

# St John Fisher Catholic Primary School "Growing through God, we learn, laugh and love"

# Newsletter 28th January 2022

This week the children have been producing amazing art work based on the theme of 'Light' in conjunction with Halton Primary Arts Network. Some of the art work will be displayed in an exhibition in the Town Square in Runcorn Shopping City.

The exhibition will be open from Monday, 14th February until 4th March.

The Performing Arts will showcase at the Brindley on the 1st March, where our school choir will be singing alongside other Halton Primary Schools. If you're free please try and go along to the exhibition and if you're child is in the choir please support them by attending the concert. Tickets will be available from school very soon.









Year 2 Leaf Lanterns















Year 5 using pastels to portray light into darkness.



# Year 6 using God's natural light for photography









Lots of fun and games in today's French Club



Things are taking shape outside the reception area!

Please take time to read this as it contains important information and it provides good advice for keeping our children safe when using YOUTUBE.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps that we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

#### **INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

#### **CONNECT WITH STRANGERS**

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

#### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, alming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

#### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

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#### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples. S A

#### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

# Advice for Parents & Carers

#### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

#### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

#### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

#### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

#### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert
Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

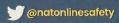




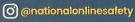












# Awards—Congratulations to the following children



Marvin and Milo Science Awards





Here is the link if you wish to have a look at the Wednesday Word. <a href="https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/gods-love?">https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/gods-love?</a> <a href="pid=MTA101634&v=50.6">pid=MTA101634&v=50.6</a>

26th January 2022

## Dates for your Diary

8th February Safer Internet Day
15th February Parents evening
16th February Parents evening

1st March Choir singing at the Brindley



#### FURTHER DETAILS WILL FOLLOW FOR ALL EVENTS NEARER THE TIME

### Lunchtime and after school clubs

Tuesday lunchtime Chess Club with Mr Redmond

Tuesday after school Football, years 4, 5 and 6 with Mr Lynch

Wednesday after school Table Tennis with Mr Ray
Thursday after school Choir with Mrs Cunliffe

Friday lunchtime French Club with Miss Brown

Coming soon, next half term there will be dance and multi skills clubs for KS1 children.

