

ST IGNATIUS NEWSLETTER

12.09.2025



'Achieving our best by learning together and serving one another with Christ by our side'



Dear Parents / Carers,

The first full week is now complete! This has been a tremendous start to this new academic year. Children are working extremely hard, looking very smart, on time for school. I couldn't be prouder.

This week I spoke to the children about Carlo Acutis, the young boy who was made a Saint this week. He was an inspiration to all of us but mostly to young children. In this weeks Gospel we heard about Jesus explaining to the disciples that if they wanted to follow him, it wouldn't always be an easy road. This reminds us that life is sacred and there will be difficulties as part of this journey. We are reminded too, that Christ is always by our side.

This year, I would really like to create a very special prayer garden for the Saint Ignatius family. It is quite a big task and over the coming months I will be asking for some help with this project. I will be looking for any parents who are builders, gardeners, designers, artists and anyone with an interest in supporting me in creating a wonderful prayer garden for our children.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

Years 5 & 6 Talk - Mr Mc Nulty,
Headteacher of St Paul's @ 6pm

TUESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

-

WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

School Photographs (All Day)

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

-

FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

Year 4 attend Mass
Year 5 Swimming

I am delighted and very thankful for the positive support for pencil cases, the buying of books in KS2 and for the positive response to the Class DoJo system for communication. I never take for granted how lucky I am to have such a supportive group of parents.

Have a lovely weekend.

God bless,

Mrs Murphy - Headteacher

Parent Information Sessions

A reminder that we will be delivering a series of sessions for parents on how best to support your child with their learning. We will cover early reading, phonics, writing, maths and safeguarding. The dates and times are listed below and all sessions will begin at 2:15 pm and will be held in the hall.

- Monday 29th September @ 2:15 pm - KS1 English
- Tuesday 30th September @ 2:15 pm - KS1 Maths
- Thursday 2nd October @ 2:15 pm - KS2 English
- Monday 6th October @ 2:15 pm - Safeguarding and Online Safety
- Wednesday 8th October @ 2:15 pm - KS2 Maths

Mrs Murphy - Headteacher

Prime Minister's Letter to Parents



A [letter](#) to parents about plans to change outcomes for 5- year-olds.

Mrs Murphy - Headteacher

School Bag Keyrings

We have noticed an increase in children bringing in Labubu keyrings this week to school. They are becoming a popularity contest/craze amongst the children. Please can we request that these are not brought into school and that children should only have one keyring attached to their bag to help as a bag identifier.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Murphy - Headteacher

After School Clubs

Please be reminded that **all** after school clubs commence next week.

Bookings for our after school clubs are now closed. If you would like to enquire about availability for any of the clubs, please email me directly via admin@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk.

Miss McCormack - School Office

OPAL Play Certificates

The following children have been awarded an OPAL play certificate during our Friday Celebration Assembly.

Good Tidying Award

- Alicja M (2BP)
- Florence F (2BP)

Good Playing Award

- Emily D (4P)
- Jimmy R (4AP)
- Aiden P (1OS)

Miss Frew - Assistant Headteacher





TAKE OUR READING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Volunteer at our Reading Cafe

Open Monday to Friday
8:30 - 9:00
in the School Hall

Volunteer for a regular weekly or
fortnightly session

Sign up by emailing
readingcafe@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk
with the day(s) you can help

Training provided



Headteacher Awards

Each week our pupils are recognised for following our school values. This week's value was **Respectful Rowan**. During our Celebration Assembly today the following children were awarded a Headteacher Award:

Reception:

Badgers - Esmae F
Hedgehogs - Remy W-R

Year 1:

1G - Sebastian M
1OS - Leah P

Year 2:

2C - Jack B
2BP - Esmae S

Year 3:

3BF - Eli G and Brea B
3V - Kiara V

Year 4:

4AP - Millie M
4P - Bonnie C

Year 5:

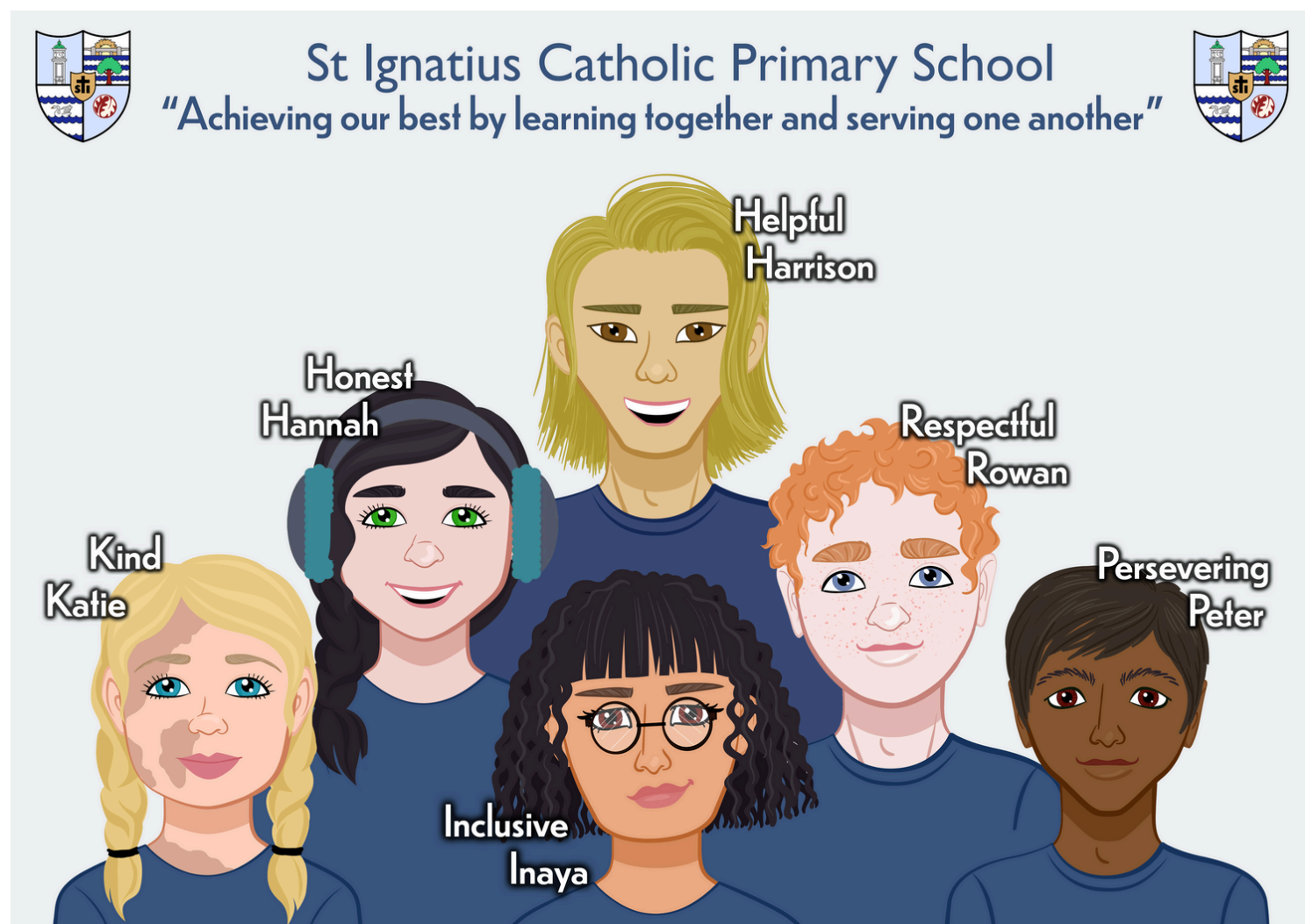
5W - Sophia Whitfield
5B - Julienna W

Year 6:

6N - Tiana P
6S - Freddie F

I am so very proud of each and every one of you!

Mrs Murphy - Headteacher



Year 6 Residential Trip - Medical Information

As we look forward to our upcoming residential trip to PGL Liddington, we kindly ask all parents to complete the medical information form as soon as possible. It is essential that we have the requested details in advance, particularly regarding dietary needs, so that we can inform PGL and make the necessary arrangements.

Please click in the link to access the form. Thank you for your prompt support.

[PGL Medical Form](#)

Mr Sheehan and Mr Newman - Year 6 Class Teachers

PE Notice

Years 5 & 6 Boys Football

Well done to all of the boys who came to the football trials this week. If your child was selected to play in the tournament on Friday 19th September then you will receive a letter this week via email. Please complete the form by clicking on the link enclosed in the letter. The boys were also told who will play in the A team for the league matches and who will be in the B and C teams. A team football training will be every Thursday with Mr Ivins.

Trials for Year 5 & 6 Girls Football

These will take place on Tuesday 16th September. Girls who want to take part should have their trainers on and meet at the Gaflak gate at 12:15 pm.

Years 3 & 4 Boys Football Trials

These will take place on Friday 26th September. Boys who want to take part should have their trainers or football boots on and meet at the Gaflak gate at 12:15 pm.

Miss Grady - PE Lead

Wake Up Wednesdays

The latest update to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' includes clarification that misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories are recognised safeguarding harms. Although they might seem far-fetched, for many people they are very convincing – especially when presented by persuasive influencers or sensationalist videos online. This guide unpacks the risks, including isolation, anxiety, and exposure to extremist content, that can arise when conspiracies go unchecked.

It also highlights how conspiracy theories can erode critical thinking and trust in reliable sources – including schools, families, and the media. With practical advice for nurturing curiosity, encouraging scepticism, and safeguarding children's digital experiences, this edition of Wake Up Wednesday helps adults to tackle tricky topics in a calm and confident manner.

Miss Partington - Year 4 Class Teacher

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

I WANT TO BELIEVE

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>

Let's Celebrate

We love to hear about our pupils' achievements both inside and outside of school.

- Congratulations to **Carmen T-S** (3V) for being awarded '**Beaver of the Week**' on Saturday! This is an amazing achievement in her very first week back after the summer break. She received the award for remembering the important things about respecting the flag and how we carry out our duties

If you would like your child's achievement to feature in the newsletter, please email the details along with a photograph to newsletter@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk.



Mrs Tunnicliffe - Office Manager

EXTERNAL NOTICES

Please be advised that whilst we share external advertisements, St Ignatius does not personally endorse/recommend any of these companies.

Spanish Amigos
Language, Fun & Culture

BOOK A CLASS

Join the **FUN** with **SPANISH** Amigos!

What We Offer

- A fun and engaging way to learn Spanish for children.
- Interactive classes with songs, games, and cultural activities.
- Our programmes follow the National Curriculum guidelines

Wednesday 17th Sept - 3rd Dec 3:00 to 4:00

ONLINE Wednesday 10th Sept - 10th Dec 5:00-5:30 (13 sessions £97.50)

EXISTING return students	FIRST TIME students
11 weeks incl. materials £108.90	11 weeks incl. materials, activity book and songs £125.89

Why Learn Spanish?

- Early exposure to a second language improves maths, grammar, and creativity.
- Spanish builds your child's confidence in communication and learning.
- Spanish is the second most important international language, spoken by 400 million people.

BOOK NOW
<https://spanishamigos.co.uk/book-a-class/>

Enroll today and give your child the gift of a second language!

If you speak Spanish, French or Mandarin a contact us at info@spanishamigos.co.uk

Language, Fun & Culture - Inspiring young learners since 2003

Autumn Term 2025

Monday 15th September - Years 5 & 6 Talk with Mc Nulty, Headteacher at St Pauls @ 6pm

Wednesday 17th September - School Photographs (All Day)

Thursday 25th September - EYFS Tea with the Teacher @ 2.15pm

Monday 29th September - Parent Information Session - KS1 English @ 2.15pm

Tuesday 30th September - Open Morning @ 9.30am

Tuesday 30th September - Parent Information Session KS1 Maths @ 2.15pm

Wednesday 1st October - Catholic Social Teaching Theatre & Workshop

Thursday 2nd October - Parent Information Sessions KS2 English @ 2.15pm

Friday 3rd October - Year 6 Try It Out Day (Cycling)

Friday 3rd October - EYFS Welcome Assembly @ 2.15pm

Saturday 4th October - Community Morning

Monday 6th October - Safeguarding and Online Safety Session @ 2.15pm

Wednesday 8th October - Parent Information Session KS2 Maths @ 2.15pm

Friday 10th October - Grandparents Afternoon

Monday 13th October - Year 6 PGL Trip (All Week)

Wednesday 15th October - Open Afternoon @ 1.30pm

Thursday 16th October - Open Morning @ 9.30am

Monday 20th October - Year 6 Learn to Ride Course

Monday 20th October - Parents Evening @ 3.30pm

Tuesday 21st October - Parents Evening @ 3.30pm

Wednesday 22nd October - PTA AGM Meeting (online) @ 7pm

Thursday 23rd October - INSET Day

Friday 24th October - INSET Day

Safeguarding

Governors and staff of St Ignatius share an objective to help keep children safe by:

- Providing a safe environment for them to learn
- Identifying children who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking appropriate action.

Please read through the safeguarding guidance documents on this page, which include those designed for children. Please contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads below should you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child.

You can do this by calling the school directly, or emailing: dsl@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

You can also find out more about how we teach safety to children on our [Safety Curriculum](#) page, in the Curriculum section of the website.

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL):

Mrs E O'Neill - Deputy Headteacher

DEPUTY DSL:

Mrs H Murphy - Headteacher

Miss T Frew - Assistant Headteacher

Any concerns can be discussed with a DSL. If you have any concerns that involve the Headteacher, please contact the **Ascension Catholic Academy Trust** via email at admin@ascensioncat.org or by telephone on 0208 325 4630. The LGB details are being updated.

You can read our **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** [here](#).

Contact Us

St Ignatius Catholic Primary School
Green Street
Sunbury-on-Thames
TW16 6QG

Telephone: 01932 785396

Email: admin@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

Website: www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk

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