



Executive Headteacher : Mrs H Milligan  
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## Our Mission:

We strive to  
follow Christ example ,  
to always do our best.

## Mrs Milligan and Mrs Husted's Message

What a wonderful week!

As we go to press, we are ready for our Annual Christmas Fayre! This is a wonderful celebration of our St Wilfrid's Family and Community, gathering together. Thank you to each one of you for your generous donations and for those who have given their time to organise the event . We are truly grateful to all of you.

Our Fayre kicks off our Christmas season of events—Christmas Clothes day, raising money for Birmingham Children's Hospital, Bring a Loved one to Lunch, the Nativity Play for our youngest children, the annual Carol Concert and much much more! Make sure you check out the dates page on this newsletter so that you are up to speed on what is happening!

Sunday marks the first Sunday of Advent in the church year - a time of preparation for Christmas, when we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus, and wait with hope, peace, love and joy in our hearts and spread that to others.

. TRIVIA for the Christmas Season:

Do you know the origin of the Christmas Candy Cane?

The story goes that this tradition started over 250 years ago : a choir master was worried about the children in church sitting through the long Christmas Nativity service, so he gave them all a candy cane to eat! He used the candy cane as it was shaped like the shepherds' crooks - the shepherds who visited the baby Jesus!



In our behaviour, we are  
**Ready, Respectful and Safe**

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## Catholic Life and Mission

### The God who Speaks

*'This week, in school we talked of the Feast of Christ the King. This was celebrated at Mass last Sunday and was the final week in the liturgical calendar - we thanked God for the gift of Jesus and all that he gives us.*



### Catholic Schools' Pupil Profile : Values and Virtues

#### Infants

#### Juniors

Jacob (2G)

Mayumi (3G)

### Fundamental British Values



#### DEMOCRACY:

This week, Mrs Husted met with the School Council, who brought to her some suggestions for making their time in the playground even better. They spoke of new games they would like and have been tasked with asking each class to come up with a list which they will prioritise and provide fundraising activities to purchase.

### Virtues of the Half Term

And

### Catholic Social Teachings



This half term, we are

**Attentive and Discerning**

This week, with our Christmas Fayre, we are not only being attentive to the needs of the parish by raising much needed funds for them, we are being attentive to the needs of our own children, raising money to make our library an appealing, welcoming and wonderful place to be!



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## Dates for your Diary

### Teacher Days for Academic year 2023-24

~~Monday 4th September 2023~~  
~~Friday 29th September 2023~~  
~~Friday 27th October 2023~~  
Monday 19th February 2024  
Monday 22nd July 2024

Date	Event (more dates will be added as finalised, so please continue to check)
9th November	Y6 Confirmation—time to be confirmed
10th Nov	Non-uniform—bring a bottle for the Christmas Fayre
13th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week begins—WEAR ODD SOCKS
14th Nov	Mrs Milligan and Mrs Husted's Coffee morning
17th Nov	Non-uniform—bring toiletries for the Christmas Fayre
21st Nov	Year 2 Stay and Pray
24th Nov	Non-uniform—bring pre-loved toys and games—good condition—for Christmas Fayre
27th Nov	Year 4 Parent Workshop
1st Dec	Non-uniform—bring cakes for the Christmas Fayre
1st Dec	Christmas fayre
4th December	Attendance Prize Week Continues!
6th December	Nursery Christmas Jumper Day
6th Dec	Bring a loved one to Christmas lunch
8th Dec	Jolly Christmas Jumper Day—£1 donation for Birmingham Children's Hospital
8th Dec	Y4 - West Midlands Fire Service—road and fire safety : risks, causes and what to do when in danger
WC 11th Dec	Singing at Care Home
19th Dec 9:30am	Nursery and Reception Nativity
20th Dec 2pm	Years 1-6 Christmas Concert



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## Composer of the Month



Our composer of the month is

# Danny Elfman

Danny Elfman is a modern American composer who wrote the music to a number of soundtracks, with which you may be familiar. We start this week, with The Theme to Batman—have a listen and decide whether you think this is a dramatic enough composition for Batman! We think it is!  
Dance around like Batman whilst you listen!

<https://open.spotify.com/track/50csT5Qb2qOF7IHdDQ1Sbx?si=8e3929d98847495a>



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## Awards

Each week, our children will be awarded certificates/trophies in Celebration Assembly .

This is a celebration of their God given talents and skills!

Please send in any awards they have achieved outside of school.



Class	
Nurs	Zemirah
RDG	Franklin
RBB	Amaira
1DS	Whole class
1P	Theo
2M	Teheira
2G	Alexis
3G	Victor
3CM	Xamora
4C	Layla
4S	Jennaye
5B	Daniyal
5P	Kaiden
6G	Sefora
6W	Mamadou
Music	Y2G
Sport	Zariah (6G)
Wise Owl	Akiro (3G)
Lunchtime	Neeko (5B), Seunla (1DS), 5P



Let's  
*Celebrate*



## Attendance—Target 95%

**Please note that holidays in term time will NOT be authorised.**

Class	%
RDG	83%
RBB	85%
1DS	92%
1P	91%
2G	97%
2M	98%
3CM	94%
3G	87%
4C	89%
4S	93%
5P	87%
5B	91%
6G	92%
6W	94%
Total	91.5

If class teachers are  
concerned about your child's  
attendance they will speak to you  
in the first instance and  
work with you to put

**Number of children who came to school 100% of  
the time**

**251!**

Those children will all get to have a dip in the prize  
box

**Classes achieving at and above 95% overall!**

Only 2— LOTS of sickness bugs going round at  
the minute...rest over the weekend and get well  
soon

One more class than last week!

**Spot prizes for fabulous attendance will be distributed. Treats for all classes over 95%**



### **Termly**

Pupils will get a certificate if they achieve 95% and above attendance

One term of 95% bronze certificate  
Two terms of 95% silver certificate  
Three terms of 95% gold certificate



## Talking Point

This week, Y6 were talking about global issues in English! What do you think to THIS global issue?

**World's Biggest Iceberg is moving!**

On BBC Newsround this week, you may have seen a story about the world's biggest iceberg, moving across the waters in Antarctica. It is also one of the oldest icebergs in the world.

Scientists don't know exactly why it is moving but it could be because of the planet warming up and melting it, causing it to be lighter for the waters to move.



What will happen if this iceberg continues to melt?

How can we stop the earth from warming up even more?

What else might happen if the earth continues to warm up?

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## And finally...

The Children's Commissioner has launched The Big Ambition survey to understand what children want ahead of the next General Election. Please share this link or QR code with young people so they can have their say: <https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>.  
This survey is still open until FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER



Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Milligan, Mrs Husted and all the Staff



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## A message from The Bromford Theatre Group

 **TICKETS ON SALE**



The Bromford Theatre Group Presents

**Dick Whittington**

Tickets Available now from



The Hub 146 Bromford Drive  
Firs Primary School Dreghorn Rd  
Sonny's Fish Shop Shawsdale Road

**Ticket Prices**  
£6.50 each    2 for £11.00  
FAMILY OF 4    £16.00

**SHOW ONE**  
Saturday 9th December  
Doors open 6.30pm  
Show starts 7pm - 9pm

**SHOW TWO**  
SUNDAY 10th December  
Doors Open 4pm  
Show starts 4.30pm - 6.30pm

**VENUE**  
Firs Primary School,  
Dreghorn Road,  
Firs Estate, B36 8LL.

Only Payment will secure your seat  
no seats will be reserved — No refunds



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## Holiday Clubs

# YEARN 2 B FREE GIRLS' HOLIDAY CLUB 8-16 YEARS

### DATE:

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan

### VENUE:

11am to 3pm

**SHARD END WELLBEING CENTRE**  
**170 PACKINGTON AVENUE**  
**SHARD END B34 7RD**

### STAFF DBS CHECKED

**PLEASE NOTE: PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL  
VIA BRING IT ON BRUM WEBSITE.**

**FREE SCHOOL MEAL CHILDREN WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY**

**SUBSIDED COST: £5 PER DAY FOR NON-FSM**

**PLACES ARE LIMITED  
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

### TO BOOK

Email:

[yearn2be@gmail.com](mailto:yearn2be@gmail.com)

Call: 07464 029215

Facebook: Yearn To Be

**We will direct you to the  
Bring it on Brum site to  
book**

### ACTIVITIES

Boxing/Pad Work

Circuits

Arts & Crafts

Performing

Team Activities

Cooking

Self Confidence

Building Activities

### BENEFITS

Improve Well Being

Physical Fitness

Confidence Building

Improve Self-Esteem



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## Holiday Clubs

# YEARN 2 B FREE HOLIDAY CLUB 6-12 YEARS

### DATE:

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan

### VENUE:

11am to 3pm

**SHARD END WELLBEING CENTRE**  
**170 PACKINGTON AVENUE**  
**SHARD END B34 7RD**

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Cooking  
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### BENEFITS

Improve Well Being  
Physical Fitness  
Confidence Building  
Improve Self-Esteem





## Online Safety Newsletter December 2023

### Minecraft

Minecraft remains ever popular and with Christmas ahead of us, maybe your child will be receiving this game as one of their presents. Minecraft Legends is rated as PEGI 7 meaning it is suitable for those over 7 years of age. The App store rate Minecraft as 9+.

You should be aware that there is a multiplayer option so players can chat to each other, and in-app purchases are available. Parental controls are available, either within Minecraft or on the console itself e.g. Nintendo Switch or PlayStation. Find out more here:

<https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/article/parental-controls>

### Toxicity in game play

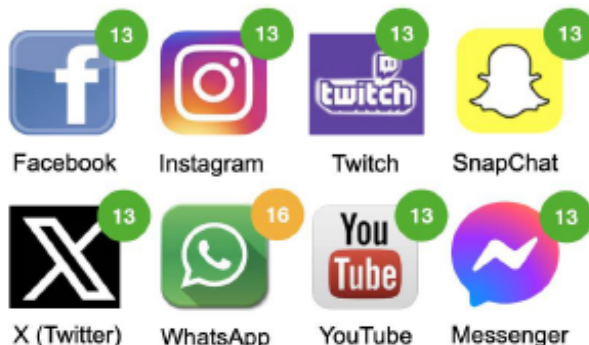
Safe In Our World and Ubisoft (creators of games such as Assassins Creed) have co-developed the 'Good Game Playbook'. The playbook will be sent to players reporting disruptive behaviour as well as the individual reported. This is to support the person affected as well as to try and educate the person reported about the harm their behaviour might have on others.

You can read the handbook here:

<https://safeinourworld.org/news/ubisoft-safe-in-our-world-partner-to-combat-in-game-toxicity/>

### Get to know Age Ratings

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. **Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?**



Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online, using social media or downloading other apps – check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI include further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence, if accessing the app/game etc.

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls.

#### Further information

Parent Zone have published this article about why age ratings matter:  
<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/age-ratings>

### Artificial Intelligence (AI)

It can be difficult to keep up to date with new technologies and to know if there are any related risks that we need to be aware of when using new technologies. AI is being talked about a lot, so it is worthwhile learning more about it now to help support/answer questions if our children show an interest. Twinkl provide a brilliant overview of AI here:

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/parents-guide-top-tips-for-navigating-generative-ai-safely-with-kids>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.  
Current as of the date released 1.12.23.



## Snapshot

### What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. **You must be 13+ to sign up.** Users can send messages (snaps)

to others that can only be seen for a set time e.g. 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.



### What should I be concerned about?

There are risks to using Snapchat, including the risk of your child viewing content that is not appropriate for them, location sharing and contact from strangers.

### Family Centre features

Family Centre includes features such as allowing you to see who your child is friends with, who they are communicating with (not the contents of conversations though) and who your child has sent messages, photos or videos to in the last week. You will also be able to report any accounts that you are concerned about as well as restrict sensitive content. Snapchat have also published a safety checklist to help support conversations about how to use Snapchat safely:

- <https://parents.snapchat.com/en-GB/parental-controls?lang=en-GB>

### New safeguarding features

Snapchat have recently announced their newest features to help protect 13-17-year-olds. The first feature is in-app warnings so a pop-up warning will now be displayed if someone tries to add them as a friend that they don't have mutual contacts with, or the person isn't in their contacts.

The second feature is 'stronger friending protections.' Currently 13-17-year-olds must have several mutual friends in common for that user to show up in search results or as a friend suggestion, but this number has been increased. These two features are available to users aged 13-17-year-olds, this is one of the reasons why it is always important for your child to sign up with their correct date of birth, so they can benefit from any such features.

- <https://values.snap.com/en-GB/news/new-safeguards-for-snapchatters-2023>

### Safety tips

Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up on Snapchat and your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary:

- <https://support.snapchat.com/en-GB/article/privacy-settings2>

### More information

- <https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/parental-controls/snapchat>

## Fake Profiles and Cyberbullying

Setting up a profile impersonating somebody else with the intention of being unkind to others/to cause embarrassment to the individual is a form of cyberbullying.

If your child has set up a fake profile, talk to them about how this is a form of bullying and therefore not acceptable.

It is important that we talk to our children about the issue of cyberbullying and let them know that if they are ever a victim of it then it is not their fault, and they should tell you (or a trusted adult) straightaway. Talk to your child about reporting and blocking tools on social media or online games and show them how to use them to report any form of bullying.

You can read more about cyberbullying here:

- <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/types-bullying/bullying-cyberbullying/>
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

Additionally, Report Harmful Content have listed how you can report impersonation accounts on the different social media networks here:

<https://reportharmfulcontent.com/advice/impersonation/>

