

# ST. JAMES' (C OF E) JUNIOR SCHOOL

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day.



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2025

### AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS...

Our after-school enrichment clubs started this week, with a number of children taking part in cooking, art, computing and sewing clubs. You can still sign your children up to these clubs with Arbor.

All after-school sports clubs have started too, with Soft-axe throwing being this half-term's club. Instructions on how to sign your child up to this club have been shared on Class Dojo.

### A VISIT FROM THE ROMANS...

On Wednesday, Outreach visited school to talk with our Year 4 children about the Romans. This was as an introduction to their theme work for this half-term. The children got to look at a number of artefacts and found out some amazing facts!

### PICKFORD HOUSE...

Next Tuesday, Year 6 will be visiting Pickford House in Derby as part of their theme work on the Victorians and the Industrial Revolution. Please ensure your child has a warm coat and sensible footwear for the trip.

### VIKING VISIT...

Next Wednesday, Outreach are coming back in to school to run a workshop with our Year 5 children about Vikings. This is an introduction to their theme for this half-term.

### YEAR 3 READ WITH PARENTS...

Next Thursday, we are inviting all parents of children in Year 3 to come in to school at 2:45pm to join in with the class read. Every class in school finishes the school day with a story. We thought it would be amazing if parents/carers could join us for the story. You don't need to do anything! Just turn up and enjoy... you're never too old for a story!

### SLEEP WORKSHOP...

We have had a number of parents inform us that their child is having difficulties getting to sleep or staying asleep at night time. We are excited to announce that Compass Changing Lives will be running a Sleep Workshop for parents and carers on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 2:30pm. This is completely free of charge!



This week's theme for the Golden Book is 'Someone who has shown outstanding learning behaviours.'

This week's winners are:

3R	Oba
3W	Mariam
3/4MS	Hafsa
4A	Sarah
4B	Timi
5F	Farhaan
5H	Inayah
5/6FB	Georgios
6K	Bilal
6Q	Noor

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



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

### "CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

### SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such ploys often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

### YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

### FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

### PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

### FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

### ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

### TALK TOGETHER

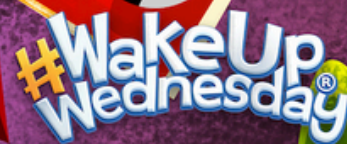
Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

### BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk](https://OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk) for more.



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