

ST. JAMES' (C OF E) JUNIOR SCHOOL

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day.



COACHING CIRCLES...

This week, we have been very excited to introduce our new Coaching Circles across school. Each circle brings together 12 children with the same trusted adult, meeting three times each week for a short, purposeful session. Coaching Circles are all about building strong relationships, creating a sense of belonging and ensuring that every child has a trusted adult in school who knows them well. They provide an opportunity for children to talk, reflect, celebrate successes, set goals and discuss any worries or challenges they may have. We will also use the sessions to develop important life skills such as teamwork, resilience, confidence and communication. Most importantly, Coaching Circles mean that every child has an adult champion who knows them, listens to them and helps them to thrive. The children have made a fantastic start this week and we are really excited to see the positive impact this initiative will have throughout the year!

SWIMMING...

Our swimming sessions have started this week, and the children have made a fantastic start. We are very fortunate to have swimming as part of our Year 4 curriculum, helping children to develop an essential life skill as well as confidence and independence in the water. Our swimming sessions take place towards the end of the school day, so we have the last swimming sessions of the day. This means that the children need to get changed as quickly and independently as possible so that we can return to school in time for home time. We would like to thank parents and families for being so patient this week, as we did arrive back at school later than planned while the children got used to the routines. Please support us by practising getting changed quickly at home with your child, including putting clothes on independently, folding or packing belongings away and getting ready to leave promptly. With a little practice, we are confident that the children will become much quicker and we will be able to get everyone back to school on time.

MEET THE TEACHER...

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings this week. It was fantastic to see so many families in school and to have the opportunity to share information about the year ahead, our expectations and how we can work together to support the children. Strong partnerships between home and school make such a positive difference to children, and we really value your time, support and commitment. We look forward to working closely with you throughout what promises to be a fantastic year!

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Golden Book AWARDS

Our theme for the Golden Book this week has been 'Someone who has made a positive start to the school year.'

The children in the Golden Book this week are:

3R	Muhammad
3W	Islam
3/4MS	Baneen
4A	Luqmaan
4B	Ademidun
5F	Isaac
5H	Johni
5/6FB	Myles & Dylan
6K	Hurain
6Q	Zoya & Mahsa

Well done to all this week's winners.



BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that - whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun - you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private - so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you - but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online - by anyone, not just someone from school - talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met - and who might not be who they say - is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too - if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday