

Weekly Bulletin 16th January 2026

Upcoming Whole School Dates

Jan	Thurs 15th:	Census Day - Free Lunch
Feb	Tues 10th:	Guardian Consultations
	Tues 10th:	Safer Internet Day
	Thurs 12th:	Guardian Consultations
	Thurs 12th:	Last Day of Term 3
	Fri 13th:	INSET Day
	Mon 23rd:	First Day of Term 4

<https://sjm.academy>

Telephone: 01323 730255

Email: office@sjm.academy



Whole School Reminder:
We are an allergy aware school.

NO NUTS are to be brought in to school. Thank you.

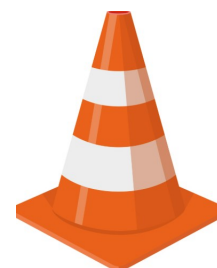
School Notices

Healthy Snacks

Please provide fruit for snack time rather than crisps or chocolate, as we are a Healthy School.

Dear families,

- **Parking notice** - We kindly ask all parents and carers to take extra care when parking around the school. Recently, we have noticed some situations that could put pupils, pedestrians, and our neighbours at risk.
- **Please help us keep everyone safe by:**
 - Parking responsibly and avoiding blocking driveways or pavements.
 - Allowing a few extra minutes in the morning so drop offs aren't rushed.
 - Only stopping in designated areas and avoiding unsafe drop offs near the gate.
- **Reminder** - independent entry into school is currently permitted for **Year 6 pupils only**. Younger children should not be dropped off to enter the site alone.



Your cooperation makes a real difference to the safety of our school community, and we truly appreciate your support in keeping the area around the school calm and safe for everyone.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Attendance This week: Best attendance: Reception

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
98.8%	99.2%	98.2%	95.6%	92.1%	90%	94.5%	94.8%



LIGHT Awards

Well done

to this week's LIGHT award winners:

Betty R

Tes Y1

Indi Y2

Matilda Y4

Leon Y5

Olive Y6



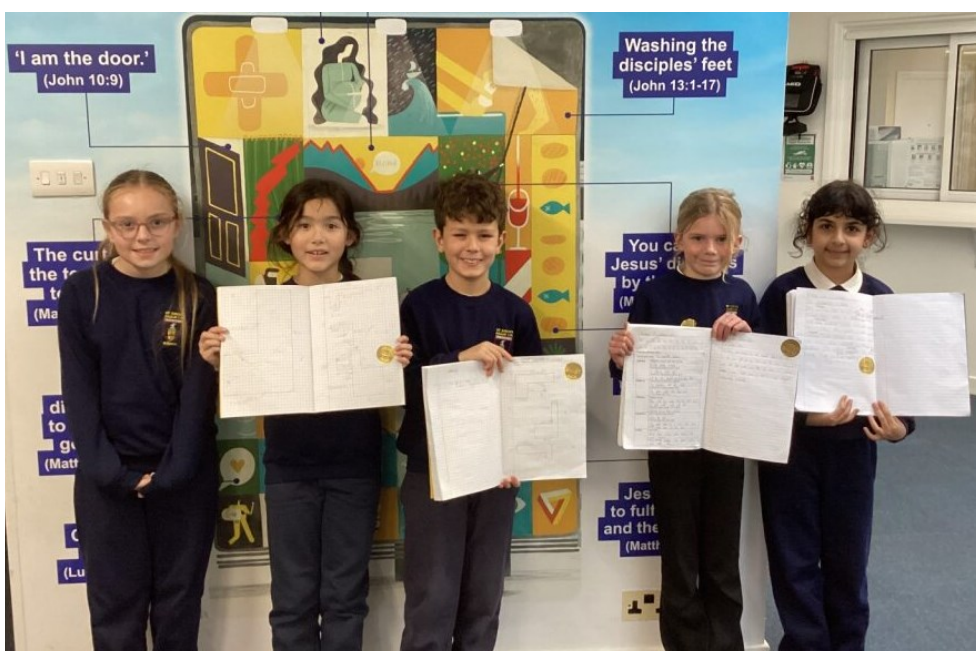
Headteacher Awards



Well done

to our Headteacher's Award winners for excellent work this week:

Elena, Olivia,
William, Skylar
and Kathrin.



Out of School



Lily received Student of the Month in her martial arts class, and Aurelia won a medal for her enthusiasm during her gymnastics competition. Well done girls!

New Additions to the Website

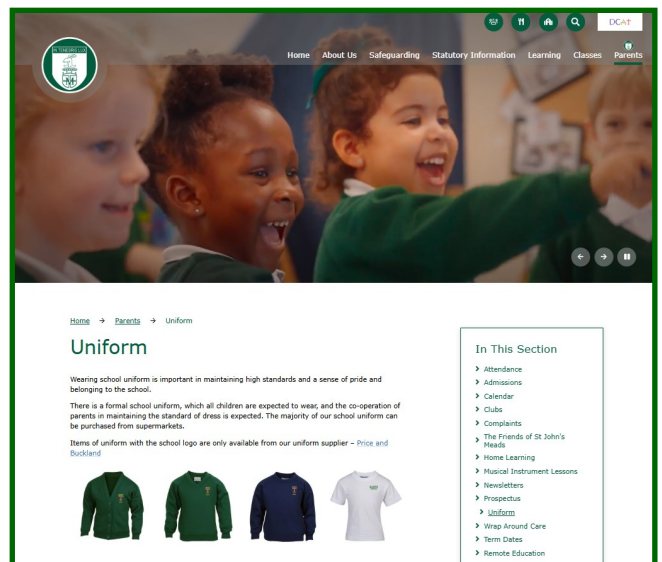
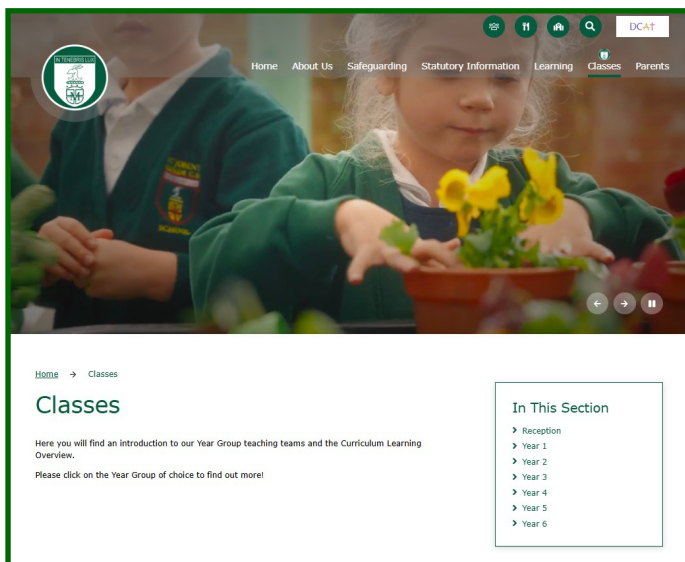
As you may be aware, our new website is now up and running.

We wanted to take a moment to highlight that you can find an overview of what your child will be learning throughout the academic year on **Curriculum Overviews**, now added to each of the Class pages on the site.

You may find this helpful for keeping informed about topics and curriculum coverage.

Find your class information at [SJM Academy - Classes](#)

Year 5 Curriculum Overview 2025-2026						
Subject	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
English	Temple Cat Secrets of a Sun King (English and DR)	The Lion, the witch and the wardrobe Journey to the River Sea (DR)	The Last Bear Non-Fiction: Planets The Junin Drake Project (DR)	Boy 87 Non-Fiction: Leisure and Entertainment The Vanishing Trick (DR)	Ice Trap Shakespeare's Adventure Everest: The Remarkable Story	Floodland Holes (DR)
Maths	Place Value Addition and Subtraction	Multiplication and Division Fractions	Multiplication and Division Fractions and Percentages Why do Hindus try to be good?	Decimals and Percentages Perimeter and Area Statistics	Holes (DR) Shape Position and Direction	Decimals Negative Numbers Measurement: Converting Units and Volume How do Christians decide how to live and what would Jesus do?
RE	God What does it mean if God is holy and loving?	Why do Christians believe Jesus is the Messiah?	Animals including humans Islamic civilisations	What do Christians believe Jesus did to save people?	Why do some people believe in God and some people not?	Properties of changes of materials Local and global: why are trees and forests important?
Science	The Vikings	Animals including humans Islamic civilisations	Earth and space North and South America: how diverse are their plants and landscapes? Dreams and Goals	Living things and their habitats Anglo-Saxons/Scots	Scientists and inventors Energy: How do we power the world?	Properties of changes of materials Local and global: why are trees and forests important?
Humanities	The Vikings	Animals including humans Islamic civilisations	Earth and space North and South America: how diverse are their plants and landscapes? Dreams and Goals	Living things and their habitats Anglo-Saxons/Scots	Scientists and inventors Energy: How do we power the world?	Properties of changes of materials Local and global: why are trees and forests important?
PSHE	Me in My World Gymnastics - bridges Games - net, court and wall Quizzing	Celebrating Difference Gymnastics - flight	Dance Games - ball handling	Healthy Me Dance Games - invasion Spreadsheets	Relationships Athletics Games - striking and fielding Coding	Changing Me Athletics Outdoor/Adventurous Activities Word Processing
Computing	Me in My World Gymnastics - bridges Games - net, court and wall Quizzing	Celebrating Difference Gymnastics - flight	Dance Games - ball handling	Healthy Me Dance Games - invasion Spreadsheets	Relationships Athletics Games - striking and fielding Coding	Changing Me Athletics Outdoor/Adventurous Activities Word Processing
Art	Lettering: graphic design Liner on a Prayer	Disasters Concept Maps	Game Creator	Sculpture: make a mask Make you feel my love	The Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Abstract Art: drawing, pricing and styling Dancing in the street Reflect: Reward and Regaly



Online Safety & Safeguarding

WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

What parents need to know about WhatsApp

AGE LIMIT CHANGE
Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

SCAM MESSAGES
Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES
WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING
Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS
To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with some-body they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

LIVE LOCATION SHARING
WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.

Top Tips for Parents

NOS National Online Safety

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE
Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

REPORT SCAM MESSAGES
Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam'.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES
If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE
If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. If messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

LEAVE A GROUP
If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone quits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

SET TIME LIMITS
A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.

USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY
If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/may/23/whatsapp-age-to-use-under-16-the-registry-is-hot>, <https://whatsapp.com>, <https://www.independent.co.uk/tech/whatsapp-update-when-india-blocks-forward-messages-app-download-id404011.html>

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This is not a definitive guide. Please always check with the app's support information to see if your security and privacy concerns are addressed.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

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Please email any concerns: dsl@sjm.academy