



Newsletter

20th May, 2022

office@stjamesvaschool.co.uk
head@stjamesvaschool.co.uk

This week has seen our Y6 children go off on their residential trip—they've been having a great time sailing, climbing, paddle boarding, raft making and not sleeping! They return later today, no doubt full of stories of the memories made. I am grateful for all the staff who have worked so hard to make this happen—Mr Leach, Mrs Sims and Miss Bamber—and for giving up their own personal time to ensure that the children have a wonderful, and safe, time during their time away from home.

Elsewhere, children in Robins have been watching their caterpillars very carefully this week and have seen the chrysalises start to develop. Our Year 5 children really enjoyed another sporting event at Biddenham School. Robins and Whinchats enjoyed some special tennis sessions this morning, GreenJays have used block printing techniques to create their own flags and of course our Year 2 children have completed their SATs tests this week. We've also been informed that one of our children has won a prize in the Harpur Trust competition, with others being commended for their entries and having their art work displayed at the Higgins museum—we will formally announce this when the certificates arrive in school, so watch this space!

Next week is the last week of Term 5, and ends with a special celebration ahead of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The children will spend Friday learning all about the Queen and her family, and in the afternoon we will enjoy a picnic together as a school family, along with the Pupil Governors' Summer Fair. It should be a lovely way to end what has been a long and at times tricky term!

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful weekend,

Maria & all the team at St James'



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

YouTube Kids is a child-friendly version of YouTube which offers a colourful and easy-to-navigate environment that's suitable for young children. This app is easily accessible and available for mobile devices, which can be downloaded without needing the YouTube app on the device. Despite YouTube Kids seeming like a very child-friendly platform, it has raised concerns over its advertising and inappropriate content seeping through the curation process.

SETTING UP

1 Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your own YouTube channel.

2 Input your child's name, age and birth month.

3 Select the types of videos you want to include for your child based on their age and your own personal choice.

4 If you decide to approve the content yourself, the app will present you with sample videos for you to accept and reject.

5 Once you've made your choice, you're ready to use the app!

Advice for Parents & Carers

REMOVE ADVERTISEMENTS

Like YouTube, adverts on YouTube Kids are also quite pervasive. If you decide you don't want your child being exposed to adverts, you can subscribe to YouTube Premium which will remove adverts on YouTube Kids. However, it's worth remembering that this doesn't block adverts that content creators decide to make as part of their content, and children are still able to access channels from branded fast food or toy companies.

BE WARY OF UNSUITABLE CONTENT

YouTube Kids has a far lower chance of showing unsuitable material than YouTube, but there are still reports of malicious users deliberately uploading inappropriate content. It's important that your child feels able to talk to you if they were ever exposed to upsetting content in the future. It's also safest to report inappropriate videos: tap the three dots in the corner of the video and select 'Report'.

DISABLE SEARCH OPTION

YouTube Kids allows you to disable the search feature, which you may find useful in preventing your child from unintentionally finding age-inappropriate content. Doing this will also give you more control over what your child is watching. It's also worth noting that setting an age limit will ensure that your child is only exposed to recommended videos that are deemed suitable for their age group.

RESTRICT VIEWING TIME

The YouTube Kids app provides you with the option of setting up a timer to monitor and limit your child's daily usage, which automatically stops the video when it reaches the set time. It may be best to make use of this feature to prevent screen addiction - which can potentially lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the following day.

MONITOR WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has also made it possible for parents and carers to see what their children are watching on the app by clicking on the 'Recommended' icon on the top right of the home screen. It may also be worth having a look at what your child has recently watched by clicking on their history tab. The red bar on the video shows how much of the video has been watched.

WATCH TOGETHER

It's important to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for your child. This may require spending time finding channels and content that you and your child will enjoy and benefit from. Try introducing family sessions where you can share the most enjoyable videos that you and your child have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you and your child many new things to talk about with each other.

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.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.04.2022



YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People

Whether you work at a youth club, coach a sports team, or run extra-curricular activities outside of school, we know the positive and crucial role you play in the lives of young people but understand you may often feel under-equipped to support them.



1 week to go, until our Pupil Governor Summer Fair!

We are very busy finalising the plans for our Summer Fair, being held on Friday 27th May. Your child will need spending money for the Fair, NO MORE THAN £2 PLEASE (in loose change if possible!) The aim of our Fair is to raise money for our chosen charity; Young Minds, which is a charity that supports young people's mental health. See the website for more information: www.youngminds.org.uk

We are also asking for donations of soft toys for Robins stall; please send these in from Monday 23rd May.

Thank you for your support,

The Pupil Governors and Mrs De Luca

Explore the gardens of Church End Biddenham



Sunday 26th June 2022, 2pm–5pm

Come and explore the variety of gardens along Church End, The Old Barns and Manor Road, Biddenham - whether pristine, everyday, interesting or just “work in progress”.

Afternoon tea with home-made cakes for sale in the Church Barn.
Plants for sale.

Tickets £5 per person for all gardens, available on the day from the Church Barn (next to St James's Church at MK40 4AS), or by the postbox, The Old Barns. Accompanied children under 12 free.

*Parking along Main Road. Well controlled dogs on leads, children and buggies all welcome. **Note:** There are ponds, steps and other hazards in some gardens and wheelchair access may be limited in some areas.*

For more information, email churchendgardens@gmail.com

***In aid of The Friends of St James, Biddenham
- the charity which preserves and enhances the historic church buildings for future generations***