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# St Agnes' Weekly News

*The family of St Agnes loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus.*

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## OCTOBER

23rd– 27th Half term break

30th —School closed—  
INSET Day

31st -School Re-opens for children.

31st—3rd November  
Judaism Week

## NOVEMBER

1st –Nasal Flu Vaccinations

1st—Boccia Event

1st—FOSA AGM 2pm

3rd—Dress like a Firework  
day -£1 donation

5th– Family Mass 10:30am  
at St Agnes' Church

6th– Parent Tour 2pm

8th—Class 6S Assembly  
9:05am

8th—Parent Tour 9:45am

9th– Year 2 trip to Golders  
Hill Park

10th—Mr Marvel Disco  
Reception to Year 3—more  
information to follow

Dear Parents,

### FOSA

I am writing to you regards the parents association at our school known as FOSA - Friends of St Agnes.

All schools rely heavily on parent support and such associations help to organise events to bring the community together, offer experiences for pupils and raise much needed funds for the extras.

FOSA has been very fortunate for many years with a small but VERY dedicated group of parents working hard. However, these parents have now left the school or have a child in their last year of primary school.

We urgently need to recruit more people to undertake the work of FOSA and appoint a chairperson, vice chair and secretary. These titles sound scarier than they really are! We need people with a little time to be able to organise events such as the Christmas/Summer fairs, Cake sales, mothers/Fathers day events and to think of some new and exciting things we can offer our children. You will be well supported, make friends and know that your work directly impacts what your children experience.

FOSA has paid for several experiences and items this year including Classroom interactive white boards, Science and RE Workshops for the whole school, Year 6 leaver gifts, ice lollies at sports days, Christmas Panto to name but a few.

WE NEED YOU - there are 429 children at our school and as such FOSA should be thriving and full of parents offering to help. Without new parents offering help FOSA is in real danger of not functioning this year.

The first meeting is Wednesday 1st November at 2pm in the school hall - please come along and support your school. Anyone wishing to offer time or considering the chairperson role can contact the school office to discuss further.

Thank you in advance.

Susan O'Reilly



Please see the information below where you can celebrate the weekly gospel at home with your family.

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday-special-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=107.9>

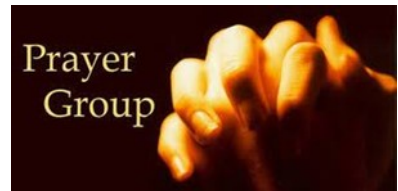
### **Parental Prayer Group**

We have an exciting opportunity for parents and carers of St Agnes to take part in a prayer group in our school.

It would be an opportunity for you to reflect together and put forward any intentions you or the community may have.

It would be held on a Friday morning once a month and led by parents themselves using the rosary or other prayers that you wish.

Please let Miss Moran know, via the office, if you are interested in this.



### **Catholic Practice Forms**

Catholic Practice forms are available from St Agnes' Parish office, please ring on 0208 452 2475 to arrange a time and date to collect forms.

### **God's Kingdom**

This week, Miss Moran and Miss Blooman met with the Social Action Leaders to pick the winners of the drawings that many children did for the frames in our corridors. There were many fantastic interpretations of God's Kingdom which made it difficult task for the Social Action Leaders but the final winners chosen were:

Ivan 3C, Grace 4AM, Nika 3C, Yusur 4AM, Daniel R 4D, Aleksandra 4D, Liana 2C, Angelina 5M,  
Savannah 5M, Hannah 4D Sofia P 6M, Ava 4AM, Victoria 6S, Naomi 5P & Olivia R 4AM

Well done to everyone, it was great to see so much effort!



### FOSA News

Mufti Day on Friday 3rd November - we are encouraging the children to dress brightly like a firework to celebrate bonfire night. Each child is asked to donate £1 towards school funds.



Friday 10th November we will be holding a disco for Reception to Year 3—this will be held in the school hall from 1:30-3pm. More information to follow after half term.

### Secondary Transfer

The closing date for Secondary Transfer application forms is 31st October.

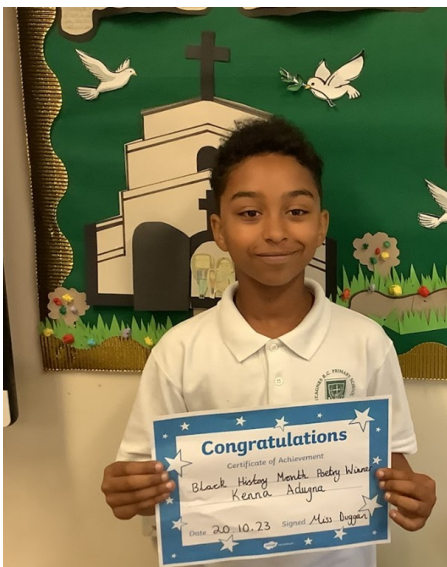
These will need to be completed via e-admissions. You will also need to complete the School Information Form (SIF) for the school you are applying to.

### Black History Month Poetry Competition Winner

Congratulations to Kenna in 4D for winning our Black History Month poetry competition. The theme of this year's Black History Month is 'Saluting Our Sisters'. Children were invited to write a poem about a black woman that has inspired them.

We had entries involving, Nicola Adams, Rosa Parks, Tessa Sanderson, Dr Anne-Marie Imafidon and many more.

The winning entry was from *Kenna in 4D who wrote a beautiful poem about his mother.*



#### My Mum

*My mum is as sweet as a dove,  
I love her deeply for all her achievements.  
She is the best thing that has happened to me.  
She is a star in my eyes.  
She is a rose.*

BBC

# 500 WORDS

2023

Calling all 5-11  
year-olds!  
Can you write an  
amazing story of  
500 words or under?

Your story could  
be read on TV to  
**millions!**

Competition opens  
26th September - 10th November.  
We can't wait to read your stories

Head to  
[bbc.co.uk/  
500words](https://bbc.co.uk/500words)



Dear parents,

We are looking for some 'book influencers' for our X social media.

This is to spark excitement with reading and get the children talking and recommending books to one another.

If your child would like to make a short video talking about a book recommendation it can be sent to [office@stagnes.barnetmail.net](mailto:office@stagnes.barnetmail.net)

Miss Sheridan will then be in touch to check if you give permission for it to be uploaded to our X (Twitter) page.

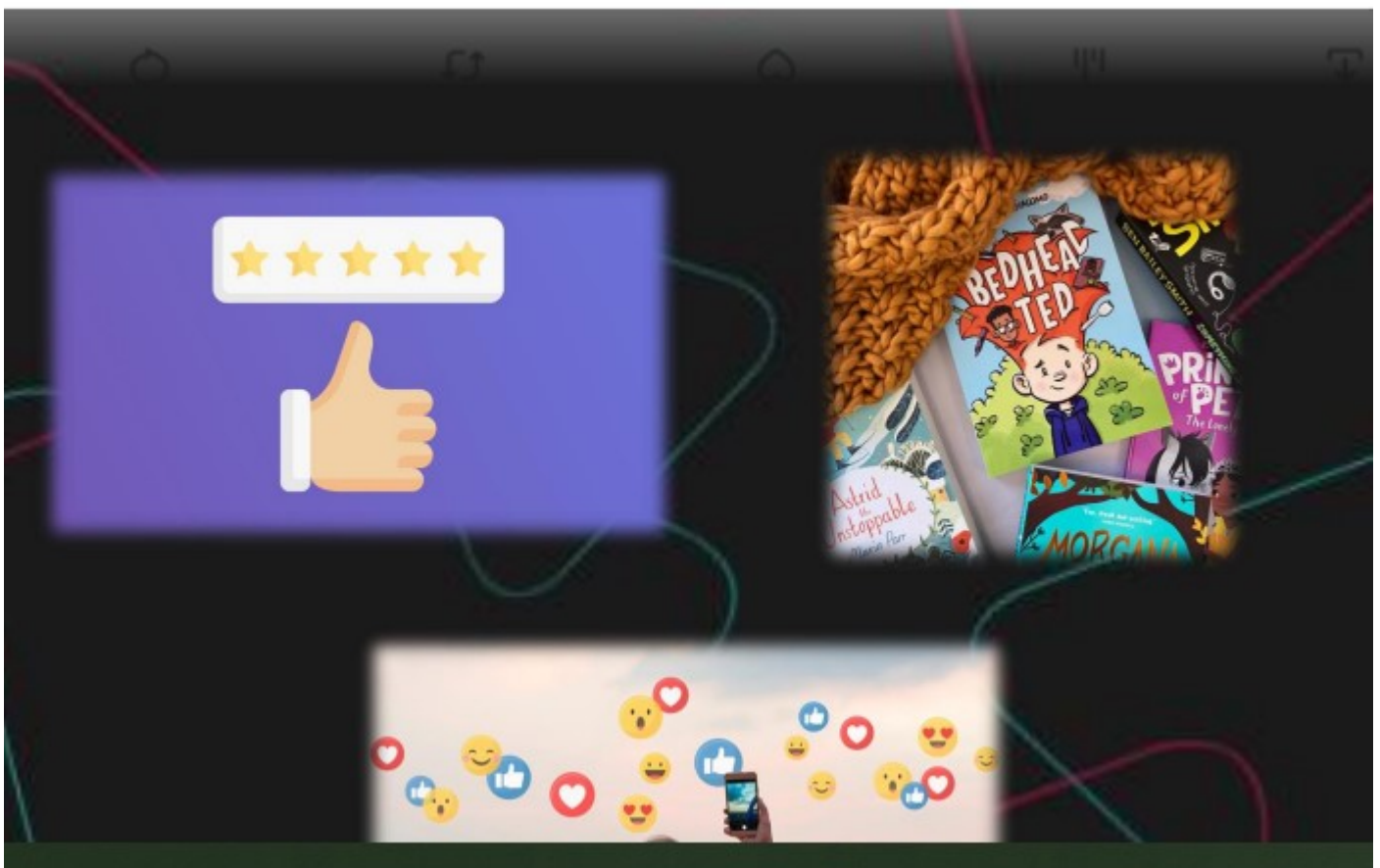
Your child's name/age will not be shared with the video.



**St Agnes Catholic Primary School NW2** @stagnesnw2 · 1s




St Agnes' book influencers needed! Read a book, make a video review and post on our school Twitter. 📖😎





# DONATE A BOOK



I often get asked how parents can donate books to the school. So I have created an Amazon book wish list. This is a way for you to donate a book that we need for our wonderful school reading library.

You will find the list at

<https://amzn.eu/biEs0qi>

At delivery if you pick the option to send the book to the "List Donation's gift registry address" the book will be delivered directly to the school. Alternativley you can get it delivered to your home address and bring it into school.

Many Thanks as always for your ongoing and wonderful support  
Mrs Gale





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you – EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?



### RECURRING RELEASES

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template – meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

### OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT

FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play, and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online – but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and for older online gamers.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time – so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

### ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS

Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

### POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to identifiers of a gaming disorder as they plead for "just one more game" before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### CONTROL SPENDING

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

### DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that spam tactic), but never through the game itself – so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites: it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

### AVOID EXTRA TIME

Many parents of young football-orientated gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play – or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

### SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers: voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

### CELEBRATE THE VARIETY

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 – including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

### Meet Our Expert

Leyla Coleman is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site [whowhy.com](https://www.whowhy.com) and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including iStock and TechRadar.



Source: <https://www.windowcentral.com/youngster-spends-over-6000-fc-points-highlighting-predatory-game-design/>, <https://www.whowhy.com/news-room/quote-and-comment-from-addictive-behaviours-gaming-disorder/>, <https://www.eurogamer.net/18-european-countries-push-for-better-regulation-of-foot-base-following-law-report>



@nationalonsafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonsafety



@national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.10.2023



Class	Star of the Week
1B	Kassem
1Z	Julia
2C	Debbie
2M	Zara A
3C	Asher
3G	Kalina
4AM	Leo Y
4D	Sara
5M	Angelina
5P	Abbie
6M	Jessica
6S	Kyla
TT Rockstars	Keagan 4AM
AFS	KS1 Lily 1Z
	KS2 Padra 5M

### Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any person (parent or staff) have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school safeguarding team (Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Hourihan, Mrs Gale, Mrs Breslin or our Chair of Governors Gill Abbott). In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a duty to discuss the issue with Social Services to seek further advice. This is the statutory obligation of all schools.

### Thought of the Week

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace." -

Jimi Hendrix



### Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %	Number of Lates
RB	91	5
RS	91	3
1B	97	6
1Z	94	6
2C	98	4
2M	97	1
3C	96	0
3G	97	1
4AM	96	2
4D	97	4
5M	100	0
5P	97	2
6M	96	1
6S	95	3
School Target 97.5%		

### *Birthdays up to 29th October 2023*

16th Athena RS & Leo 4AM  
 17th Georgina 2M  
 19th Jake 6S  
 20th Debbie 2C & Bela Nursery  
 21st Celine 1B & Zaen Nursery  
 22nd Ava 4AM & Manuela 4D  
 23rd Dylan 1B & Lena 2M  
 24th George 2M  
 26th Nila 1B  
 27th Hussein 5M, Amaya 1Z & Matheus 6S  
 28th Juliana 3G  
 29th Perry 3G

