



# St John's Church of England Academy

## I Will Shine

Issue 3:  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
September  
2023

"And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples." John 13.34-35.

We began our week with Monday worship about dignity and how we should treat everybody in the way that Jesus taught us, and how we ourselves would like to be treated. We reflected that, while we can't always be friends with everyone, we must always show respect, kindness and tolerance to each other. On Tuesday, we learned more about generosity using the story of The Generous Widow. We reminded ourselves that Stewardship doesn't have to involve giving money, but we can give our time, our care and use our gifts and talents to help others. All the staff at St John's have been very impressed this year with the positive attitudes to learning, and the children's books are a pleasure to see. From next week, we will be starting our democratic process of electing children into a variety of pupil leadership roles. Year 6 children are busy preparing their speeches ready to present next week, before a whole school vote for our Junior Leadership Team. This team will work closely with the Senior Leadership Team to help make St John's the very best we can be. There are also lots of other opportunities across the school for children to develop a variety of skills, drawing on our school values. Newspaper team, Spotlight Worship, School Council, Health and Safety and Wellbeing Ambassadors to name a few, and we know that St John's children will shine.

### Congratulations to our Presentation, Writing and Star of the Week certificate winners this week!



Congratulations to Faith, Emmy, Eadie, Grace, Evie, Noah, Benji, Charlie, Elliott, Mielahier, Rubin, Keziah, Archie, Rohan, Hannah, Seren, Alaia and Darcey. Well done for shining so brightly!



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## Macmillan and fundraising event



On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, we are running an event to raise money for Macmillan, from 2.30 – 5.00. We would love to be able to sell cakes from our school community so please put this date in your diary if you have a love of baking. All cake donations, whether home-made or shop bought, can be brought to the school office on the Friday morning. Thank you in advance for your support. We will also be incorporating some elements of the Summer

Bash to raise money for local charities, including the bottle tombola and golden ticket and there will be games in the KSI library for children to play. To make this event even more successful, we will be inviting people from outside the St John's community to join us between 4.00 and 5.00. From 2.30 – 4.00 we can only allow St John's families on site. Please share this invite with your friends, family and neighbours so that we can raise as much money for those in need as we can.

## Safeguarding

Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Henderson are the safeguarding leads in school. If you have a concern about a child, please speak to us. We have a safeguarding poster for children so that they know they can speak to any of the adults in school if they have any worries. We are here to support families so if you need support or advice, please reach out.

## Reminders

We have children with nut allergies at St John's so we are a nut-free school. All food prepared on the premises is strictly nut-free. Please ensure any packed lunches and snacks from home do not contain any nuts.



Children should be bringing a water bottle to school every day which they can refill at our cold-water machines. Teachers will remind children to take them home so that they can be cleaned ready for the following day.

Please label uniform and property so that we can quickly reunite lost items with their owners.

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### Dates for your diaries

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Bike-ability session 3
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 – 10.00: Year 1 'stay and play' for families Year 5 Anglo-Saxon visitor to school Year 4 Water Aid visitor to school
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	3.30 – 3.50: Coventry Music Woodwind teacher available in the music room to discuss instrument tuition
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together 2.30 – 5.00: MacMillan Coffee Afternoon
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Year 6 Bike-ability session 4
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	10.00: Reception and Year 2 school nurses lesson about washing our hands well
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00 – 10.00: Reception 'stay and play' for families 9.00: Year 6 Wellbeing Ambassadors leading worship for children 10.00 – 10.30: Mental Health in Schools Team coffee morning for parents and carers 1.30 – 2.30: Mental Health in Schools Team 'Anxiety Awareness' workshop for Year 5 2.00 – 3.00: Year 4 visit to St Christopher's Church for RE lesson
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15 – 10.15: Year 6 leading Harvest service at St Christopher's Church – all welcome 5.00 – 6.00: Reception parent/carer meeting with phonics information
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Bike-ability session 5
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	World Mental Health Day The theme for 2023, set by the World Foundation of Mental Health, is 'Mental health is a universal human right'.
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2 visit to Coventry Transport Museum
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	PA meeting: Christmas event planning committee. We would love to welcome anyone who would like to offer support for our St John's Christmas fayre.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00: Celebration Worship – please join us to celebrate together

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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION  
16+

in UK and Europe;  
rest of the world 13+

...MSG ME...

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

## EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

## CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

## FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

ONLINE

## 'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

## CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

## VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

## Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.



### THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

### ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except ...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.



### CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.



## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



...HEY OSCAR...



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

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