



School Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025

'You must love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34.

Working together with love we will provide a happy and nurturing environment where all will, **'learn to love and love to learn'**, making outstanding progress through an enriched and creative curriculum. Through our strong Christian ethos we will celebrate and embrace the richness of our community.

Learn to Love - Love to Learn
'You must love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34



It was lovely to see the children arrive back to school this week, looking very smart and excited to see their friends. I do hope you all had a wonderful summer- we were truly blessed with some beautiful weather. A special welcome also to our new families who have joined us this years and also to Fr. Phillip Garrett who was licenced and installed as Priest in Charge— Vicar of St Giles Church in August . Fr. Phillip will be joining the school on Friday 5th September as we worship together at 9.00am. Coffee and biscuits will be available from 8.30am. You are all welcome to come along and join us!

On **Monday 15th September at 5pm** you will have the opportunity to visit your child's Class Teacher. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to find out what your child/ren will be learning throughout the academic year.

Please do make a note of the time and date.

***3S Meet and Greet will take place on Wednesday 17th September at 5pm.**

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



GENEROSITY

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value **GENEROSITY**. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK TOGETHER about Generosity

When we think about **generosity** we usually think about being **generous** with money or possessions. However, we can also be **generous** with our time, our gifts and our abilities.

Generous people often say that they receive much more than they give. Perhaps this is because when someone is **generous** to us, it makes us want to be **generous** in return. The opposite of being **generous** is being selfish. What kind of person would you prefer to have as a friend?

- How would you describe yourself on this scale?

Selfish Generous
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

- Where would other members of your family put you on the scale and what are their reasons?
- Who is the most **generous** person you know?



READ TOGETHER...

The Widow's Mite

Jesus had been teaching in the Temple. But now he sat down near the treasury and watched as the many visitors to the Temple passed by and dropped money into the collecting box to help with God's work.

The rich men dressed in fine robes threw in handfuls of coins as they passed, without a thought. But then a poor widow came by, paused, and placed just two mites (tiny coins) into the box.

Jesus called his disciples to him and told them what he had seen.

Then he said to them, "Let me tell you, this poor widow gave more than all those people who threw many coins into the treasury. The wealthy men gave just a small part of their riches which made no difference to them. But the widow gave all that she had."

You see, God is more interested in what is in the heart of the giver than the size of their gift.

Bible story based on Mark 12:41-44

A Mite in Jesus' time was a small brass coin worth 1/128th of a denarius. Typically a labourer was paid 1 denarius for a day's work.



In Britain, many years ago, a coin called a mite was in general use and worth half a farthing, a very tiny amount of money.

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"God loves a cheerful giver"
2 Corinthians 9:7

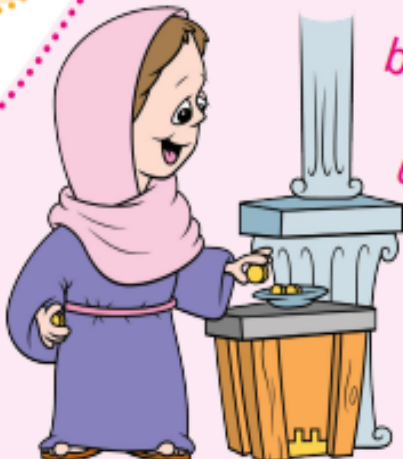
New King James Version® of the Bible



QUIZ

Lost Letters

Which letters are missing from the alphabet? Arrange them to make a word from the story.



x z b d s h k f p j r q a y w u v o s n

☆ HALL OF FAME

A Generous Saint

Nicholas grew up long ago in a poor part of Turkey. His father earned just enough to provide for the needs of his family but many people in the town were extremely poor.

One day something extraordinary happened. A wealthy relative, who Nicholas barely knew, suddenly died and left him a vast fortune. Overnight Nicholas became rich, so rich that he felt very uncomfortable about having so much money when many of the townsfolk barely had enough to eat. But Nicholas knew that the families were proud and they would not want to accept money that they had not earned. He needed to find a way to help them in secret.

So in the dark of night, Nicholas crept through the town leaving parcels of food, clothing and money for the families most in need. He helped one family with three daughters several times. The father was so curious about the mysterious benefactor, that he was determined to stay awake and discover who was being so **generous**. As Nicholas quietly left his gift at the door of their tiny home the man leapt out and chased Nicholas until he finally caught up. Nicholas was embarrassed and begged the man not to give away his secret. The father promised. But he was so happy and grateful that he just couldn't help telling people, and soon the whole town knew about Nicholas' **generosity**.

Nicholas continued to live in the same town and he continued to be **generous** to every one in need. Every December he rewarded the children who had been good during the year by secretly delivering presents whilst they were asleep. To this day Nicholas is remembered in countries across the world when children receive gifts on December 5th, St Nicholas' Day.



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



The Generositree

The fruit of the generositree are blessings.

Think of something **generous** that you could do that would bless someone and make them happy. Then do it.

Design and make a colourful exotic looking fruit to represent the blessing and take it to school to hang on the Generositree.



FAMILY FOCUS

Secret St Nick

Each member of the family could decide on someone that they think deserves a special present. Find some pots for each person and begin to save a small amount each week.

When December comes buy presents that will make your special person smile or that they will find useful. Wrap the gifts as creatively as you can and write their name on a homemade label. Deliver in secret on 5th December, St Nicholas' Day.



FASCINATING FACTS

Leading the Pack

Lieutenant Baden-Powell was a brave soldier in the British Army and served in India and Africa. He was an expert in wilderness survival skills, like hunting, making fires and building rafts. To help new soldiers he wrote a small manual. A version of this became 'Scouting for Boys' and gave him the idea of setting up the Scouting movement.

Today, worldwide, millions of children and young people are Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies or Rainbows.

- In the UK over 160,000 volunteers run Scouting and Guiding groups
- They **generously** give over 20 million hours of service each year
- Many parents also use their skills to help children to earn badges



St Stephen's Church

STAY N' PLAY

THURSDAYS
9.30AM-11.30AM

For parents, carers, babies and toddlers
Join us for play, music-time, coffee and chat!
Free sessions (including snack)

Term
Time
Only



PLAY

EXPLORE

ENJOY

FREE SESSIONS!

ALL ARE WELCOME

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ros (01902)737793

St Stephen's Church, Wolverhampton Street WV13 2PS



Messy
CHURCH

FREE
ENTRY

at
St Stephen's

FOOD

GAMES

CRAFTS

STORIES

SONGS

Sunday 21st Sept

4-5.30pm

St Stephen's Church,
Wolverhampton Street, Willenhall WV13 2PS

**FUN, FAITH & FOOD for
FAMILIES!!!**

All Welcome! (No need to book)

FREE!

Caldmore Community Garden, Carless Street, WSI 3RH

LEAP INTO AUTUMN

1pm -
"The Mushroom
Show"
theatre performance
by Scratchworks
Theatre
2pm -
Theatre workshop

Celebrating
Froglife's Coalface
to Wildspace project
with exhibition, stalls,
crafts and art with
Juneau projects

**SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER
12-4PM**



Online Safety Newsletter

Sept 2025

Coverstar

Coverstar say they are "the safe TikTok alternative." They state, "there is no specific age limitation...however, if you are under the age of 13, you must obtain parental consent." Users can post, comment and livestream.

Whilst Coverstar does not include private messaging, users can still interact via public comments. Coverstar does use moderation tools to scan all user-generated content. It is also important to be aware that Coverstar does allow in-app purchases ranging from £0.99 - £59.99.

If your child is using this app, ensure they know how to use the reporting tools. Bark provide a full review of Coverstar here, but they rate it as suitable for 10+:

<https://www.bark.us/app-reviews/apps/coverstar-app-review>.

Test your knowledge: Online Scams

Childnet have created a quiz for 9-13 year-olds that includes a range of potential online scams, as well as tips to help your child protect themselves online. Find out more here:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/test-your-knowledge-about-online-scams-with-our-quiz-for-9-13-year-olds/>

Online Safety Act

What is the Online Safety Act?

The Online Safety Act 2023 is a set of laws introduced to protect children and adults online. Ofcom is the regulator for online safety in the UK, responsible for ensuring companies follow the new rules. As part of this role, Ofcom have designed the Children Codes of practice, which came into force in July

2025. The codes outline what all online services likely to be accessed by children must do to protect children online, for example:

- Enforce age limits.
- Protect children from accessing harmful or age-inappropriate content. This includes content relating to self-harm and eating disorders.
- Ensure users can easily report harmful content.

Ofcom has the power to enforce the rules as well as issue fines if companies fail to comply. You can find out more here:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/online-safety/protecting-children/new-rules-for-a-safer-generation-of-children-online>

How will it help to protect my child?

One of the main purposes of the Act is to protect children online. Ofcom has published information on how they are helping children to be safer online. The first link is a guide for parents, which also includes a section on what you can do as a parent. You can access this information here:

- <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/online-safety/protecting-children/how-ofcom-is-helping-children-to-be-safer-online-a-guide-for-parents>
- <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/online-safety/protecting-children/how-the-online-safety-act-will-help-to-protect-children>

Further information

Online Safety Act: explainer:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/online-safety-act-explainer/online-safety-act-explainer>



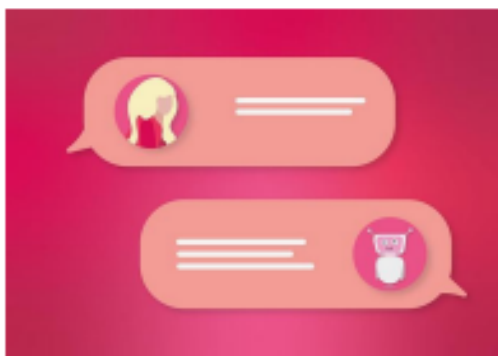
Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/sept-2025/>

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

What is AI?

AI is when a computer/machine can learn and perform tasks like a human. Its popularity continues to grow, and examples include:

- **Search engines** such as Google now include an AI-generated overview as part of their results.
- **Virtual assistants** like Alexa, Meta AI and Siri.
- **Chatbots** such as ChatGPT and My AI from Snapchat.



Opportunities

AI can be an effective tool when used correctly, for instance:

- **Homework** – children can use AI to support and assist their learning.
- **Advice** – AI can be used to provide information and suggestions on a variety of topics.

Risks and concerns

- **Misinformation** – ensure your child understands that AI can sometimes provide incorrect or misleading information.
- **Privacy issues** – read any privacy policies before using.
- **Chat apps** - a simple search of “AI Chat” within the App store highlights the number of apps already available that are not suitable for children as many are rated as 17+.
- **Image manipulation** – there are AI tools that can be used to digitally remove clothes from photos, which clearly raises serious safeguarding and privacy concerns.
- **Deepfakes** – there are also AI tools that create realistic, fake videos that can be used to spread misinformation or cause harm.

How can I protect my child?

To help keep your child safe online, it is important to:

- Check age ratings of any apps or websites that your child accesses.
- Develop your child’s digital literacy by highlighting the risks of AI and showing them how important it is to verify what they see online.
- 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

- Overview: <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/by-activity/using-artificial-intelligence/what-is-ai-artificial-intelligence/>
- Should you worry if your child has an AI friend? <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/should-you-worry-if-your-child-has-ai-friend>

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Roblox: Grow a Garden

Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Grow a Garden is one of the latest games available on Roblox and is extremely popular. The game is labelled as ‘minimal’ for content maturity, which Roblox define as “may contain occasional mild violence, light unrealistic blood, and/or occasional mild fear.” Roblox believe that the game play is suitable for everyone. However, as the game is on Roblox, it is important to be aware of the following:

- **Chat** – strangers can interact with your child.
- **In-game purchases** – this game does include in-game purchases.
- **Screentime** – set limits for how long your child is playing.

A lot of the content on Roblox is user generated, which may mean 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, ensure they know how to use any reporting tools and set up appropriate parental controls.

Further information

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/30428310121620-Parental-Controls-Overview>

Grooming online

Grooming is when somebody seeks to build a relationship with a child to exploit them or cause harm.

It is important that we teach our children how to recognise red flags. Childline have lots of useful information on their website, including where to get further support from:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/online-grooming/>

Term Dates

2025/26 academic year

Autumn term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 1 September 2025
- Half term holiday: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025

Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025

Spring term 2026

- Term starts: Monday 5 January 2026
- Half term holiday: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026

Summer term 2026

- Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026
- Half term holiday: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Term ends: Monday 20 July 2026

Non-Pupil Days

~~INSET 1 Monday 1st September 2025~~

INSET 2 Wednesday 1st October 2025

INSET 3 Wednesday 28th January 2026

INSET 4 Wednesday 24th June 2026

INSET 5 Monday 20th July 2026



If you have any concerns about a child, trust your instincts and contact the NSPCC Helpline. Our specialist team will listen, advise and take any action needed.

An estimated 1 in 20 children have experienced sexual abuse. And child sexual abuse is under-reported by adults. It's time for that to change.

It's never too soon to talk to us. And what you share could make a life-changing difference to a child.

You can contact the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000, emailing help@NSPCC.org.uk or completing our report abuse online form.

Due to an increase in demand across our service, our voice Helpline is currently available 11am–5pm Monday to Friday. You can still email help@NSPCC.org.uk or complete our report abuse online form at any time for free. You don't have to say who you are.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please call the police on 999 straight away.