



St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 10th November 2023



Dear parents,

“Wisdom is kind and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good.” St James

God loves us and sent Jesus to help us to grow in wisdom. Loving our neighbour as ourselves is a powerful way to show that we are growing in wisdom. Wisdom is a real treasure, a virtue for us to nurture. True wisdom is discovering what God wants us to do, then trying our best to do it. It's about using knowledge well – having good judgement.



Congratulations to Year 6 who led a beautiful assembly on Remembrance this week. It was wonderful to hear them sing Imagine and We will remember them. Great work Year 6! Thank you Mrs Holmes, Mrs Cook and Miss Gosling for your hard work behind the scenes.

We wish Year 6 all the best as they head off to Dol Y Moch this weekend. We wish them every joy and hope they make lots of memories. Thank you to Mrs Holmes, Mr Carroll, Mrs Cook and Mrs Halls for giving their time to make this a fabulous experience for all pupils. Unfortunately, due to my ill health, I won't be able to join them this year but just like the parents I will be watching twitter closely. I hope that you will all do the Dol y Moch dive. Good Luck Year 6!



Any donations of toys and games in good condition would be greatly appreciated by SJV Owls Club. Thank you!



SJV Owls Club

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. - £5.00 (includes a light breakfast)

Afternoon session - 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. - £5.00 (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 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 £5.00 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.

Late Collection

If you are more than 10 minutes late collecting your child at the end of the school day, they will be put into Owls Club and you will be invoiced for the session.

Free School Meals

If you think that you may qualify for free school meals, even if your child is in KS1 or does not want to receive school meals, please take the time to apply as the school will receive additional funding if you qualify.

Please apply at: **Free School Meals – Coventry City Council**

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Stars of the Week

Nursery Yllon, Orla

Reception Poppy, Isla

Year 1 Eva, Karter

Year 2 Jasleen, Rowan

Year 3 Valentino, Ruby C

Year 4 Anella, Chloe

Year 5 Bethany, Atticus, Mia, Jenson

Year 6 Eirinn, Lexi



Reminder:

We are a nut free school, please do not pack any nuts in your child's lunchbox.



Reading Books

Reading books to be brought into school everyday



Nursery Places for January 2024

We have limited places available for Nursery starting in January 24. Children must be 3 by 31st December. Please email adminstaff@sjv.coventry.sch.uk for more information and an application pack.

Starting Nursery School in September 2024

Application forms and information are available from the school office for parents wishing to apply for their child to start in Nursery in September 2024. Children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 can start Nursery in September 2024.

There will be an open evening for parents wishing to apply for their child to start nursery in September 2024 on Monday 20th November 3.45-4.15 p.m.

Starting Primary School in September 2024

Children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 can start school in September 2024. 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 2024**.

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.

Site Services Officer Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Site Services Officer. Please visit the school website for more information. The closing date is 20th November.

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).



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

Monday, 13th November

Choir - KS2 - Lunch

Dance - KS2 - 3.15 to 4.00 p.m.

Tuesday, 14th November

Running Club - Year 3/4 - 8.00 to 8.30 a.m. - **CANCELLED**

Dodgeball - Year 5 - 12.30-2.30 p.m.

Recorder Club - KS2 - 3.15 to 4.00 p.m.

Boys Football Squad - Years 5 & 6 - 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. - **CANCELLED**

Wednesday, 15th November

Mini-Tennis - Year 3/4 - 7.45 to 8.30 a.m.

Running Club - Year 5/6 - 8.00 to 8.30 a.m.

Guitar Tuition

Dance - Year 1/2 - 3.15 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Girls Football Squad - Year 5/6 - 3.15 to 4.15 p.m.

Thursday, 16th November

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

Piano Tuition

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

Creative Flair Dance - Year 1 & 2 - 12.30 to 1.00 p.m.

Hockey - Year 5 - 3.15 to 4.15 p.m.

Netball Squad - Years 5 & 6 - 3.15 to 4.00 p.m. - **NEW FINISH TIME**

Friday, 17th November

TEACHER TRAINING DAY



Future Dates

Tuesday 14th November

Thursday 16th November

Thursday 16th November

Saturday 18th November

Monday 20th November

Thursday 23rd November

Thursday 23rd November

Friday 24th November

Thursday 30th November

- Netball match - home v Christ The King– **POSTPONED**
- Reception Starters 2024 - Open Morning 9.00-10.00
- Boys football match - away v St Augustine
- Year 3 Mass of Commitment & Year 4 Prayer Partners
- Nursery Open Afternoon 3.45 - 4.15 p.m.
- Non Uniform Day for return of Wolf Run Money
- Boys football match - home v Holy Family
- School Photos
- Year 2 Inspire Workshop

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

Please follow us on our Twitter account: SJV@sjohnvianney
For 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.

