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St Mary's Catholic Primary Newsletter

Friday 24th March 2023

Keeping children safe update

Out and about

We are sure that you have done so already, but please give thought to how your child can contact you if they lose their mobile phone – do they know a number by heart rather than in that is saved in their contacts? Do they know their address?

When your child is out and about, going to the park or meeting friends, it is always helpful to remind your child of the following to keep themselves safe.

- tell your child to avoid talking to people they don't know when you're not around
- make sure your child knows never to walk away with strangers
- make sure your child understands that they should always tell you if a stranger approaches, and never to keep this secret
- if your child is travelling alone, tell them to sit near other families on the train or bus
- if your child gets lost, they should ask for help from a police officer, another grown-up with children or someone working at a nearby shop
- have your children learn their address and telephone number by heart


Online safety update and help

Even children in primary schools are influenced more and more by live stream platforms such as YouTube, Instagram and Twitch. Unfortunately, this also may make them vulnerable within this world. The Safer Internet Centre has produced a page dedicated to this – please follow the link for more information regarding this issue


<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/livestreaming-2>

Staying safe online

We have had several issues in school that relate to issues arising from the online use of social media, messaging apps and other platforms. These conversation starters for parents regarding online safety can be very helpful.



Conversation Starters for Parents and Carers



Safer Internet Day is a fantastic opportunity to have a conversation with children about using the internet safely, responsibly and positively.

Whether you are a parent, grandparent, foster carer, aunt, uncle or older sibling – we can all play a role in empowering children to enjoy their time online!

This year, the UK Safer Internet Centre is particularly focusing on the role of images and videos in young people's lives and has provided some conversation starters to help you talk about these issues with children.

Get the conversation started on a positive note with these fun topics!

1. Ask your child about what they like most about the internet and why, such as their favourite app, game or website.
2. Ask your child if they like sharing images and videos online and why. You could talk about your favourite family photos.
3. Share your favourite emoji and ask your child what emoji they like best and why. You could discuss whether emojis make it easier to communicate what you mean.

You could get involved with our Safer Internet Day emoji charades. Find out how www.saferinternet.org.uk/emoji-charades.

Talk about young people's experiences, responsibilities and boundaries

1. Ask your child whether they have seen people in their school posting images to be mean or embarrass someone. What would they do if they saw this? Who could they turn to for help?
2. You could ask whether they think young people are sometimes embarrassed about the photos their parents/carers post of them. You could talk about what you could do to make sure they are happy with images of them online.
3. Ask your child how they can tell if an image or video is truthful. For example, they might have seen images edited to make people look better, or videos that are fake. Can we always tell?

Discuss how we can all 'be the change' and help make the internet a better place

1. What could your child do to make the internet a better place? Can they share images and videos that have a positive message, or do they have creative skills to make their own videos?
2. Ask your child if they know where to go for help, where to find safety advice and privacy settings, and how to report or block on the services they use.
3. Encourage your child to do good digital deeds to help others. Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend that would benefit from their help and support.

For more information and advice visit www.saferinternet.org.uk.

Conversation Starters for Parents and Carers

Depression rooms on Roblox

The online safety experts at Roblox have released this Safeguarding Update about a collection of games trending within the platform. The games depict themes of isolation, cutting, and suicide with some including chatrooms where users engage in unmoderated discussions around hopelessness, depression, self-harm, and suicide. Read more..

<https://ineqe.com/2023/02/22/roblox-depression-rooms/>

Monies Owing

Please pay any monies outstanding for Breakfast Club and dinners by 31st March. Thank you.

World Book Day

Our children in reception really enjoyed dressing-up for World Book Day. They participated in lots of book-related activities on the day. Look at their amazing outfits!!





Reception's trip to Hoo-Zoo. They had an amazing time, and they were all so beautifully behaved!!

Well done children.

Year 5/6 Trip to the Space Centre



Two classes of Year 5/6 children went off to Leicester to visit the Space Centre. They enjoyed six galleries, including the iconic Rocket Tower and the UK's largest domed planetarium, crammed full of space suits, rockets, satellites and meteorites. The staff were all incredibly proud of the children as they were very well-behaved and respectful throughout. They all had a fantastic time.





Easter Egg Appeal

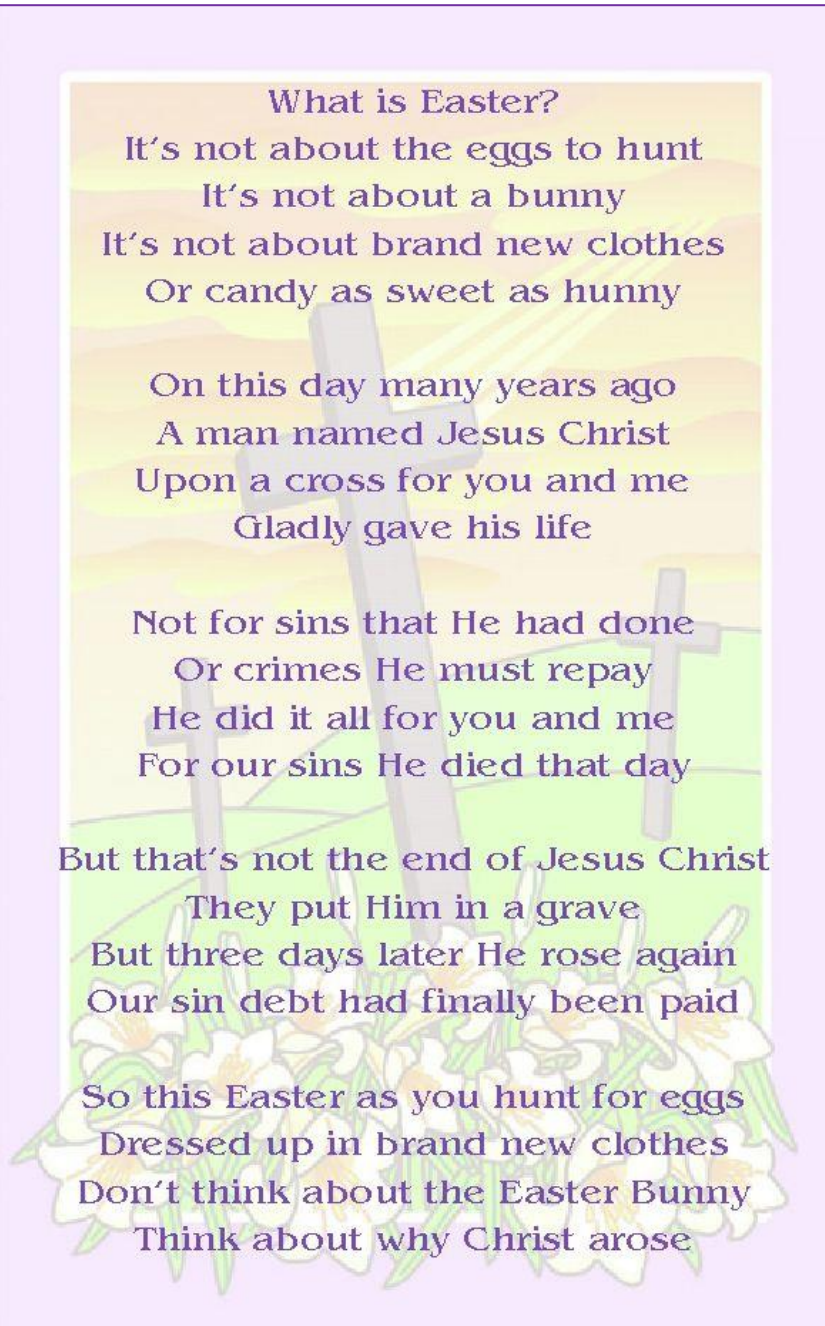
Could we please kindly ask that you donate an Easter egg if you can. We have got our Easter egg hunt at the end of next week, so any donations will be very much appreciated. Thank you

Easter Mass at Church

We will be going to church on Friday morning for an Easter Mass. It is always such a beautiful mass that is enjoyed by staff and children.

Diary Dates

27.3	Year 3 Stone age experiential day 29 th March Year 4 trip to Enginuity 30 th March Easter Egg Hunt 31 st Easter Mass at Church	We ask that parents donate Easter eggs if they can. We do purchase hundreds of eggs for the children to find but the bigger eggs are usually donated. Thank you in advance.
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What is Easter?
It's not about the eggs to hunt
It's not about a bunny
It's not about brand new clothes
Or candy as sweet as hunny

On this day many years ago
A man named Jesus Christ
Upon a cross for you and me
Gladly gave his life

Not for sins that He had done
Or crimes He must repay
He did it all for you and me
For our sins He died that day

But that's not the end of Jesus Christ
They put Him in a grave
But three days later He rose again
Our sin debt had finally been paid

So this Easter as you hunt for eggs
Dressed up in brand new clothes
Don't think about the Easter Bunny
Think about why Christ arose