

Weekly Bulletin 9th January 2025

Upcoming Whole School Dates

Jan	Mon 5th:	INSET Day
	Tues 6th :	First Day of Term 3
	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.

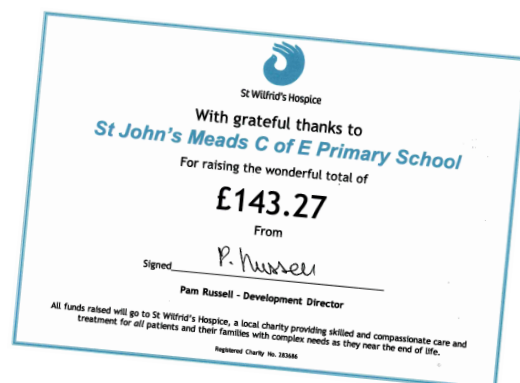
School Notices

Healthy Snacks

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

Dear families,

- **Clubs** - All clubs start up again next week.
- **Thank you** - for all your donations to St. Wilfrid's Hospice on Christmas Jumper Day. We raised a wonderful total of **£143.27**
- **Christmas Jumpers Wanted**
Please do bring any unwanted adults & children's Christmas jumpers in to the office, if you have any at home.
- **School Census Day - Free Lunch**
On Thursday 15th January, all children are entitled to a **FREE** lunch.. **Pop on to Relish to book.**
- **Adverse Weather** - Please ensure all children come to school with appropriate warm clothing - **coats, hats, gloves, etc.** If a child doesn't have a coat with them they will be asked to stay under the covered area of the playground should it be raining during breaktimes.



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
99.3%	97.1%	90.4%	96.3%	91.7%	95.2%	93.6%	94.5%

LIGHT Awards

Well done

to this week's LIGHT award winners:

Joshua R

Tulia Y1

Rocco Y2

Marios Y3

Jennifer Y4

Oscar Y6



Teddy Bear's Jumper Competition

Well done

to our Christmas Jumper Competition Winner

Grace

Headteacher Awards were also given for best in year groups:

Imogen, Hailey, Dollie, Amber, Aria, Eve and Layla.



Online Safety & Safeguarding

Minecraft is played by millions of children around the world, who use their imagination to build three-dimensional worlds with virtual building blocks in a digital, pixelated landscape. It is classed as a 'sandbox game,' which means players have the freedom to build their own creations with 'blocks' they collect and also have the opportunity to explore other people's creations with their characters. Players can choose from thousands of different 'servers' to join, which are created by other players, making every experience of Minecraft unique.

Minecraft has approximately **74m** users each month

AGE RESTRICTION 10+

What parents need to know about MINECRAFT

GROOMING
As the majority of users who play Minecraft are children, this makes it an 'appealing' gateway for groomers. It has been reported that some users have created worlds in Minecraft to lure young people into a conversation to ask for explicit photos. There have even been more serious cases in which children have been persuaded to meet these people in real life.

CYBERBULLYING & GRIEFING
In multiplayer mode there is a live chat feature which allows players to talk to other players through text. This chat functionality includes basic filtering to block out external links and offensive language being shared, but varies between each server. Griefing is when someone purposely upsets another player during the game. This can be done by ruining somebody's creation or generally doing something to spoil gameplay for another. Essentially, 'Griefing' is a form of cyberbullying and can be extremely frustrating for players.

COMMUNICATING WITH STRANGERS
Minecraft incorporates thousands of servers to choose from which are a single world or place created by the public and allow users to play the game online or via a local area network with others. No two servers are the same and each has its own individual plug-ins which are controlled by the creator. This means that some servers will allow communication with strangers.

VIRUSES & MALWARE FROM MODS
There are several websites that offer downloadable 'mods' which modify gameplay in a number of ways. Most of the mods will be safe to use, but as they have been created by the public, they will often contain viruses that can infect your child's device and potentially try and find personal information about you or your child.

AGE RESTRICTION & 'FANTASY VIOLENCE'
According to the 'Entertaining Software Rating Board' (ESRB), Minecraft is suitable for users aged 10+. Due to its 'Fantasy Violence,' the ESRB states that this rating has been given as 'players can engage in violent acts such as setting animals on fire and harming them with weapons. Mild explosions are occasionally heard as players use dynamite to fend off creatures and mine the environment.'

CHILDREN MAY BECOME ADDICTED
As with other games, Minecraft is a game where players can keep returning with constant challenges and personal goals to achieve. Children may find it difficult to know when to stop playing, becoming absorbed in the game and losing track of time.

National Online Safety Top Tips for Parents

DISABLE OR MODERATE CHAT
To avoid potentially inappropriate comments in a live chat, you can follow these steps to turn live chat off: 1. Select 'Options' 2. Toggle the Chat button to 'Hidden' or 'Commands Only'. Bear in mind that the chat feature is also where your child can enter commands during the game, so this may restrict their game play.

MONITOR YOUTUBE TUTORIALS
Many Minecraft users turn to 'YouTube' for video tips on improving their game play and discovering new techniques. Although many videos are age-appropriate, some include sexual references and bad language. We suggest watching Minecraft tutorial videos together with your child. If your child is under the age of 13, we suggest installing 'YouTube Kids' which provides a safer platform for children to safely find the content they want.

SCAN 'MODS' FOR MALWARE
Minecraft 'mods' add content to games to give extra options to interact and change the way the game looks and feels. However, although 'mods' can bring fun for a child, it's important to consider that downloading and installing 'mods' could potentially infect their device with a virus or malware. In 2017, security company Symantec stated that between 600,000 and 2.5 million Minecraft players had installed dodgy apps, which hijacked player's devices and used them to power an advertising botnet. Install a malware scanner on every device that your child plays Minecraft on and make sure it's regularly kept up-to-date.

PLAY IN 'CREATIVE' OR 'PEACEFUL' MODE
Even though the age limit is 10+, Minecraft can be quite overwhelming at times, especially for younger players or SEND children. We suggest restricting your child to play in 'creative mode' or 'peaceful mode' which takes away the survival element and removes the 'scarier' monster/zombie characters.

SET TIME LIMITS
With 'Gaming Disorder' becoming an official health condition, we suggest setting a reasonable time limit when playing Minecraft. Parents can use parental controls on devices to limit the time a child plays games. It is worth having a conversation with your child to understand which 'mode' they are playing the game. This may help you decide on the amount of time you would like them to play. For example, a mini game will have an 'end,' but this will depend on how long the game creator has made the game last. In 'survival mode,' the game has no end as there is no goal to be achieved other than the child's own e.g. after they have built something.

CHOOSE SERVERS CAREFULLY
To protect your child from engaging in conversation with strangers, advise them to only enter servers with people they know and trust. Your child can also create their own multiplayer server and share this with their friends, which is safer and more controlled than joining a stranger's server.

Sources:
<https://minecraft.net/en-us/article/minecraft-multiplayer-server-safety>
<https://parentinfo.org/article/why-you-should-allow-minecraft/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-36284216>
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<https://thehackers.com/e-parents-guide-to-playing-minecraft-with-your-kids-1788022788>
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<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/paedophiles-using-online-computer-games-16233554>
<https://minecraftforparents.com/is-minecraft-dangerous-for-kids-a-parents-guide>
<https://theadvise.com/14-fabulous-family-friendly-minecraft-servers/>
<https://www.howtopunk.com/289982/how-to-set-up-minecraft-so-your-kids-can-play-online-with-friends/>
<http://minecraft.com/en/chat-settings>

THIS IS AN INDEPENDENT ONLINE SAFETY GUIDE AND IS NOT AN OFFICIAL MINECRAFT PRODUCT. THIS GUIDE HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED BY NOR IS IT ASSOCIATED WITH MOJANG

© National Online Safety Ltd
To keep your child safe online, please always check with the appropriate information to use it.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Mrs L Pomeroy - (DSL) Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr B Berhane - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mrs K Hitch - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Please email any concerns: dsl@sjm.academy

VALUES

TERM 3 - GENEROSITY

FLYER

PUPIL QUOTE - WHAT IS GENEROSITY?

'GIVING SOMEONE HOPE AND LOVE' ELI YEAR 1



This term we are exploring the Christian value generosity. Generosity is more than just sharing our belongings; it's about showing kindness, time and love to those around us, just as God has shown us. Through bible stories, classroom discussions and real-life examples the children will learn how being generous can make a big difference in the lives of others. Please join us as we encourage the children to think about how all of us can be generous at school, at home, and in the wider community, reflecting God's love through our actions.

Mrs Pomeroy - Head of School

BIBLE STORIES

We will look at:

- Feeding of the 5000
- The Widows offering
- God's creation

Other stories:

- The Elves and the Shoemaker
- Stick and Stone
- Not Now Bernard

YEAR 6 QUOTE

Generosity is putting others before yourself and thinking about their needs over your own.

Grace Year 6

LET'S US PRAY

REMEMBER THE WORDS
THE LORD HIMSELF
SAID, "IT IS MORE
BLESSED TO GIVE
THAN TO RECEIVE."

ACTS 20:35

"A generous man *will prosper*; he who refreshes others *will himself be refreshed*."
Proverbs 11:25

Dear God,
Thank you for every good gift you have given us.
Help us to be generous just as you are generous to us.
Teach us to give with open hands and joyful hearts.
Show us how to share what we have with those in need and to be kind without expecting anything in return shining your light in the world.
May our generosity reflect your love and bring hope to others.
In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.

DO GOOD AND
SHARE WITH OTHERS.
WITH SUCH
SACRIFICES
GOD IS PLEASED.

HEBREWS 13:16

SONGS AND HYMNS

- Light in the Darkness
[school song]
- My Lighthouse
- Our God is a Great Big God
- For Me

READ MORE ON OUR
NEW WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://SJM.ACADEMY](https://sjm.academy)