

St. Wilfrid's News

Friday 8th March 2024

Welcome

We had a great time at St Wilfrid's on World Book Day, with dressing up, cosy clothes and a big celebration of books and stories. Children were given vouchers which can be exchanged for a special World Book Day book or to get £1 off the price of a book.

Assembly

We have made some changes to our weekly Celebration Assembly. We want parents to see what children are doing in school. Each week, a class will lead assembly and share some of their wonderful work. We began this week with Year 3 who confidently shared what they've been up to. Next week it is the turn of Year 4/5, followed by Year 2 the following week. We hope you enjoy this.

Attendance - Every Moment Counts!

We have carefully planned our curriculum to allow children to do their best and succeed in their education. For them to be truly successful, children need to attend school on time every day.

Remember , you can check your child's attendance on the Arbor app.

This week's class attendance:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4/5	Year 5/6
100%	98.6%	97.7%	94.4%	87.7%	96.5%

Well done to Reception class who are this week's top attenders with an amazing 100%! Keep it up! The term's best attended class will receive a special reward.

Punctuality and Progress

We remind families that the school day begins at 8.45am. Every child in every class begins the day with reading every single day. We prioritise reading because it is the most important skill for children to master. When children arrive to school late, they miss out on crucial phonics and reading lessons. Every second of the school day counts and we thank you for your efforts in getting children to school on time.



Spotlight on... Reading

Year 3 have been making their own books. To celebrate World Book Day, we made books which we shared with our friends in Early Years.



Breakfast Club

From the beginning of Summer Term, Breakfast Club will be charged at £1 per day. We feel this offers great value for money to families as children will receive an hour of childcare and a healthy breakfast. Charging this small fee will enable us to continue to offer Breakfast Club provision to our families.

We understand that there may be families who are unable to pay for Breakfast Club places. If this is the case for your family, please get in touch and we will help you.

Breakfast Club is currently in high demand. *If you no longer require the spaces you have booked, please cancel them on Arbor or by contacting the school office so that we can offer places to others.*

School Rules

At St. Wilfrid’s, we have very high expectations of our children. We want them to learn successfully in an environment that is calm and purposeful. We follow three very important rules in school to help us to achieve this.

- We are respectful.
- We are responsible.
- We are ready to learn.



Parents can help by reinforcing behaviour expectations with their children at home, using these rules in conversations about behaviour.

PE

On PE days, please can children attend school dressed in their PE uniform, with suitable trainers. The days for PE this half term are:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4/5	Year 5/6
Wednesday Friday	Tuesday Thursday	Tuesday Thursday	Thursday Friday	Monday Y4 Swimming Friday	Monday Friday



Facebook

We are almost ready to launch our school Facebook page.

We are still awaiting consent from some families to include their children. If you would like consent to us sharing photos of your children on Facebook, please give consent on Arbor or by contacting the office. **We will never share names or personal information on social media.**

Achievements Out of School

We would love to know about your child's achievements out of school. Please let us know if you have any successes for us to share in our newsletter.

New Website

We are delighted that we will soon launch a brand new school website. We are working with our web designer to ensure that the new site is up to date and easy to navigate. It will be launched by the end of term.

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 14th March - Lent Walk

Mon 18th - Wed 20th March - Year 5 and 6 residential Ford Castle

Mon 25th March - Mass - Rec to Y6

Thursday 28th March School closes for Easter Holiday.

Assembly

Celebration Assembly takes place in the hall on Friday afternoons at 2.45. Parents are welcome to attend and may arrive from 2.35pm.

On Friday 15th March, Year 4/5 will lead assembly.

On Friday 22nd March, Year 2 will lead assembly.



St. Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School

Old Fold Road
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE10 0DJ



St. Wilfrid's



FAMILY SUPPORT



Being a parent or carer is not an easy job and sometimes things can get tough.

I can help you!

Family Support Worker

Hello. My name is Naomi Cairns and I am the Family Support Worker at St. Wilfrid's.

I am here to work in partnership with you to ensure that all children enjoy school and are safe and happy.

How can I help?

My main aim is to listen, support and advise. I am a friendly listening ear for those times when families are faced with challenges.

I can also help by referring and signposting you to local services that you may be entitled to access.



Get in touch...

Contact me for an informal chat or to book an in-person appointment
0191 4771909

Alternatively, get in touch by email
info@stwg.bwecet.com

I am available on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Contact me for...

- Parent support and advice
- Confidence building
- Signposting to agencies and services
- Support with positive behavior and routines
- Support with financial difficulties
- Support with pupil attendance and punctuality
- Liaison between school and home

John 3:14-21

As Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the desert, in the same way the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour.

Those who believe in the Son are not judged; but those who do not believe have already been judged, because they have not believed in God's only Son. This is how the judgment works: the light has come into the world, but people love the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds are evil. Those who do evil things hate the light and will not come to the light, because they do not want their evil deeds to be shown up. But those who do what is true come to the light in order that the light may show that what they did was in obedience to God.



Mass Times

St. Wilfrid's - Saturday 9.3.24 5.00pm

St. Joseph's - Sunday 10.3.24 10.00am



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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 with 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.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



National
Online
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



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