



St Patrick's
Catholic Primary School

An outstanding Catholic School



Newsletter: 17th November 2023

Dear Families,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our first parents evening of the year. We were so pleased to be able to share with you how hard your children are working and how well settled they are into their new school year.

In our Christmas letter we have mentioned our up and coming, first ever, St. Patrick's Christmas drive-in! Here are a couple of ideas to get you started for a potential Christmas vehicle to make, decorate and bring to enjoy your movie in, should you wish. We know what creative children and parents we have in school and we're sure your little elves will be happy to help!



Kind Regards,
Mrs Gardner and Mrs Burgess

Reminders

Christmas Fayre Donations

Thank you to all those who have already donated soft toys. Please keep them coming! We are also in need of sweets, chocolates and appropriate items for the raffle. If any of our parents have a business and would be kind enough to donate a small prize for our raffle, in return we would be happy to promote your business through our newsletter and on the day of the fayre.

We are now ready to receive pre-loved Christmas jumpers, which our Eco-Warriors team will sell for a small fee at the fayre. Please send items into school with your child where they will be gratefully received.

Y6 SAT's Parents' Meeting

Miss Parry will hold a short meeting for all Y6 parents this coming **Monday (20th Nov) at 3:20pm** to discuss the SATs which will take place next May.

This session will provide information about the SATs and ways in which you can support your child at home. There will also be an opportunity to order SAT's revision books at a reduced rate.

Due to the important nature of this meeting, it is expected that an adult representing every child attends. If you are unable to attend yourself, another adult such as a grandparent would be very welcome.

Open Event

This Wednesday at 9.30 a.m. we will be holding an Open Morning for new Reception pupils, 2024. All potential new pupils and their families are welcome. Please share this information.

November Wellbeing Activities

I am loved.

I am thankful.

Acts of Kindness November Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Share something you are grateful for with a friend or family member.	2 Help tidy your classroom or home.	3 Donate books or toys to a local charity.	4 Offer to help someone.	5 During a family meal, ask everyone to share the best part of their day.		
6 Write a note to someone to show them that you care.	7 Write a thank-you note to someone who helped you.	8 Tell a joke to make someone laugh.	9 Introduce yourself to someone you haven't met before at school.	10 Help prepare a meal with your family.	11 Be kind and take time to reflect.	12 Draw a picture and give it to someone special.
13 Give someone a compliment to help them feel better about themselves.	14 Wish the first person that you see an amazing day.	15 Do something nice for someone who is special to you.	16 Help a teacher without being asked.	17 Find a positive quote and share it with someone.	18 Play a boardgame or do a puzzle with your family.	19 At the end of the day, write or draw one great thing that happened.
20 Set yourself a goal to achieve today.	21 Share your toys with a friend or sibling.	22 Recycle.	23 Make a card for someone special.	24 Encourage someone that you see is struggling.	25 Be a friend to someone in need at school.	26 Teach someone something you are good at.
27 Do a chore to help someone in your family.	28 Do something that you love to do.	29 Write down something you are grateful for.	30 Ask your teacher how their day is going.			

Calm Down Jar Sensory Bottle

You will need:
A jar or bottle, Glitter, Glitter glue, Gel food colouring, Warm water

Method

1. Add the water to your jar until it is approximately a third of the way up.
2. Add the glitter glue into the warm water and whisk together, until combined.
3. Add a few droplets of the gel food colouring. (Keep in mind to use this sparingly as too much colouring will make the glitter harder to see.)
4. Lets get glittery! Add as much glitter as your heart desires. You can add chunky bits of glitter or fine glitter, or both!
5. Top up your jar with the rest of the warm water, keeping a small gap near the top.
6. Shake, shake, shake!

Remembrance Day



Poppy Day Biscuit

Ingredients

300g plain flour
200g butter
100g sugar
Optional splash of milk

Equipment

Mixing bowl
Wooden spoon
Baking tray

Decorating

Chocolate buttons
Icing sugar
Red food colouring
Water

Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to 180°C and grease a baking tray.
2. Place the flour, butter and sugar into a bowl and mix together. If it seems a little dry, add a splash of milk to loosen the mixture.
3. Form the dough into a ball and place on a lightly floured surface. Roll out the dough to your required thickness.
4. Use a circular cutter to press out the biscuits.
5. Place in the oven for 10-15 min until they start turning golden or brown around the edges.
6. Place on a cooling rack until completely cooled.
7. Meanwhile, mix red food colouring with your icing sugar and a little water. Mix until you get a thick icing to spread easily but not so it will run off the biscuit. Add more icing sugar if the mixture is too runny, or more water if it is too thick.
8. When the biscuits have cooled, use a teaspoon to carefully spread the icing on the biscuit. If possible, try and make a poppy shape.
9. Place a chocolate button in the centre of the poppy.
10. Let the icing set a little before eating. Enjoy.

Online safety

We will give regular updates throughout the year regarding the need for vigilance with online safety. Please alert us to any concerns you may have.

Please see the following guidance and advice from National Online Safety regarding Smart TV's.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TV's

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of techtabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Head Teacher's Angel Wings Awards

The following children have received a head teacher's Angel Wings certificate this week:

Reception	Being Ready to Learn	Sophie	For always trying her best and sharing ideas.
Year 1	Being Ready to Learn	Brooke	For always being ready to learn every phonics session.
Year 2	Being Respectful	Aria	For being helpful and kind to others.
Year 3	Being Responsible	Harrison	For understanding how important it is to read regularly at home. Well done and keep up the excellent work.
Year 4	Being Ready to Learn	Joe	For engaging in class discussions because he gives teachers his undivided attention.
Year 5	Being Respectful	Nathan	For showing good manners in class and in the corridor this week.
Year 6	Being Ready to Learn	Freya	For such a consistently mature attitude to all work.



Class Teacher Special Mention Awards

The following children have received a Class Teacher Special Mention certificate this week:

Reception	Toby	For his amazing reading in class.
Year 1	Leo	For great resilience with spellings this week.
Year 2	Oliver	For his enthusiasm when talking about books he has read at school and at home.
Year 3	Mia	For making good progress with reading. Keep up the good work, Mia.
Year 4	Leland	For putting great effort in his handwriting this week.
Year 5	Bailey	For working very hard with his writing this week.
Year 6	Stephen	For fantastic effort and for joining in in all lessons.



Summary of upcoming events

Monday 20 th	Y6 SATs Parents' Meeting 3.20pm in school
Wednesday 22 nd	Reception Open Event 9.30am
Wednesday 22 nd	Reception – Heights, Weights and Vision Y6 – Heights and Weights
Monday 27 th	Reception Open Event 1.30pm
Monday 27 th	Y1 Phonics Parents' Meeting 4pm in school

[Please click here to view our Diary of Events for the rest of the Academic year](#)