



Head's News...

The busy school week culminated in our coronation celebration on Friday afternoon. Children have used technology skills to bake tasty treats and enjoyed a traditional Summer tea party, complete with crowns, bunting and loud renditions of 'God Save the King'. The whole school community wish His Majesty the King a long and prosperous reign.

Our Year 6 children tackle their SATs next week, I hope that they have a relaxing weekend as they prepare for these important tests. They begin on Tuesday and will finish Friday morning. Good luck to our amazing Year 6 children!

Many parents will notice an increase in the marketing for our Nursery. After a highly successful opening, our doors are now fully open for children. The staff are all in place and resources have been allocated to ensure that the children receive the excellent nurturing that we are all familiar with at St. John's.

Three cheers for another bank holiday weekend, enjoy time with your families and come back safely on Tuesday.

Mr Morton

ATTENDANCE

FOR 24TH – 28TH APRIL

'Attend today, achieve tomorrow'

Early Years: 88%

Year 1: 96%

Year 2: 97%

Year 3: 94%

Year 4: 96%

Year 5: 97%

Year 6: 95%

**A special prayer for our
Year 6 pupils who will be
taking their KS2 SATs
next week...**

*Help me, not only with this
test, but the many tests of
life that are sure to come
my way. and be gracious
with what I have overlooked.
Help me to remain focussed
and calm, confident in the
facts and in my ability, and
firm in the knowledge that
no matter what happens
today you are there with
me.
Amen.*

St. John's RC Primary School

Inspired by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teaching of Jesus



Upcoming Birthdays



Nathan Y4


Olivier Y4

HOUSE POINTS

 **Water = 143**

 **Fire = 141**

 **Earth = 121**

 **Air = 121**

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to the following pupils who received awards this week:

Reception: Elsie Miles

Year 1: Jackson, Rowan, Millie

Year 2: Gilroy, Kiara, Mala

Year 3: Isabella, Gabby, Sharon

Year 4: Holly, Cian, Alex, Joey

Year 5: Sophie, Joshua, Adam

Year 6: Dawid, John, Conor

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Coronation Tea Party!

We had so much fun celebrating the up-and-coming King's Coronation with a whole school tea party! The food was all prepared by each class for us all to enjoy!



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Key Dates

Tuesday 9 th May-Thursday 11 th May	KS2 SATs Tests
Friday 12 th May	Class Photos – all children in full school uniform
Saturday 13 th May	Holy Communion Preparation 4pm St. John's Church
Monday 16 th May-Thursday 18 th May	KS1 SATs Tests
Tuesday 23 rd May	Year 6 Confirmation 6:30pm St. John's Church
Friday 26 th May	End of Term
Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June MAY HALF TERM	
Monday 5 th June	New Term Starts
Monday 5 th June – Friday 16 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Testing Weeks
Monday 5 th June – Tuesday 6 th June	Year 4 Residential to Youlbury
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th June	Phonics Screening Checks
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th June	Year 6 Residential
Friday 16 th June	Fathers' Day Stall
Friday 16 th June	Year 1 Parents Meeting
Saturday 17 th June	Year 3 First Holy Communion St. John's Church 12:00pm
Monday 19 th – Tuesday 20 th	Year 5 Residential to Youlbury
Friday 23 rd June	Year 3 and 4 Bikeability Taster Sessions
Wednesday 28 th June	Matilda Theatre Trip
Monday 3 rd July – Thursday 6 th July	Year 6 Transition Week at BGN
Monday 3 rd July and Tuesday 4 th July	Year 6 Transition Days at Wykham Park School
Thursday 6 th July	EY and KS1 Trip
Friday 7 th July	KS2 Trip
Monday 10 th July and Tuesday 11 th July	Year 6 Transition Days at Warriner School



SAFEGUARDING

If you have concerns that a child may be in immediate danger, call the **police on 999** or **MASH on 0345 050 7666**.

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child or family, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01295 263740 and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team. Alternatively, you can email our DSL directly louise.kenny@st-johns-banbury.oxon.sch.uk

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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