before half term. Helen was extremely impressed with the engagement of those who attended and stated: *"I have to say, they were a really fabulous group – so committed, interactive, interested and supportive of one another. A real joy to teach them."*

Feedback from parents was also very positive:

*"Very insightful and helpful, my children will definitely benefit from the knowledge I have gained."*

*"I am more knowledgeable at helping my son with learning how to read and recognise sounds. It will have a positive impact on me as I will be able to help him."*

Raising Confident Children Parent workshop began on Tuesday (26th April) and will run until 24th May (5 weeks), from 9am-11am at St Ursula's.

Kind regards, *Mr Ashburn*

### Attendance TOP FIVE

1	St. Margaret's	100%
2	St. Martin's	97.50%
3	St. Luke's	97.41%
4	St. Anne's	97.32%
5	St. Teresa's	97.08%

### SUMMER TERM DATES

- 2nd May: Bank Holiday - School closed
- 5th May: Polling Day - School closed
- 9th –12th May: Key Stage 2 SATs
- 13th May: Crowning of Mary
- 16th—19th May: Key Stage 1 SATs
- 20th May: Class photos
- 23rd May-25th May: Parent Phone Consultations
- 27th May: Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic
- 30th May - 3rd June: Half Term
- 7th –10th June: Year 6 Residential
- 20th—23rd June: Sports Week
- 1st July: Bouncy Castle Day
- 6th July: Year 6 Leavers' Mass
- 7th July: Year 6 Leavers' production & Year 6 Leavers' Disco
- 11th July: Class Transition Day
- 14th July: Curriculum Celebration Afternoon and End of Year reports sent out
- 22nd July: Start of School Holidays

\*More dates to be added\*

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.



**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

## SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

## DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

## ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

## POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

## CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

## LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and easy way to let people know where you are." It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

**CLICK HERE**

## CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.



## EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.



## REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.



## LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.



## THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.



## DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.



## CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.



## Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



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