

Date: 17/11/2023

Issue: 10

St Agnes' Weekly News

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

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NOVEMBER

20th—Panto Day—
Pinocchio

22nd—Anti-Bullying
Ambassador Training

22nd—Class 5P Assembly
9:05am

24th—Mufti Day for Bottle
stall for Christmas Fayre

24th— Parent Forum 9am

27th—Year 5 Science
Museum Trip

29th—Class 2M Assembly
9:05am

29th—House Captains
Advent Carol Service

30th - Class 2C Assembly
9:05am

30th - Christmas Fayre 3:15-
5pm

DECEMBER

4th-8th - Christmas Movie
Week

5th - Reception Concert
9:30am & 2PM

6th - Christmas Lunch Day

6th- Years 1 & 2
Change4Life Winter Festival

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to be able to return to school this week following my recent knee replacement. Whilst I have been working from home, there is absolutely no substitute for being in school and amongst staff and children. I am having twice weekly physio to strengthen my knee, so there may be a couple of occasions in the next few weeks when you will not see me on the gate. I aim to be dancing by Christmas!

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs Gale and the Senior Leadership Team whom have each taken on additional responsibilities over that time - it has been greatly appreciated.

It is beginning to feel closer to Christmas both within school as the children have begun learning their parts for nativity plays and practising a host of songs and Christmas carols both old and new. There really is nothing better than the sound of children singing to make you smile... We are looking forward to seeing you all at our Christmas Fayre on Thursday 30th Nov 3-5pm and supporting FOSA. Each year group has been asked for donations for the fayre - see below for your child's year group. All items can be handed into the school office.

Whole School - Christmas Jumpers

Nursery & Reception - Stocking fillers for children & Toys

Years 1 & 2 - Chocolate (nut free) and Seasonal biscuits

Years 3 & 4 - Men's & Women's toiletries

Years 5 & 6 - Christmas decorations.

Raffle tickets have gone out to each family and anyone wishing to have additional tickets to sell at work can get some extra ones directly from the school office.

Please note too that Friday 24th November is a mufti Day when all children are encouraged to wear their own clothes in exchange for a bottle of wine/alcohol (one per family) which will make up the adult tombola at the fayre. Again, your support in this is appreciated.

Wishing you all a great weekend,

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/talent?pid=MTA101634&v=109.1>

Remembrance Day

November is the month for remembering those that died. The social action leaders thought it would be a good idea to have a remembrance book for those close to us that we want remembered.

This will be available for you to write in your intentions, if you would like, in the reception area. We will place those people in to our prayers.



Thank you to the parents who joined our first 'Parents Prayer Group'. These will be held once a month in the Multipurpose Room at 9am. The date of the next meeting is 15th December.

Miss Moran



Punctuality & Attendance

Our EWO (Education Welfare Office) visited school on Monday 13th November and advised us that although our overall attendance is good we are being let down by our punctuality. She has written this as a message to parents:

Good attendance doesn't just involve being present in school – it also involves punctuality. You also have a responsibility to ensure that your child arrives to school on time, and stays in school during the day.

Class registers will be taken at **8:55 am**. Children arriving between **8:55am** and **9:05am** will be marked late. Children arriving after **9:05am** will be marked **U**. This is an unauthorized absence. Please note, there are a number of children arriving just as the gate is closing each day. By the time they go to class, take off their coat etc they are late and have missed their name in the register.

Five minutes late each day means **three** school days missed- 6 unauthorized absence in a 4 week period can lead to legal action.

Legal action can involve a penalty notice or being taken to court.

Parents also face the risk of imprisonment and parenting orders. Parenting orders involve attending a counselling and guidance programme, usually a parenting class.

A penalty notice of **£60** per adult per child may be issued as an alternative to prosecution, but this will rise to **£120** if it is not paid within 21 days. Failure to pay a penalty notice will usually lead to **prosecution**.



Christmas Pantomime

All of the children (Reception to Year 6) will enjoy the pantomime which is coming to school on Monday. Wizard Theatre will be performing two shows of Pinocchio in the school hall.

We have worked with Wizard Theatre for several years now and know their live shows are always of a high quality and much enjoyed by the children. FOSA will be paying for this treat for the children - thank you for supporting them to enable their fundraising to be effective for our children.



Parent Forum

Our first Parent forum meeting will be held on Friday 24th November at 9.00am in the new kitchen.

Please feel free to nominate yourself as the class rep (we will circulate a list of classes and names prior to this) by contacting the school office.

Any issues to be brought to the meeting need to be given to the reps by Wednesday 22nd November at midday.



Barnet Football Tournament

On Thursday 16th November, the St Agnes Football Team had the pleasure of taking part in a tournament against other schools in Barnet. They had to play a whopping six games in which they won five of them!

They had a great start in the first match where they won 3-0 against Holy Trinity. Afterwards, they won 2-1 in their second match and 2-0 in the third match. Their luck was flowing right up until the quarterfinals where they unfortunately lost their first match of the day.

Their skill, teamwork and sportsmanship was commendable throughout the whole day and they made us all very proud to be a part of The Family of St Agnes.





Competitions:

KS1: Be Bright... Be Seen

Create a collage or their own bright design with fluorescent and reflective elements. You will need: Black paper/card, white paper, scissors, glue, neon paper, highlighter pens and any reflective materials. We will put our favourites in the newsletter.

KS2: Slow Down

Design a banner to encourage slower speeds. A winning design will be picked and printed on to a full size pvc banner to display on our school gates. The template is available on google classroom.

Closing date: **Wednesday 29th November 2023**



Did you know that a driver can see a pedestrian 3 seconds sooner if they are wearing or carrying something bright or reflective? That's enough to prevent serious injury or save a life!

Now that the clocks have gone back, evenings become dark much earlier and it becomes more difficult for drivers to see pedestrians.

Whilst we want children to get out and about more and have active healthy lifestyles, we also want them to be safe!

Help your child **Be Bright** so they can **Be Seen** by making sure they are wearing something bright for daytime AND reflective for nighttime.

If you are buying a new coat for your child, look out for brightly coloured ones with reflective strips.

For more information and support, please email: Road.safety@barnet.gov.uk

Be Bright, Be Seen and Be Safe!



Donations Needed

This Christmas, the **Social Action Leaders** are calling for your support for our local Foodbank!

Colindale Foodbank: *We don't think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That's why we provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to us in crisis. We are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.*



Urgently needed items:

Tinned fruit
Tinned vegetables
Tinned fish
Tinned meat
Pasta sauce
Rice pudding
Sugar
Coffee
Juice
Biscuits/Crisps/Snacks
Cooking oil
Nappies
Wipes
Toiletries (Male / Female)
Shower gel / deodorant / shampoo
Toilet roll
Long life milk
Washing Powder
Washing up liquid



There will be collection boxes in the School office from **Monday 6th November 2023** until **Monday 4th December 2023**.

The foodbank will be collecting the donations, weighing them up & distributing to the community for Christmas.

Thank you for your support

Miss Blooman

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

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.



Class		Star of the Week
1B		Hassan
1Z		Alexandra
2C		Anna
2M		Eva
3C		Aldrich
3G		Junayd
4AM		Yusuf
4D		Leo
5M		Abrahm
5P		Andrii
6M		Kristina
6S		Ryan
TT Rockstars		THE WHOLE OF CLASS 5M
Reading Eggs		Victoria 2M
AFS	KS1	Jojo 1Z
	KS2	Ada 3C

Birthdays up to 19th November 2023

13th Yusuf 6M & Raphael 1B

17th Alexandra 6M

18th Elissa 6S

19th Binisha 3G



Weekly Attendance		
Class	Attendance %	Number of Lates
RB	89	2
RS	96	4
1B	92	4
1Z	95	11
2C	99	3
2M	99	1
3C	98	5
3G	96	1
4AM	96	1
4D	99	3
5M	95	3
5P	96	1
6M	96	5
6S	96	7
School Target 97.5%		

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

'Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine...'

Anthony J D'Angelo

