

Weekly Bulletin 6th February 2026

Upcoming Whole School Dates

Feb Fri 6th :	NSPCC Number Day
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,



NSPCC Number Day Friday 6th February

Thanks to all of your donations, we have raised

over £150!

That's a fantastic amount, and the children all had fun with lots of maths activities and games throughout the day.

- There is still time to **book in to see your child's teacher** on Tuesday or Thursday next week.
- **COMING UP** - Place 2Be Mental Health Week next week 9th - 13th February.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Attendance This week: Best attendance: Year 1

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
96.3%	96.2%	97.1%	95.6%	96.2%	94%	95.2%	96.3%

LIGHT Awards

Well done

to this week's LIGHT
award winners:

Alana R

Penelope Y1

Ebun Y2

Edward Y4

Maria, Penelope,
Judah, Niamh Y5

James Y6



Headteacher Awards

Well done

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

Aoibheanna, Abigail,
Tilly, Ruby, Aila,
Salma, Mahan, Lily,
Richard, Stanley,
Myles, Kossay



Outside Achievements



Kenzo, William and Samuel swam as a team of four (3 out of 4 from St John's!) for Eastbourne Swimming Club last Saturday, in the male 10-11 4 X 50m Medley Relay event. They placed 2nd in the county!

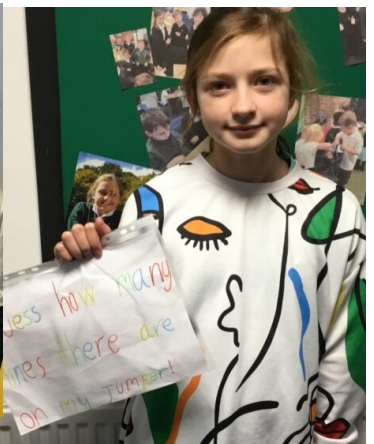
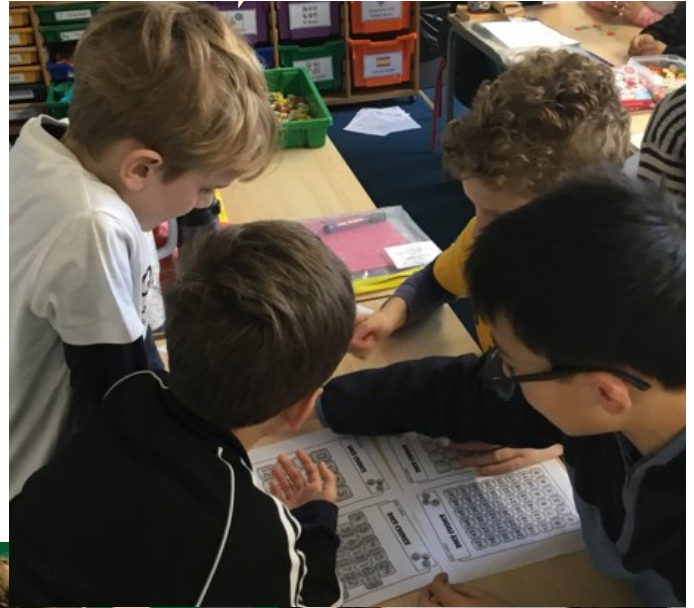


Maybelle and Kossay received certificates for their fantastic work in a writing competition.

NSPCC Number Day



NSPCC Number Day



FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S MEADS PRESENTS



QUIZ NIGHT

IN THE SCHOOL HALL



THURSDAY
26 FEBRUARY

8PM START
DOORS 7.15PM

LICENSED BAR
& SNACKS

All adults welcome - no experience necessary
£5 PER PERSON

HOW TO BOOK:

- Gather a team of 6-8 people
- Choose a team name
- Book online: pta-events.co.uk/stjohnsmeadsfmsa

You can book individually but please enter your team name when prompted



Scan to book



All the proceeds from this event will go to the Friends of St John's Meads; a charity dedicated to raising money to benefit pupils at St John's Meads CE Primary School.
Run entirely by volunteers, thank you for supporting us. Registered charity 1106227.

Friends of
ST JOHN'S MEADS
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Online Safety & Safeguarding

AGE RESTRICTION
12+



**FORTNITE
BATTLE ROYALE**

'Fortnite - Battle Royale' is a free to play section of the game 'Fortnite'. The game sees 100 players dropped on to an island from a 'battle bus', where they have to compete until one survivor remains. The last remaining player on the island wins the game. Players have to find hidden items, such as weapons, to help them survive longer in the game. To make the game more challenging, there is an added twist called 'the storm' which reduces the size of the island from the start of gameplay, bringing the players closer together in proximity. The game is available on PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Mac and iOS.



What parents need to know about FORTNITE: BATTLE ROYALE

MICROTRANSACTIONS

Newly featured items are released daily and are only available to purchase within 24 hours of their release. These are cosmetic items, called 'skins', 'gliders' and 'vromes', which change the characters' appearance, but do not improve the game play. Once purchased, the player has full use of these in the future. The designs are attractive for players to purchase and even celebrities are endorsing them. Also available to purchase in the game is a 'Battle Pass'. When a new 'Battle Pass' is released, users can take part in a series of challenges, receiving more rewards (cosmetics) by progressing through different tiers. Whichever rewards they achieve can then be used in the game.

HACKER ATTACKS

News site Forbes stated that it had seen "dozens" of online reports from people who said their accounts had been compromised by hackers, who had gained access to user's accounts in the game and accrued hundreds of pounds in fraudulent charges.

NO PROOF OF AGE REQUIRED

Signing up to the game is relatively simple. Users have the option to log in with either their Facebook or Google accounts or their email address. When signing up with an email address, no proof of age is required. If your child is under the age of 12, it is important to check whether your child has the game downloaded.

TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE

Interacting with other players in the game is part of the fun as players can communicate with their friends and other players in the game. Players will benefit from wearing headphones to hear footsteps from other players trying to compromise their game. Wearing headphones makes it difficult for parents to hear what exactly is being said and children may be exposed to inappropriate language. Fortnite includes really good reporting features for players either cheating or mobbing, and works towards having one of the best online gaming communities.

TALKING TO STRANGERS DURING SQUAD MODE

There are many accounts on Facebook and Twitter which claim to give away free money (known as 'V bucks') for games which will be transferred to their Xbox Live or PSN cards. Any giveaway promotion from Fortnite will be in the game. It is important to check the authenticity of these accounts before giving away personal information in order to claim 'V bucks'. The websites or accounts may ask you to share your account name and password in order to claim the money; if these offers seem too good to be true, they usually are.

IT CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Games can last around 20 minutes but this varies according to the game. Children may feel angry if they lose the game and will want to continue playing until they achieve their desired result. The competitive nature of the game may make it difficult for them to stop playing halfway through as their position in the game could be affected.

AGE RESTRICTIONS

PEGI has given the game a rating of 12+. Even though the game includes violence and weapons such as cross-bows, grenade launchers, rifles, pistols, shotguns and more, PEGI say "more graphic and realistic looking violence towards fantasy characters is allowed. Any violence towards human characters must look unrealistic unless it consists of only minor or trivial injury such as a slap," making the game 'suitable' for children aged 12 and over.

'FREE' TO PLAY

The game IS free to play. However, if playing on Xbox, you will need an Xbox gold subscription, which does require a fee.

IT CAN BE PLAYED ON THE GO

The game was released on mobile devices in April 2018, meaning it can be played without the need for a home games console. Some schools have reported that the game is distracting their students whilst in the classroom. As the game is available outside of the home, parents may not be aware of how long their child is playing the game.

Top Tips for Parents

LIMIT GAME TIME

Parents can use parental controls on Xbox and PC to limit the time a child is playing games on these devices. Be aware that the game is available on iOS and will soon be available on all mobiles. With this in mind, it is worth having a conversation with your child to discuss and agree how long you would like them to play the games for. Even though the games last around 20 minutes, it may be difficult to take them away from a game mid-play. It may be worth imposing a limit on the amount of matches they play rather than a time limit.

LOOK OUT FOR VBUCK SCAMS

It is important that your children are aware of the scams that they may come across online in association with the game. Open up conversations with them about scams and how they should never share their username or password with people in order to gain anything for the game.

SHOW THEM HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

If your child believes a player is playing or talking inappropriately, you should advise them to report them. To report a player, you can use the in-game feedback tool located in the Main Menu of the game. Additionally, you can report a player in-game when spectating them.

RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

'Fortnite: Battle Royale' is a free to play game, but there are still options to make additional purchases. If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to restrict spending, we suggest using a paywave card, or a games console gift card. These can be purchased in specific amounts, which will allow you to restrict the amount your child spends and removes the need for a credit/debit card to be used with their account.

USE A STRONG PASSWORD

It may seem like a simple tip, but it is important that your child selects a strong password when creating an account, particularly if a credit/debit card is associated with the account. This will help reduce the risk of their account being hacked.





National Online Safety

A whole school community approach to online safety

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Email us at hello@nationalonlinesafety.com or call us on 0800 368 8067

<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/parents/fortnite-battle-royale>

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