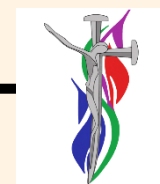




# ST JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC PRIMARY



WEEKLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## WEDNESDAY WORD

In this Sunday’s Gospel, we read that God loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us. Jesus’ great act of love, of self-giving, on the cross, has paved the way for people to share in the true richness of God’s joy and love in this life, and also in the life to come. God wants us to try to live like Jesus, to be ‘self-giving’, which is the opposite of being ‘selfish’. To be ‘self-giving’ is to be very aware of others’ needs or interests, and to put others’ needs before our own.

## KEY DATES

23rd Sept Yr6 reading Café with a visit from Bishop Ullathorne staff.

25th Sept Bishop Ullathorne Open Evening

26th Sept Whole school Harvest Mass

29th sept PTA meeting 3:30 after school

24th Oct Wolf Run raising money for playground equipment

### Well done to the Stars of the week

Nursery	Max & Eva
Reception	Arlo & Ivy
Year 1	Kam & George
Year 2	Isla & Lenny
Year 3	Chelsea & Ray
Year 4	Laura & Masie
Year 5	Evelyn & Mekhi
Year 6	Harrison & Leo
Sports	Albie in reception & Olivia Rose Y4



## SCHOOL MASS

Whole school Mass

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 6pm





## Next week

Yr 5 have their Inspire workshop. We encourage and welcome parents and family to participate and Mrs Boyle from Bishop Ullathorne will be attending to meet with the parents.

Non uniform day – Friday

Please bring £1 for CAFOD and tins or packets of food to celebrate the Harvest. Food will be donated to the local Food Bank. Please feel free to contact school should you require a food parcel.

Parking

Please remember to park considerately. Do not park across people's drives and please do not park close to the school gates. Please use the Church car park or park a little further away from school and walk. Please be considerate to our neighbours



## SAFEGUARDING AT SJV

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

##### SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include features accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

##### GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another player's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by stealing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

##### ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away if your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gamifying loop of resource gathering and building impressive projects. It could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

##### PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, so they're encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry a certain risk. In addition to the concerns about speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

##### ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms, which is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

#### CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

#### HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

#### TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as it having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

#### RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

#### PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to learn to construct and build things accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork, however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

#### Meet Our Expert

Uytd Coombe is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 8 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.





## ENRICHMENT CLUBS BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

### DIARY DATES FOR SUMMER 2025

#### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

Netball Squad Trials

Dance – KS2 – 3.15pm-4.00pm

Choir – KS2 - Lunchtime

#### **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

Recorder Club KS2 – 3.15-4.00 p.m.

Boys football squad trials

#### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Mini Tennis Years 3 and 4 – 7.45-8.30 a.m.

Running Club Key Stage 2 – 8.00 – 8.30 a.m.

Guitar Tuition

Dance Year KS 1 – 3.15-4.00 p.m.

Girls football squad trials

#### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

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

Piano Tuition









Cricket – KS2 – 3.15pm-4.00pm



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## ATTENDANCE SJV

EYFS and KS1		KS2	
Class Name	Weekly Attendance	Class Name	Weekly Attendance
Nursery	100% 	Year 3	100% 
Reception	100% 	Year 4	97.92% 
Year 1	99.18% 	Year 5	100% 
Year 2	99.63% 	Year 6	99.31% 

### Children arriving late to school:

Please be advised that if your child is late to school, children must be signed in by a parent/carer.