

Saint John Wall Catholic School

A Catholic School For All



Mission Statement

'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'



Issue 29

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 5 May 2023

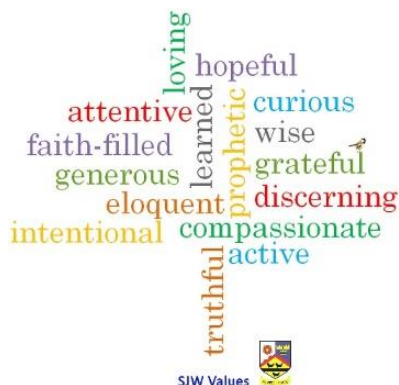
Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'The Year of Sanctuary'.
Termly theme: Option for the Poor/Parable of the Great Banquet
Termly SJW Values – Curious and Active

This week in Weekly Worship... *"We talked about the Coronation of King Charles III. We found out what a Coronation is and where they take place. We thought about how the Coronation is a religious ceremony and how the King will make promises to God and the country. We learnt about the different symbols such as the Crown Jewels. To end, we thought about what the Coronation means to us and how we can celebrate it this weekend. We also took time to reflect on Queen Elizabeth II."*

By Nathanael Byfield 7ESM

This week in Afternoon Prayer... *"We prayed for St. Joseph and reflected on how he worked hard throughout his life. We also prayed the Hail Mary and we thought about what this prayer means to us. We prayed for Pope Francis' Prayer Intention and thought about heroes in history who have helped bring peace to our world. We also thought about what we can do to bring peace. We also prayed for the King and his Coronation and looked into the life of our new king."*

By Lydia Binyam 7ESM



Titan Awards

We are delighted to inform you that Roland Ofori 11BRE has been selected as a finalist for Secondary Student of the Year at this year's Titan Awards.

We wish Roland all the best! The winner will be announced on 11th July and will receive a Titan Awards Trophy, a framed certificate and an Amazon gift voucher.

Important Dates to Note

- **Coronation Bank Holiday – School Closed**
Monday 8 May 2023
- **Formal External Examinations Begin for Year 11**
Monday 15 May 2023
- **Half Term**
Monday 29 May 2023 to Friday 2 June 2023
- **Year 7 and Year 10 Assessment Week**
Monday 12 June 2023 to Friday 23 June 2023



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St Mary's Coffee Morning

We have had great fun this morning celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III with a lovely tea party. Carlisle won a lovely tin of Coronation shortbread in the raffle and Dante was awarded a chocolate prize for getting a bonus question about the Queen Mother. Do you know how old she was when she died? Pupils thoroughly enjoyed getting involved and wearing their coronation masks and crowns.

By Mrs Clayton



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Cultural Capital

During the last week, Ms Rani has been demonstrating her culinary skills by teaching Year 10 catering how to make samosas. We completed this practical to draw on the department's own staff and their specific skills. This was part of our offer of increasing awareness of the different cultures of pupils in our school. Several pupils and staff were able to sample the delicious samosas!

Thank you, Ms Rani, for sharing your skills with us!

By Mrs Crooks





King Charles III Coronation Lunch at SJW



Cup Cakes



Fruit Juice



Cheese

Sandwiches



Tuna and Cucumber

Sandwiches



Coronation Chicken



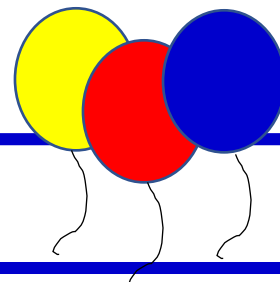
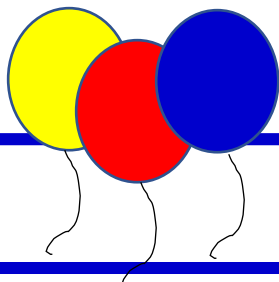
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Rock Climbing

Year 9

On Tuesday Year 9 had the opportunity to take part in climbing a huge wall that was put up on our school car park. Pupils were really excited and some were nervous to take part in this activity. All pupils listened intensively to the instructors before taking the plunge to climb the wall. All pupils were supportive of each other and encouraged their peers to participate in the activity. Well done to Year 9s and the instructors commented on how well behaved and enthusiastic all pupils were. **By Mrs Chand**





Circus Skills

Year 8

On Tuesday, Year 8 took part in a circus skills workshop – pupils had the opportunity to try juggling, the diabolo, spinning plates and balance boards. Some of the skills were challenging to master but pupils showed great resilience.

As you can see from the photos – they had a great time! The visitors commented very positively on Year 8s behaviour.

By Mr Lloyd-Price



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Alton Towers Trip

Year 11

On Tuesday, Year 11 pupils were treated to a trip to Alton Towers as a reward for all the hard they have been doing this year. The pupils really enjoyed themselves and spent the day exploring the theme park and going on a number of rides.



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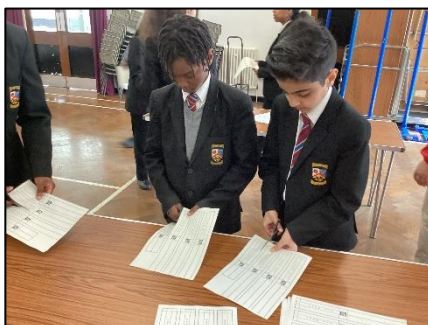


Navy Year 7

Pupils in Year 7 had a talk about careers in the navy to begin their day. They explained the rankings in the navy and the type of places Navy personnel travel to. Pupils then took part in practical sessions where they had to design helicopters out of paper and raced to see which would fly for the longest. **By Mr Lloyd-Price**

*"I enjoyed learning about the navy and having the opportunity to ask them some questions". **By Gloria Osavbie Osazemwinde 7JAS***

*"I enjoyed making the helicopter because it was a challenging task and we had to work as a group to design it." **By Jason Nguyen 7RAH***



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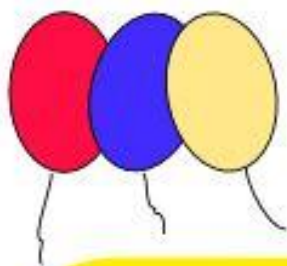


Year 11 Yearbook

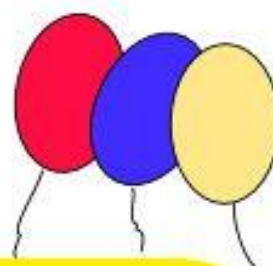
Memories of
your time
at SJW

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Includes
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and
Photographs



Class of 2023



Payments are now being accepted!

The overall cost of the yearbook is **£12**
You can pay in 2 instalments of £6 each.
Payment to be made at the school office.

Final Deadline: Friday 12 May 2023



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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the *ITV News* at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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