



# St Nicholas Church School

## School Newsletter

24th May 2024 Term 5 Newsletter 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

A family breakfast was the perfect way to end what has been a particularly busy Term 5. It was lovely to see so many of you this morning and we always value the opportunity to welcome parents and carers into school. Thank you to Greg and the team for superb food and service as always. On the subject of food, staff had a bit of fun this week with a Bakeoff competition that was judged by some of the children. Well done to Mrs Smith, whose chocolate brownies were voted the clear winner!

We had a great time at KS1 sports day on Tuesday and the weather held off for a brilliant afternoon of races. It was such a positive day with children demonstrating our school values of endurance, koinonia and compassion. Each house team cheered and roared support for their racers and the children ran with smiles on their faces, even when they fell over or struggled to make it to the finish line. Our House leaders were on hand to support their younger peers when needed and they were fantastic role models for the KS1 children. The biggest cheer of the day was of course reserved for the parent egg and spoon race which was as tense and dramatic as always! Thank you parents for being such good sports and congratulations to all our medal winners. Unfortunately, the weather was not so kind for KS2 and their sports day has now been moved to **Thursday 6th of June**. We hope you can join us then.

Year 6 were rewarded for their efforts in exams last week with a trip to the beach at Weston on Monday. Not even the coach breaking down could dampen their spirits and a great time was had by all when they eventually arrived at the seaside. Year 1's trip yesterday also had a connection to the sea, with their visit to the SS Great Britain in Bristol. Have a look on our Facebook page for some super photos of the brilliant learning opportunities!

We're already looking ahead to an action packed final term. There are so many trips, activities and sports events—we're not sure how we will fit them all in! But giving children new and exciting opportunities is what we love doing at St Nics, so we'll always find a way to make it happen. With the Euro's Football, the Olympics in Paris and a rather sudden election announcement by Mr Sunak, it looks like it's going to be a memorable summer!

Have a restful half term holiday with your families and we'll see you all raring to go in Term 6.

Mr Low & Mrs Simmons

### Our Peg Award Winners

Red	Yellow	Pink	Green	Orange	Purple
Leo B	Dollie G Thomas B	Jake C Ellis R Zinitha G	Amelia B Henry C Jack G Paige S	Harrison P Sharusha R Elsie T Ella T	Harry B

## St Nics PTFA

Thank you all so much for your generous donations for the bottle tombola!

Our next mufti day is the 7th June, for the Jar stall. Please bring in a jar (any sort will do, such as an empty jam jar!) filled with fun items - we have had ones filled with sweets, little toy cars, hair accessories, and even seeds!

Raffle tickets were sent home this week, and the raffle is shaping up to be a very exciting event. We have just found out that Bath Rugby have very generously donated two tickets to a game at The Rec (Bath Rugby) during the 2024/2025 season (game TBC with the winner) including a hospitality package! So make sure you return your tickets for a chance to win!

### Recent Trips: Year 6 Weston Super Mare & Year 1 SS Great Britain



### **Our Spirit of St Nicholas Award Winners Term 5 Well done everyone!**

<b>Cam</b>	Theo W	<b>Avon</b>	Bradley R
<b>Somer</b>	Gracie W	<b>Mells</b>	Noah D
<b>Dart</b>	Wynter-Rose M	<b>Yeo</b>	Daisy H
		<b>Hartlake</b>	Jay R

### Attendance

Cam	97.3%
Somer	98.2%
Dart	98.5%
Avon	97.1%
Mells	93.4%
Yeo	95.5%
Hartlake	90%
Midford	85.7%
Wellow	93.3%

**Overall attendance is: 95.2%**

### Time to Talk

Cam	Do you know 1 more and 1 less facts for numbers 1-10?
Somer	What was your favourite part of the trip to SS Great Britain?
Dart	Can you name the historically significant people from our topic "how did we learn to fly?"
Avon	How many days are there in a leap year?
Mells	Tell your grown up how you made and designed your book cover.
Yeo	How many flags of countries competing in the Euros can you remember?
Hartlake	What is a cognate? Can you name some?
Wellow	What have you made this week?
Midford	

### House Points

Ludlow	389
Foxcote	434
Tyning	267
Huish	482

### Diary Dates

**Monday 3rd June**

Term 6

**Thursday 6th June**

KS2 Sports day

**Friday 7th June**

KS1 Celebration Assembly

**Tuesday 11th June**

9.30am Reception Family Event

**Wednesday 12th June**

PTFA Summer Fayre

**Friday 14th June**

KS2 Celebration Assembly

**Monday 17th June**

2.30pm Y6 Family Event

**Wednesday 19th June**

Y4 Family Lunch

**Friday 21st June**

KS1 Celebration Assembly

**Monday 24th June**

2.00pm Y2 Family Event

Thursday 27th June

1.30pm Y5 Parent Event

**Friday 28th June**

KS2 Celebration Assembly

**Wednesday 3rd July**

Y5 Trip To Weston-Super-Mare

**Thursday 4th July**

Y2 Trip To Weymouth

**Friday 5th July**

KS1 Celebration Assembly

**Thursday 11th July**

KS1 Celebration Assembly

**Friday 12th July**

INSET DAY



# SUMMER Fayre

Wednesday 12th June

3pm



FOOD & DRINK

VISUAL ARTS

LIVE MUSIC

natural  
THEATRE COMPANY  
presents

STREET  
THEATRE

# RADSTOCK FAYRE

FREE outdoor arts event with a family friendly atmosphere!

**SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2024**

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH FIELD BA3 3QQ

**11AM to 4PM**  
**FREE ENTRY**



**WITNESS THE FINEST THEATRICAL ACTS AND SILLY SPECTACLES...**

TAKE PART OR SIMPLY COME & SUPPORT THE RADSTOCK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY'S COMMUNITY STAGE, SHOWCASING THE VERY BEST OF OUR LOCAL TALENT!

**PLUS,** LOCAL STALLS, FOOD & HAVE A-GO CREATIVE WORKSHOPS DURING THE DAY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.NATURALTHEATRE.CO.UK](http://WWW.NATURALTHEATRE.CO.UK) OR EMAIL [HELLO@NATURALTHEATRE.CO.UK](mailto:HELLO@NATURALTHEATRE.CO.UK)



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.



### DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app, it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

### IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people: compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

### TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.



### MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.



### LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.



### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.



### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.



# Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...

## MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time: they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.

## BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

## REMINDE YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are **not** to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

## KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

## DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house: spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

## TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

## CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

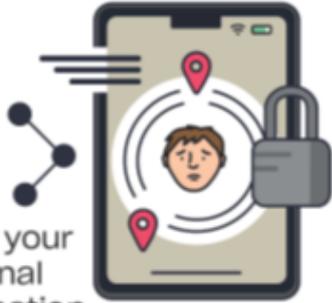
Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.



# STAY SAFE ONLINE

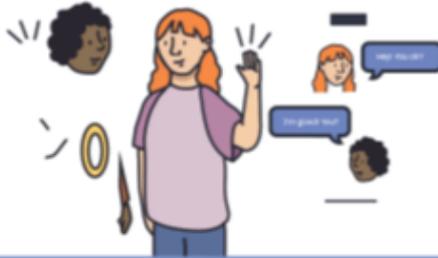
1

Don't share your personal information



2

Only talk to people that you know



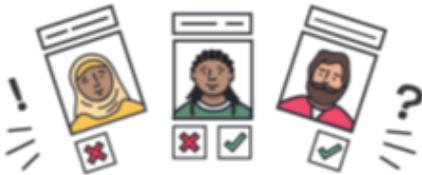
3

Don't meet up with anyone you have only met online



4

Only accept friend requests from people you know personally



5

Always think carefully about what you post



6

Make use of the privacy settings on all of your social media accounts



7

Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are



8

Report inappropriate content immediately



9

Only share images that you'd be comfortable with your friends and family seeing



10

Never share your passwords



# Family Holiday Activities

EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER

Seasonal fun for all the family in school holidays!



## Peace and Harmony

**Tuesday 28 to Thursday 30 May 2024**

*in the Wells Cathedral Education Room*

*10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. / 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.*

Get stuck in with our creative workshops for children inspired by Peter Walker's stunning Peace Doves installation:

**Build a Dove** *Tuesday 28 May*

Construct a dove toy with moveable wings, and create a painting with fingerprints

**Birds on the Wing** *Wednesday 29 May*

Create bird art inspired by local artist, Caroline Byrne

**Sensory Play and Mindful Crafts** *Thursday 30 May*

Make a windmill to take home – and breathe!

Before your craft session, pick up a free Activity Sheet and explore what peace means to you as you wander beneath thousands of paper doves in the Cathedral Nave.

Write a message to hang on our Peace Tree and go 'bird spotting' in Caroline Byrne's exhibition, 'Birds on the Wing'.

Find out more at [wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays](https://wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays)

Admission: **FREE\***

**No need to book—just turn up on the day!**

*Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and only assistance dogs are allowed at our family activities.*

*\*Included with a valid Cathedral ticket or admission pass—all under 18s go free.*

# LOOK FOR A BOOK

Sponsored by

**Poppets Imagination Library**

25th may- 31st may  
Radstock, MSN, Westfield & Writhlington

Look for a Book

If you find one of our lucky books around you can read it,  
keep it or re-hide it for others to find.

Please join our Facebook page to keep up to date with all that is happening and  
books that have been found.

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/1788984178272923/?ref=share\\_group\\_link](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1788984178272923/?ref=share_group_link)



Check out my website  
via the qr code



**ity Corner**

at During opening hours 25 May - 1 June

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**vo, Share One - knitting & Crochet group for any age/a**

y 10.00 - 12.00pm 30 May

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**d Nannies Community Sewing Bee**

10.00 - 12.00pm 31 May

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**Game Saturdays**

y 12.30 - 4.00pm 1 June

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**he Library: Design a Future Library Competition Exhibi**

at During opening hours 1 - 31 May

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**y Space, for families with children and young  
with sensory needs**

at, Book a Session via Eventbrite

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**ab, Family Fun Drop In**

at During opening hours



# NEW PLAYERS

# WANTED

Holcombe are launching a new U8's team for the 24/25 season.

If you have a child currently in year 2 looking to join a family friendly club then get in touch.

Contact us  
[Holcombeyfc@gmail.com](mailto:Holcombeyfc@gmail.com)

Search Holcombe FC on Facebook or contact our club secretary Luke via email

# Free Trial Session!

[Book Now](#)

Until the end of June 2024 we are offering a free trial session for our Recreational & Preschool Classes. Book into a session, come along and give it a try.

For more information please visit our website

[www.libertygymnasticsclub.co.uk](http://www.libertygymnasticsclub.co.uk)



# 2023-2024 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

Including INSET DAYS

<b>TERM 1</b>	
Start:	Tuesday 5th September
Finish:	Friday 20th October
<b>TERM 2</b>	
Start:	Monday 30th October
Finish:	Friday 15th December
<b>TERM 3</b>	
Start:	Wednesday 3rd January
Finish:	Friday 9th February
<b>TERM 4</b>	
Start:	Monday 19th February
Finish:	Thursday 28th March
<b>TERM 5</b>	
Start:	Monday 15th April
Finish:	Friday 24th May
<b>TERM 6</b>	
Start:	Monday 3rd June
Finish:	Tuesday 23rd July
<b>INSET DAYS</b>	
Friday 1st September 2023	
Monday 4th September 2023	
Tuesday 2nd January 2024	
Monday 29th January 2024	
Friday 12th July 2024	