



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 16th December 2022



Dear Parents,

This week we were fortunate to watch the last two of our nativity productions, performed by Year 3 and Year 4 children, which were amazing and such a lovely atmosphere. Thank you to all the parents who joined in with Feliz Navidad, you were superstars.

Year 1 & 2 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Santa's Winter Wonderland at the Snow Dome on Monday. Nursery & Reception had a lovely time at the Belgrade Theatre watching Santa's Christmas Rescue on Tuesday.

We are fortunate to have been able to help the Coventry Cyrenians with chocs and socks which were delivered to the Cyrenians yesterday and you have all helped local people with the Coventry Foodbank. Thank you for your support.

On behalf of all the staff

We wish you a very Happy and Holy Christmas and may 2023 bring you Joy, Good Health and Happiness



Many thanks for the lovely gifts and your thoughtfulness. We really appreciate your kindness. We hope you take time this holiday to thank God for the many blessings in our lives and share the wonder of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I hope you find time to visit Church and celebrate Jesus' birth at the many Masses being celebrated around Coventry.

Don't forget to track Santa

<https://www.noradsanta.org/en/>





Nursery Applications for September 2023

We are inviting parents to apply for Nursery places for September 2023. Please note the closing date is 15th January 2023. Applications for full time or part time (Monday to Friday mornings or afternoons) are welcome. If you have any friends or relatives with children who will be starting Nursery next September please ask them to contact school as soon as possible for an application form.

SJV Owls Club

We are pleased to advise that we have additional places available in our SJV Owls Club which provides before and after school care for the children of St John Vianney School. The charges for Owls Club are as follows:

Morning session - 7.30 to 8.30 a.m. - £4.75 (includes a light breakfast)

Afternoon session - 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. - £4.75 (includes a snack)

Late afternoon session - 3.15 to 5.30 p.m. - £7.50 (includes a snack)

If you are interested in your child attending Owls Club and would like more information please email owls@sjv.coventry.sch.uk or phone the school office.



SJV Owls Activity Club

Owls Club are now also offering after school sessions starting in the New Year as follows:

Maximum number in the group 30. Activities are open to all children in school from Nursery to Year 6

Monday 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. - **Lego Club** – play with Lego and use Lego interactive with the school computers



Tuesday 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. - **Computer Club** - Bee-bots, computers and tablets

Wednesday 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. – **Art Club**



Thursday 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. - **Games night** - Bingo, cards, dominoes, board games

Friday 3.15 - 4:15 p.m. - **Homework club**- reading and support with homework

Sessions will be charged at £4.75 per session payable via Arbor.

Pupils can sign up for a monthly block of sessions but also choose to do the other activities in Owls club if they prefer. If your child would like to sign up for any of these sessions please email owls@sjv.coventry.sch.uk for more information and an application form.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games.

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'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

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CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like systemrequirementslab.com can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or PlayStation games won't play on older consoles.

MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnight rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

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STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



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Stars of the Week

Nursery	Tommy, Max
Reception	Ray, Sienna
Year 1	Caolan, Macie
Year 2	Wendy, Conor
Year 3	Leo W, Emily
Year 4	Bethany, Noah
Year 5	Elizabeth, Troy
Year 6	Eva, Neave



Reading Books



Reading books to be brought into school on Tuesdays and Fridays.



Starting Primary School in September 2023

Children born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 can start school in September 2023. For more information about school admissions and to apply online at www.coventry.gov.uk/admissions. Telephone 02476 831622/1613. Closing date for applications is **15th January 2023**.

Please note: If you wish to apply to a Catholic school and your child is baptised Catholic evidence of your child's baptism must be provided at the time of application to the school office or to the Admissions Team. It is your responsibility to obtain and present this evidence.

Starting Nursery School in September 2023

Application forms and information are available from the school office for parents wishing to apply for their child to start in Nursery in September 2023. Children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 can start Nursery in September 2023.

Closing date for applications is **15th January 2023**.

Please note: If you wish to apply to a Catholic school and your child is baptised Catholic evidence of your child's baptism must be provided at the time of application to the school office. It is your responsibility to obtain and present this evidence.

Building Fund Contributions to the school building fund are now due for the Autumn Term (£10.00 per child or £15.00 per family) or for the whole school year (£30.00 per child or £45.00 per family).

Please make your donations via Arbor.



Dates may be subject to change – please check your emails regularly

Monday, 2nd January

Bank holiday - school closed

Tuesday, 3rd January

Children return to school

Wednesday, 4th January

Guitar Tuition

Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights

Thursday, 5th January

Piano Tuition

Creative Flair Dance - Year 3 & 4 - 12.00 to 12.30 p.m. & Year 1 & 2 - lunchtime

Mini-Tennis - Year 5 & 6 - 7.45 to 8.30 a.m.

Friday, 6th January



Future Dates

Monday 9th January

- Reception Vision Screening

Sunday 15th January

- closing date for Nursery & Reception 2023 applications

Thursday 12th January

- Boys football match - home v Our Lady of the Assumption School

- Netball match - home v St Thomas More School

Don't forget to follow us @sjohnvianney and you can also see our twitter feed on our website.

Please follow us on our main Twitter account: SJV@sjohnvianney

And then also follow your child's phase as seen below:

Year 5 and 6

SJVupper

Year 3 and 4

SJVmiddle

Year 1 and 2

SJVlower

Reception Class (EYFS)

SJVEYFS

Owls Club follow - @OwlsClubSJV



Facebook - SJV PTA have a Facebook page. If you would like to have access and be added to the page, simply search 'Sjv pta' and submit your request, one of the current members will see your request and add you accordingly.

