



St Osmund's Catholic Primary School Newsletter



Love for God ~ Love for Each Other ~ Love for Learning



Fayre Update

Just some important reminders about the upcoming, action-packed Christmas Fayre organised by our incomparable PSA.

The event starts at 3:15pm and the event is **cash only**, please bring coins - not notes - if possible, as change will be at a premium! Most games will cost 50p. There will be refreshments such as cake & hot chocolate available, also at 50p; mulled wine £1.

Raffle tickets continue to be available for purchase on School Gateway but the deadline for purchases is Wednesday. Please note, credit cards may not be used in the app to purchase raffle tickets – debit cards only. Tickets will also be available to purchase at the fayre. At the fayre, we will be announcing the bake-off competition winners and the raffle will be drawn at 4pm. Please stay around and enjoy the event, there will be carols and music to keep us all thoroughly entertained 🎶

Nativities

The nativities took place this week with two Reception performances of 'Christmas Counts' and two Year 1 and 2 performances of 'A Tale of Two Birthdays'. The children delivered the main message of Christmas with superb acting, energy, enjoyment and we could hear every word! We hope your families enjoyed the shows! Well done and massive thanks to all the staff for putting together a great set of performances.

Rejoice in the coming of the Lord

Christmas Jumpers

Our staff and children are welcome to wear their Christmas jumper and non-uniform (or festive clothes) to school on Wednesday 13 December. We ask for a £1 donation to Save the Children which can be handed to class teachers during registration.

YR, 1 & 2 Non-uniform and Cakes

We are inviting our reception and Key Stage 1 children to wear non-uniform on Friday 15 December 2023 in exchange for donating cakes to be sold on the cake stall at the PSA Christmas Fayre.

Donation Thanks

Did you know that clothes can take up to 40 years to decompose and shoes up to 1000 years to break down, but 95% of these can be recycled! You will know that we have a clothing bank in our car park which anyone can use to donate old or unwanted clothing and shoes. The textiles we collect are either sent to Eastern Europe or Africa to be used again or converted into insulation materials and industrial cleaning wipes. We receive 40p per kilo back from the recycling company to support our school too. With that in mind, I wanted to share some amazing news with you – we recently received a huge donation of clothing and textiles (a lorry-load full) which has raised hundreds of pounds in one go for school. This donation has been made by The Hair Extension Cave, Salisbury and they have increased the funding to make a huge total of £1000! This money will be used by us to support families in our community in the most urgent need.

Thank you so much to The Hair Extension Cave for this generosity which benefits not only us as a school, but communities in Eastern Europe and Africa.

Key Stage 2 Carol Service

All of our Key Stage 2 children are expected to attend the carol service at St Osmund's Church on Tuesday 12 December 2023 at 6pm. Please ensure they arrive at the church by 5.45pm, in full school uniform. The children have been practising and have come with some super ideas to share with you about the Christmas story.

School Gateway

Thank you to all who are using the School Gateway app. We do encourage our parents to download the app because this means the school isn't charged for any text messages we send. If you are having problems downloading the app, or with School Gateway in general, please speak to the school office.

Star of the Week Awards

We have been really missing the celebration assembly recently although the nativities and workshops on recent Fridays have been superb! Celebration Assembly will be on Friday next week, but at the changed time of 9am to make sure we can fit one in!

Dates for your diary...

[www.twitter.com](https://www.twitter.com/@St_OsmundsCP)
@St_OsmundsCP

12.12.23 ~ KS2 Carol Service ~ St Osmund's Church ~ 6pm
13.12.23 ~ Christmas Jumper day and Christmas Lunch
15.12.23 ~ Rec and KS1 non-uniform day – Please bring in cakes
15.12.23 ~ PSA Christmas Fayre ~ 3pm – 4:30pm
20.12.23 ~ Last day of Term 2 ~ 1:30pm
04.01.24 ~ First day of Term 3

Mr R Sanderson
Headteacher

This weekend we light the second candle on our
Advent wreath, the candle of Faith.

Let us reflect on the journey that Joseph and Mary
made to Bethlehem. The candle of Faith calls us to
prepare the way of the Lord.

Christmas is coming, the Church is glad to sing, and
let the Advent candles brightly burn in a ring.

Sporting Values Award

We have recently received some wonderful news about the sports festivals we have been attending so far this year. At each of the sports festivals we attend, the organisers and staff from the other visiting schools have to nominate a pupil for a sporting value award. Our children have received many certificates this year for showing the values of passion, determination, self-belief, teamwork, respect and honesty. This has meant that we have won an award for the most sporting value nominations last term. Well done to all the children who have attended sports festivals so far this term.

Judo

Moonrakers Judo Club are running a beginner's course for only £10 starting on Saturday 06 January 2024 from 9am to 10.30am at Godolphin Sports Hall. Training is also held on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm – 8.00pm for age 7 and up. Judo is a great not just for fitness but for building confidence, strength and coordination.
For more information please contact
peter@moonrakersjc.co.uk

Poppies

We can confirm that your generosity helped us raise an amazing £264.41 for the Poppy appeal. Thank you.



Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety, please speak to a member of the school safeguarding team:

Mr Sanderson – Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Chapman – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Sambrook – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Windsor – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding in the curriculum

We believe that one of the best ways to safeguard children is to equip them with the knowledge and skills to be able to keep themselves safe.

Safeguarding themes are interwoven throughout our Life to the Full curriculum and the opportunities we offer in school. Some examples include:

- Our Monday liturgy assemblies which are delivered to all children from EYFS to Y6
- Online Safety days with age-appropriate workshops
- Online safety discussions within computing and other relevant lessons
- Involvement in Anti-Bullying Week
- Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) lessons
- Visits from experts to talk about specific themes such as growing up, safety, hygiene, community safety, citizenship and aspects of safeguarding.

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety

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