

The Early Bird



'I have come in order that you might have life – Life in all its fullness.' John 10:10

Dear parents and carers,

An amazing performance from year 6 children last night. So much talent in the room and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. Though we will hear more about them in the final newsletter.

We have some wonderful news as a school. We have gained 2 achievements.

The Bronze ARC Award. This relates to the work we do on supporting pupil's emotionally. This is an essential achievement and the staff skills will support all of our children.

We are now also an **Oracy Centre of Excellence**. We are 1 of only 67 schools in the country to achieve this award this year, so we are very proud of the team and children on gaining this national recognition. At St. John's we believe oracy is a key foundation skill to all learning across the curriculum.

Lots of learning still taking place next week, including some exciting visits out of school for our year 1 & 2 children, who will be visiting the Ancient High House in Stafford.

One week to go. Keep getting to school on time and the team look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the picnic on Monday afternoon.

Stay safe in the sunshine.

Mrs Bowyer
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Monday 13th - Family Picnic (12 Noon)

Thursday 16th - Y6 Leavers' Party (5pm-6.30pm)

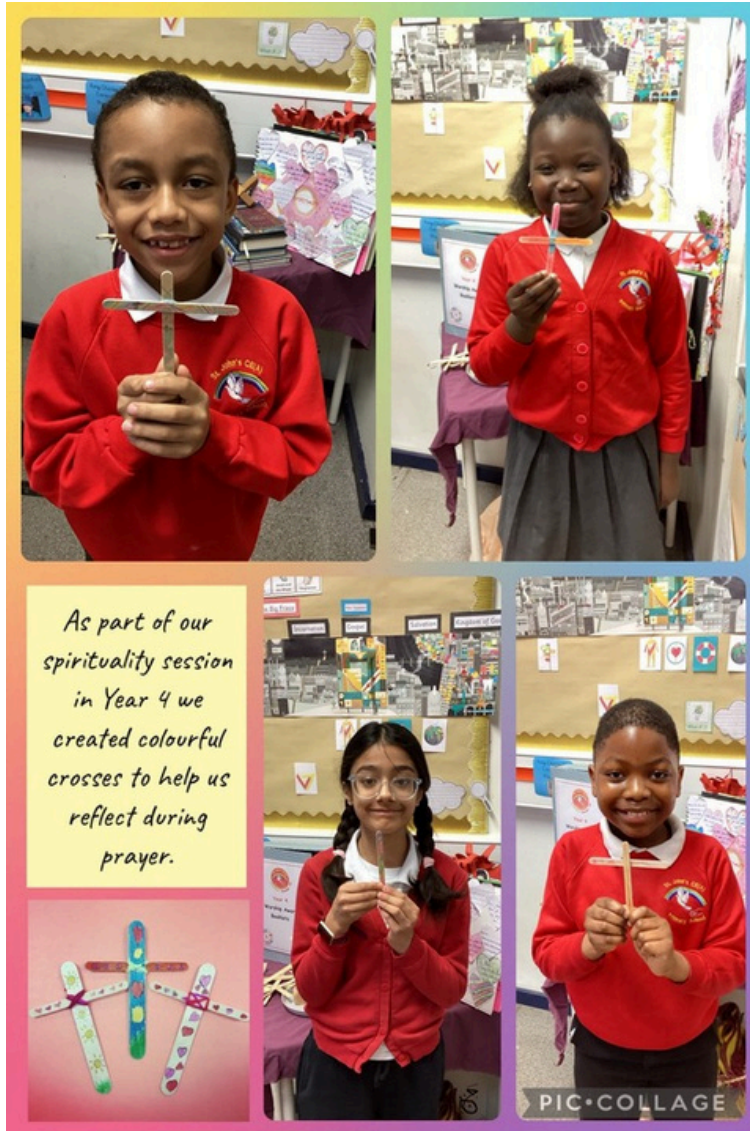
Friday 17th - Y6 Leavers' Worship & Awards (9am)

Friday 17th - school closes for summer (3.10pm)

Pupils return to school
Wednesday 2nd September 2026
8.30am

Dedication - Courage - Joy

Spiritual MOMENTS



***Our Year 4 children have been exploring spirituality in class.
As a meaningful part of our session, the children created
beautiful, colourful crosses to help them focus and reflect
during prayer.
We are so proud of their creativity and the thoughtful
conversations they shared!***

Spiritual MOMENTS



In our spirituality session about Britain at War, we reflected on the challenges people faced during World War II and discussed the courage, hope and resilience they showed.

We completed a lollipop stick activity where we annotated the feelings people may have experienced during the war and the qualities they needed to overcome difficult times. We then used our decorated lolly sticks to create crosses, reminding us of faith, hope and strength in times of hardship.

This activity encouraged us to think about how we can support others, be grateful for what we have, and be peacemakers in our own lives.

Some thoughtful and reflective discussion throughout the whole topic Year 5/6, well done.

FAMILY SUPPORT AND WORKSHOPS

DIAMOND FAMILIES
Together we create sparkle!

It takes a village to raise a child

We're here for you and your family, every step of the way.

Our supportive workshops and services are designed to strengthen families, build confidence and create brighter futures together.

WE OFFER SUPPORT WITH:

- Parenting support
- Emotional wellbeing
- Behaviour strategies
- Family routines and structure
- Building confidence and resilience
- Accessing services and resources
- Peer support and connection
- And much more!

OUR WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:

- Positive Parenting
- Emotional Wellbeing
- Children's Development
- Communication Skills
- Family Fun Days
- And many more!

Stronger families. Happier children. Brighter futures.

GET IN TOUCH WITH KAREN OR EMMA
OUR FAMILY SPECIALISTS

www.diamond-families.org.uk

"It takes a village to raise a child"

SATURDAY WELLIES CLUB!

DIAMOND FAMILIES
Together we create sparkle!

Get outdoors. Get involved. Have fun!

1ST & 3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00 - 12.00

8-16 YEARS

WHAT WE DO:

- Learn new skills
- Help care for animals
- Get outdoors
- Make new friends

Join the fun, learn, explore and make a difference!

WELLIES ON. ADVENTURE ON!

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD CLUB

DIAMOND FAMILIES
Together we create sparkle!

HAF funded SUMMER SESSIONS

- Fun activities & new skills
- Healthy meals & snacks
- Make new friends
- Build confidence & self-esteem
- Outdoor fun, creative play & wellbeing

A Summer to remember!

HAF FUNDING MEANS FREE places for eligible children!

BOOK ONLINE: www.eequ.org

Places are limited - book today!

Active. Healthy. Happy. Together.

BESPOKE OUTREACH SESSIONS

DIAMOND FAMILIES
Together we create sparkle!

Tailored support for adults or children

Meaningful, therapeutic sessions designed around your individual needs.

SESSIONS CAN HELP WITH:

- Emotional wellbeing
- Building confidence
- Social skills and connection
- Stress and anxiety support
- Personal growth and development

ART THERAPY

NATURE THERAPY

ANIMAL THERAPY

ONE TO ONE OR SMALL GROUP SESSIONS DELIVERED BY OUR TRAINED COACHES

- TAILORED TO YOU**
Sessions built around your needs, goals and interests.
- FLEXIBLE & ACCESSIBLE**
At home, in the community or at a setting that suits you.
- SUPPORTIVE & SAFE**
A calm, caring approach in a safe environment.
- EXPERIENCED & QUALIFIED**
Delivered by our trained and passionate coaches.

LET'S CREATE POSITIVE CHANGE TOGETHER

For more information or to book a session:



READ to the BEAT

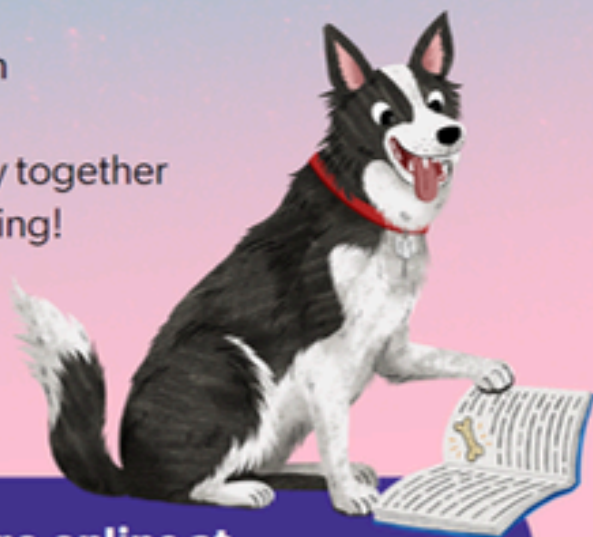
Help Your Child Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme, **Read to the Beat**, and is powered by Universal Music Group UK. The Challenge will celebrate the joy of music and the power it has to move, inspire, and connect us – all through the magic of reading. The Challenge is being brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate.

Why join?

- It's FREE! Available at local libraries and online
- Inspires a lifelong love of reading
- Boosts confidence, creativity, and imagination
- Earn rewards, certificates, and prizes
- Fun for the whole family. Visit your local library together
- 95% of children said they read more after joining!
- Children choose their own books to read, collect rewards over the summer and receive a certificate or medal when they complete the challenge.



Visit your local library or go online at
summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
to get started from 4 July 2026.

Help your child start their reading adventure today!

Tales in the Park

2026

Taking part in six local parks, these accessible storytelling festivals make the perfect day out for families with children aged 0-13 (but everyone's welcome!). That means the fun is right on your doorstep this summer holiday.

You'll be treated to storytelling, pop-up sports, crafts, circus skills, a bouncy castle, and so much more. Hopefully, your family will make some happy memories to cherish together this summer and beyond.

Every child will also be gifted a free book to take home and enjoy, kindly gifted by Harper Collins!

When is Tales in the Park?

From 11am – 3pm, Tales in the Park will take over:

- **Tunstall Park** on Tuesday 28 July
- **Hanley Park** on Friday 31 July
- **Yeaman Street Recreation Ground** on Tuesday 4 August
- **Fenton Park** on Friday 7 August
- **Longton Park** on Tuesday 11 August
- **Burlsem Park** on Friday 14 August

Tales in the Park has been organised in partnership with Stoke-on-Trent Libraries and YMCA North Staffordshire to inspire children to enjoy reading and encourage families to share stories together all year round. The library service will also bring their Little Library Van, where you can register to become a member and children can sign up to The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge.



FREE SCHOOL MEAL CHANGES



THE GOVERNMENT IS MAKING CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM) FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY:

From 1st Sept 2026, FSM will include ALL Universal Credit households earning over £7,400.



NO AUTOMATIC PROTECTION:

Protection has ended; children who no longer meet the criteria will lose their FSM.



Parents can apply for Free School Meals using the following link:

<https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

NURSERY & RECEPTION:

A new application will be required. Parents can apply from **1st AUGUST 2026** or complete the paper form from the office.

RECHECK ELIGIBILITY:

All current FSM will be rechecked.

Applicants who were previously not eligible for FSM should reapply to check their eligibility under the new expansion

OPEN DAY

**Free
Entry**

Saturday 11th July 2026
Longton Fire Station
11am-4pm

Demonstrations

Activities

Food

Fairground Rides



11am-12pm
Sensory friendly hour

There will be no flashing lights
or sirens to accommodate
neurodivergent members of
the community.



www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk



**The
Fire Fighters
Charity**



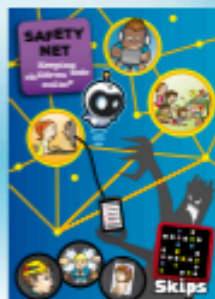
**Staffordshire
Fire and Rescue Service**
preventing • protecting • responding

Summer holidays – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

School's out for summer!

It's always best to be prepared

During the summer holidays, without the distraction of school, internet usage for many young people can increase all the way up to September. This guide is designed to help parents with a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games. Please click on each image below for more information.



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



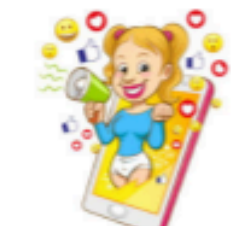
A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school if you would like to attend a parents internet safety workshop or have any concerns.

Schools please [contact us](#) if you would like a SKIPS Safety Net session delivered to your parent groups or staff.

Skips Educational

Web: www.skipssafetynet.org

Email: info@skips.com

Tel: +44 121 227 1941

142 Newton Road

Great Barr

Birmingham B43 6BT

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

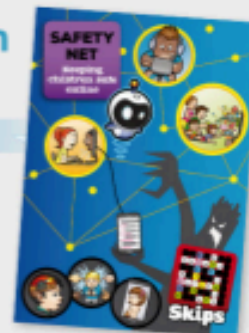
Developed in partnership with



Skips

Keeping children safe online

www.skipssafetynet.org



When Something Goes Wrong Online — A Simple Action Plan for Parents

1. Stay Calm First

If your child tells you something worrying:

- Thank them for telling you
- Avoid blaming or panicking
- Reassure them: "We'll deal with this together."

2. Keep the Evidence

- Take screenshots (include usernames and dates)
- Save messages
- Keep profile links



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online

3. Use Official Reporting Routes

Grooming or exploitation – CEOP: www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

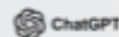
Illegal images – Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk/report

Nude images shared (under 18s) – Report Remove: www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove

If in immediate danger, call 999.

4. If You Feel Overwhelmed – Use Structured Support

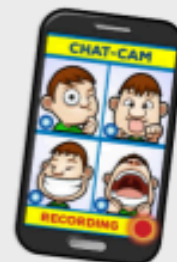
You can use free ChatGPT to help structure next steps.



Free access: <https://chat.openai.com> Example prompts:

- My child received inappropriate messages. What steps should I take in the UK?
- How do I report online grooming?
- What should I say to my child after cyberbullying?

Important: ChatGPT is a support tool and does NOT replace official reporting or police action.



5. Ongoing Protection at Home

- Keep regular, calm conversations
- Review privacy settings together
- Monitor gaming contacts
- Encourage early disclosure

Children will make mistakes online, just as they do offline.

Trust and communication protect them more than punishment.



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Skips

www.skipssafetynet.org

Developed in partnership with



Prayer



Loving God,
Thank You for the beauty of our world—
the trees, flowers, oceans, skies, and all
living things. Help us to appreciate the
gift of creation and to care for the Earth
with kindness, gratitude, and respect.
May we always protect and cherish this
wonderful home You have given us.

Amen.

