



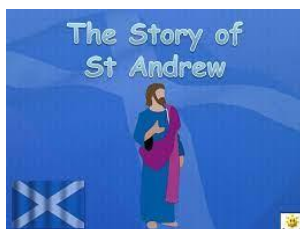
Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 28th November 2025

'With Christ at the centre, we live, love and learn together, reaching out to all.
'Only our best is good enough'

Y3/4 ST. ANDREW'S ASSEMBLY

Thank you to all the parents and family members who came along to support the children in Y3/4 who led our St. Andrew's Day assembly this morning. We hope you enjoyed the assembly which incorporated our rewards assembly. It was lovely to see the 'sea of blue' in the hall to celebrate St. Andrew's Day. Thank you to all those who have donated their £1 for our school funds either in cash or via the Parent Pay option.



ADVENT GIVING PROJECT

At Holy Family, part of our Mission is to *reach out to all*. Therefore, it is only right that as a school community, we reach out to those who need our help this Christmas. For that reason, Advent at Holy Family will be just as much about giving as it will be about receiving. Our Advent Giving Project will begin on Monday 1st December 2025. Your child should have come home with a number this afternoon, which equates to the day in December. If not, don't worry, they will get their number on Monday. Children will also be reminded the day before that it is their turn to bring something in just in case, they forget their number as the month progresses. On their day, children will open the door on the calendar and receive a treat. In return, we ask that they bring in an item for the food bank. This project is always very well supported thanks to your generosity. We're sure this year will be no different.



ATTENDANCE NEWS

The race continues for our Pizza Party competition for attendance for this term. Remember any class that gets 100% receives 2 green marks that week!

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Green – 97%+, **Yellow** – 94%+, **Red** - 93.9% & below

Class	% score	Rating	Total amount of green won this term
Year 6	98%	Green	7
Year 6/5	97%	Green	6
Year 5	99%	Green	12
Year 4	95%	Yellow	8
Year 3/4	99%	Green	4
Year 3	99%	Green	4
Year 2	94%	Yellow	8
Year 1/2	98%	Green	11
Year 1	96%	Yellow	10
Rec K	99%	Green	12
Rec M	95%	Yellow	10

CHOIR IN THE COMMUNITY

Good luck to Holy Family Choir who will be singing this weekend at the Annual Tunza Charity Christmas Fayre, led by Miss Mullin. They will be the first to sing; kicking off the whole weekend! And we know they will do Holy Family proud.

Further details about the event can be found at the end of this newsletter.

As you know, we have a great relationship with Rocksteady who are the leading provider of in-school band lessons for primary age children. Their inclusive approach helps children find a sense of belonging through new friendships and a shared love for music, whilst boosting social skills, wellbeing and confidence. They will be having their next concert in school on Wednesday 3rd December at 10am in the school hall and the parents of those children who take part in these lessons are welcome to join us in the hall once again. The children who are performing can bring in non-uniform and props to wear during their performance and then can change back into their school uniform for the rest of the day.

Hi All,

We have been liaising with school since the start of the new school year on how to spend this money on the children and so far we have contributed the following:

We have also agreed to pay for 10 new scooters for school for £416.50 and contribute £1500 towards new playground equipment.

Many Thanks

PTA

PTA SANTA DASH SPONSORSHIP

Your child should come home with a sponsor form either today or Monday in preparation for the annual Santa Dash. Parents can also make a donation using the online platform rather than the paper sponsor form:

<https://superkind.org/campaign/holy-family-pta-sponsored-santa-dash-2025>



Holy Family Sponsored Santa Dash 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

The children will be taking part in our annual Holy Family Santa Dash on Friday 12th December 2025. Please can this form be returned with monies in an envelope by Monday 15th December 2025 or you can transfer to our new PTA bank Account – **Friends of Holy Family Primary School** – Sort Code 30-99-50, Account number 69039162 reference – ***Santa Dash*** or alternatively please use our sponsor link sent out via the school app where you can opt in for gift aid if applicable

Many Thanks

RTA

Childs Name	Class
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Free
to
enter

Free
Parking
available
at
Morrisons

Tunza's Christmas Markets Weekender

Saturday 29th November, 11am-3pm
Sunday 30th November, 11am-3pm

At The Tunza Centre

Silkstone Works, Boundary Road, St Helens, WA10 2PZ

Seasonal Stalls, Food & Drinks
School Choirs, Brass Bands
Prize Raffle plus Santa's Grotto*

(*£3 per child charge to see Santa
which includes a small present for each child)



AI Chatbots and companions

A simple search of "AI Chat" within the App store highlights the number of AI apps already available, many are rated as 18+ so it is important to speak to our children about them and the risks associated with them. Examples of AI chatbots that your child may have heard of are Character.AI (18+) and My AI from Snapchat (13+).

What are the risks?

- Over reliance on AI companions, for example they may replace 'real life' friendships or over reliance on using them for homework or problem solving.
- Exposure to inappropriate content.
- Privacy/data risks.
- Misinformation as not all information shared is correct and can be biased.

How can I protect my child?

- Check age ratings of any apps or websites that your child accesses.
- Discuss the risks of AI chatbots with them and have open conversations about why they may be using them.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/broadband.
- Chat to your child regularly and ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/newsroom/blogs/ai-chatbots-and-companions-risks-to-children-and-young-people>

New Technology

As some children may be receiving new technology or related games at Christmas, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls.



Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games. *Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.*
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for popular devices here:
Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>
PS5: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>
Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-2-Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-2873385.html>

Tablets/Smart phones

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:
iPhones/iPad: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>
Android Device: <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

The Safety-First Smartphone

The Other phone is a new smartphone, which includes "SafetyMode" software. The software automatically blocks nudity, profanity, and bullying language in real time. You can find out more here: <https://otherphone.co.uk/>.

Smart Phone Free Childhood also list some alternatives that you could consider here: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/alternatives>.

Please note, that the inclusion of these models does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. While these devices may provide a 'safer' alternative to traditional smartphones, there are still potential risks associated with children using any type of phone.

Roblox

Following a recent ITV investigation*, which found extremist content on Roblox, we thought we would provide a reminder of what you need to be aware of. Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. It is free to download (however subscription options and in game/app purchases are available) and can be played across numerous devices. A lot of the content is user generated, which means not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play. If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor what your child is accessing and set up appropriate parental controls. PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label, this is because it is considered a platform with a huge level of user generated content.

What should I be aware of?

Game content – as mentioned, users create games so the content/themes may not be appropriate for your child. Roblox label content based on the type of content rather than by age. The labels are Minimal, Mild, Moderate and Restricted.

Chat Facility - Players can chat with each other (users under the age of 13 need parent permission to access certain chat features though). You can turn communication off completely or add restrictions, such as only able to communicate with friends.

Virtual Currency - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories.

How do I report abuse and block users?

This article outlines the different reporting facilities:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203312410-How-to-Report-Rule-Violations>

What else can I do?

Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and remind your child that if anything is worrying them, then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/roblox>

[*Source: <https://www.itv.com/news/2025-11-14/mosque-attacks-and-far-right-skins-roblox-teens-exposed-to-extremist-content>]

Signal Private Messenger

Signal is rated as 13+ on the App store. It is a messaging app, where users can text, send voice messages and photos plus participate in group chats and calls. There are no parental controls currently available. As with all messaging apps, the risks can include bullying and viewing inappropriate content. Find out more here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

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Discord

Discord is a social networking app originally designed for gamers but is now used by lots of different people to chat to each other online. The minimum age to access Discord is 13. The App store rates it as 17+.

Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server, and they can either be public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups. Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat whilst playing the game (rather than using the game's own chat facility). In-app purchases are available through Discord's subscription service called Nitro.

How can I make it safer?

Discord have created a Family Centre, which provides further information about what Discord is, as well as information about different safety settings available:

<https://discord.com/safety-family-center>

As always, we would encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use Discord and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord as well as inappropriate language. Discord have produced this article, which answers frequent questions:

<https://discord.com/safety/360044149591-answering-parents-and-educators-top-questions>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/deceember-2025-primary/>