

ST. JAMES' (C OF E) JUNIOR SCHOOL

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day.



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2024

GOODBYE (FOR A WHILE) AND GOOD LUCK...

Today we say a mini goodbye to Mrs Stuart who is starting her maternity leave. We will all be waiting with excitement to hear about the new addition to the Stuart family. We would like to wish Mrs Stuart and her husband all the very best and we look forward to seeing Mrs Stuart again soon.

HANDS ON SCIENCE...

On Tuesday, Year 4 took part in a Hands on Science Workshop. The children took part in some practical experiments to learn about the digestive system. They also created moulds of teeth.

MACMILLAN...

A huge thank you to everyone who donated cakes and/or bought cakes and samosas for our Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. You managed to help us raise an incredible £300.

PARENTS' EVENING...

We will be holding our first Parents' evening of the academic year on Wednesday 23rd October. All appointments must be booked in advance. Please complete the letter and return it to school to secure your appointment time.

AFTER SCHOOL CATCH-UP & ENRICHMENT CLUBS...

Our after school catch-up and enrichment clubs will start on Tuesday 5th November. If your child has been selected for a catch-up club, it means that their teacher has identified an area in their learning that your child may need some extra support with. It is important that your child attends all of these clubs. The enrichment clubs are open to all children. We will be offering Art, Cooking, Board Games & Lego. All clubs finish at 4pm. Children must be collected and can not walk home alone.

INSET DAY...

A reminder that school closes to children on Thursday 24th October. School is closed to children on Friday 25th October and Monday 4th November. Children will return to school on Tuesday 5th November.



This week's theme for the Golden Book is
'Someone who is always kind to others.'

This week's winners are:

3H	Sarah
3W	Jennifer
3/4K	Amelia
4A	Nacha
4B	Abu Bakr
5F	Bella
5R	Aadam
5/6B	Marika
6F	Areesha
6Q	Ori

A huge well done to all this week's winners.



Have an amazing weekend!

M. Webb

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



Sources: <https://www.education.gov.au/documents/about/programs/bullystoppers/sminappropriate.pdf> | <https://www.safeschools.gov.au/educators/training-professionals/professional-learning-program-teachers/inappropriate-content-factsheet/> | <https://www.revealingreality.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/childrens-media-lives-year-7.pdf>



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