

St Wilfrid's News



October 2025

Tuesday 21st October School Dress up day and AUTUMN DISCO!! £2 donation

For our Autumn term disco this year we are doing things a little differently. Children from Nursery-Y6 are to come to school in fancy dress/own clothes for fancy dress day.

Nursery, Reception and Y1 will have a disco on the afternoon and will go home at the end of the school day (3.30pm) Y2-Y6 can stay in school for disco 3.30-5pm.

Children not wanting to stay for the disco will go home at 3.30pm from their usual door.

Children attending the disco will remain in class ready for the disco.

We are asking for a donation of £2 for each child, this will allow them to get a selection of treats during the disco and no extra spending money will be needed.

Year 2-6's Disco will finish at 5pm.

Become a School Governor

We have a vacancy on our school governing committee and are looking for committed parents to join our governing body. Being a school governor is a rewarding way to contribute to the success of our school and help shape the future of our children's education. Governors support the leadership team and representing the views of the wider school community. No specific qualifications are needed - just a willingness to get involved, ask questions, and work collaboratively. If you're interested in making a positive impact and gaining valuable experience, or would like some more information about the role, please contact Miss Sands.

Attendance

It is really important that your child is in school on time everyday. We have sent 49 letters home this term so far warning families that their children's attendance has fallen below 90%. Most of these children's attendance has improved but, if you received a warning letter and it doesn't improve we will be contacting you for a meeting to discuss it. This may start a more official support process. Attached to this newsletter are some posters reminding you of the consequences of missing school.

Zig Zag Lines

DO NOT DROP CHILDREN OFF ON THE ZIG ZAG LINES. We will be taking note of number plates and passing them onto the police. Pass this message onto anyone who drops off at school.

Please make sure your children cross the road safely – do not let them out onto the road.

Free Breakfast Club

Open every day, doors open 7.45am. Food is served until 8.20am. No need to book.

Chill Out Club

After school care is available everyday 3.30-5.15pm. Please contact the office to book a place. £5 per family.

Uniform

Reminder – trainers are not part of school uniform. Children should wear black school shoes.

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDS NAME IS MARKED IN EVERY ITEM OF CLOTHING.

PE Kit

Year 1-6 on PE day- come to school in PE kit. Every child should wear the correct kit, a plain white T-Shirt, black leggings or joggers and trainers. They can wear school jumper or cardigan on top.

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Water bottles

Children in Years 1-6 should bring a water bottle to school. This is for water not juice.

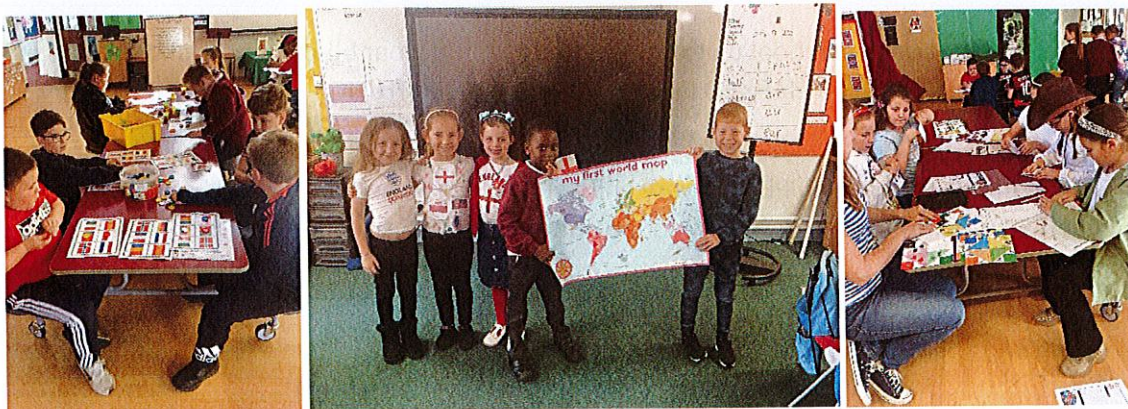
Packed lunches and snacks

Please think about what is in your child's lunch box and morning snack. We try to encourage healthy eating. Appropriate morning snack – fruit or a cereal bar. **Not sweets and chocolate.**

Diary Dates	
Some details may change over time – keep up to date on Dojo	
29 th Sept-23 rd October	Collecting for local Foodbank all month
Wednesday 15 th October	Mass in School Hall 10am
Friday 24 th October	School Closed for Staff training
HALF TERM	27 th October – 31 st October school closed
10 th – 14 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 14 th November	Children In Need Day
17 th & 18 th November	Parents evenings – further details and appointments will be sent out closer to the date.
Friday 21 st November	Youth Friday Assembly – 2.30pm in hall, all welcome
Sunday 23 rd November	Family Mass - St Mary's Church, 11am
Monday 8 th December	Year 3 & 4 Nativity Play
Tuesday 9 th December	Years 5 & 6 Carols in church
Thursday 11 th December	Years 1 & 2 Carols in school
Friday 12 th December	First Steps Christmas performance Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner
Sunday 14 th December	Family Mass - St Mary's Church, 11am
Tuesday 16 th December	Years 3 & 4 Party
Wednesday 17 th December	Years 5 & 6 Party
Thursday 18 th December	First Steps and Years 1 & 2 parties
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term. Christmas Assembly 2.30pm all welcome.
Monday 5 th January 2026	First day of new term

Languages Day

We had a great day celebrating languages from around the world. Mrs Kinsey organised some wonderful activities for everyone to enjoy in the hall and the children did work in their classes aswell.



Online Safety Newsletter

Oct 2025

Risks of using AI for mental health

AI chatbots and wellness apps are becoming increasingly popular, which may lead to your child accessing them to support their mental health.

What should I be concerned about?

- The information/advice given may not always be accurate.
- Privacy concerns of how data is collected and used.
- Children may use these apps rather than seeking help from an adult.

What can I do?

- Chat to your child regularly about what apps and websites they are using and why.
- Remind them AI is a tool and not a substitute for qualified professionals who provide tailored advice/support.
- Talk to them about how they should fact check information.
- Check age ratings.

Further information

<https://stigmafreementalhealth.com/blog/supporting-youth-mental-health-with-ai-a-guide-for-parents-and-caregivers/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleylcs.org.uk/october-2025/>

YouTube

YouTube is one of the most popular platforms, available across many different devices - phones, tablets and Smart TVs etc. **YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13**, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/ guardian. There are different options available to access YouTube, depending on your child's age:



1. YouTube Kids – a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).

2. Supervised accounts – a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:

- **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+
- **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything except for videos marked as 18+.

Find out more: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

What do I need to be aware of?

Whilst YouTube can be educational and fun, it is important to be aware of the potential risks, such as:

- **Inappropriate content**
- **Excessive Screen time** – particularly due to the autoplay feature.
- **Unwanted contact / cyberbullying** – particularly via comments if your child is sharing videos.
- **Algorithms** – algorithms influence what we see to keep us engaged. This can lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.
- **Adverts** that may not be aimed at or suitable for your child's age.

What can I do?

- Set up appropriate parental controls.
- Show your child the reporting and blocking tools available.
- Watch YouTube together or supervise use.

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/>

WhatsApp

WhatsApp is incredibly popular with young people and is used for group chats, voice messages and video calls. **Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp.**

We frequently receive reports of children using WhatsApp inappropriately, such as sharing images to embarrass others, sending hurtful messages, spreading rumours, or excluding people from group chats to make them feel left out. Since WhatsApp lacks parental controls, it is important to think about whether it is really the right platform for your child. For example, you should consider if your child has the critical thinking skills to recognise bullying. Furthermore, do they understand how to manage peer pressure and refrain from joining in on hurtful behaviour?

What should I be aware of if my child is using WhatsApp?

- **Group chats:** Everyone within a group, even if they are not one of your child's contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat.
- **Inappropriate content:** users can be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age.
- **Location sharing:** talk to your child about the potential danger of sharing their location.
- **Chat lock/secret code:** users can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting so a chat does not appear in the main chat.
- **Screentime due to addictive nature**
- **AI:** WhatsApp includes Meta AI.

What can I do?

- Check privacy settings, for example check who can add them to groups.
- Ensure your child understands that they can leave a chat at any time, Find out more here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/424124173736394>
- Show your child how to block and report other users. Find out how here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>
- Use parental controls such as screentime controls or do not disturb to reduce alerts.
- Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be received by others. Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.
- Chat to your child about the groups that they belong to.

Further information

Find out more here:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zc8vxg8>
- https://faq.whatsapp.com/773166357950949?helpref=faq_content

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Italian Brainrot

Have you heard of Italian Brainrot? It is a viral trend consisting of AI generated characters featuring in memes and videos. It originally started on TikTok but can now be seen on other platform such as YouTube and Instagram. There are also lots of spinoff content including a game on Roblox.

Whilst the content is generally nonsensical and children will find some of it funny, some content can include inappropriate/offensive language and content that might not be suitable for your child's age.

iOS 26

Apple have released their new operating system – iOS 26. Protect Young Eyes have published an article detailing the changes relating to your child's safety, including content filtering in Safari. Find out more here:

<https://www.protectyouneyes.com/blog-articles/a-parents-guide-to-ios-26>

Managing Digital Spending

Parent Zone have created a guide to help teach your child how to manage their online spending. You can read it here:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/managing-digital-spending-guide-parents>

ADHD, Screen Time, and Healthy Boundaries

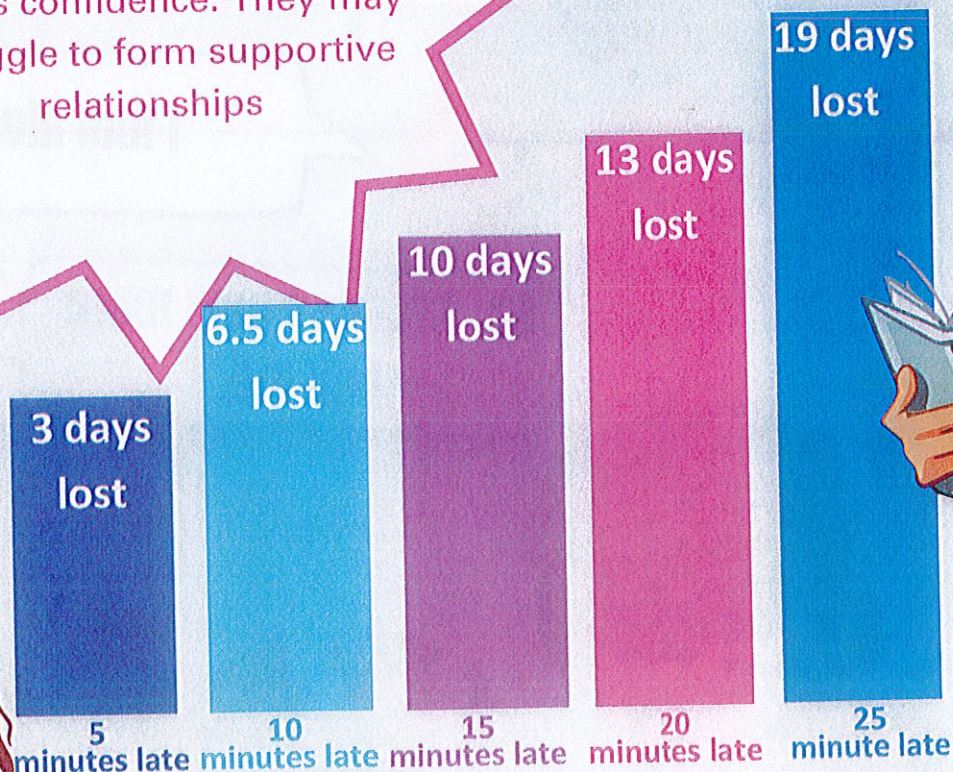
Bark have created this guide for parents of children with ADHD to support you in helping your child create a healthy relationship with technology. You can access it here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/adhd-kid-and-tech/>

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING

Did you know?

Poor attendance and punctuality can impact on a child's confidence. They may struggle to form supportive relationships



EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS
EVERY MINUTE IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT...

ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW

I miss my friends...



Everyone stares at
me...



I am always
behind...



I feel alone....



My friends know more
than me...



I hate being late
for school



'You can get a lot of things
back, but you can't get back
the time you have missed...'

This can lead to missed
opportunities, missed
learning and feeling like you
have missed out..

