St Mary's C of E Junior School Newsletter

Care. Believe. Succeed.

'All things are possible for one who believes.'

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS

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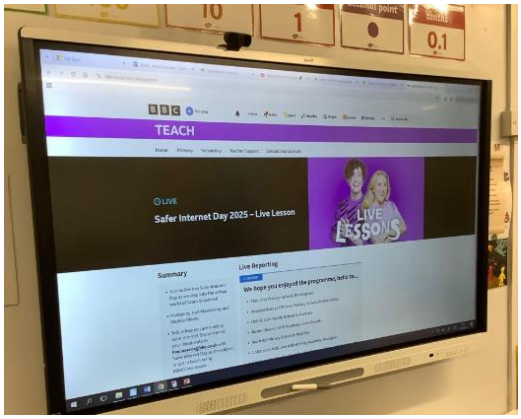
Curriculum & Enrichment

Children's Mental Health Week: Know Yourself, Grow Yourself

Last week the children took part in Children's Mental Health Week. The theme is Know Yourself, Grow Yourself. Everyone enjoyed their yoga and sound bath sessions run by Happy Little Yogi on Monday and Thursday. In classes, the children have been getting to know themselves more by completing activities such as creating their own Islands of Personality, participating in mindfulness sessions and finding out about what their roots and leaves would symbolise when imagining themselves as a plant that we need to nourish and care for.

Year 3 also made their own trees showing the things they can do to grow as a friend. We hope the children have enjoyed the week and have learned a bit more about themselves!

Mrs Hinchliff



Safer Internet Day February 11th 2025

Year 3

The theme this year is 'Too good to be true? Today we had a live assembly along with many other schools for Internet Safety Day. We learnt that cyber-security is really important for keeping our information safe. It's about protecting our phones, tablets and computers from hackers who are people who might try and steal our money and personal information.

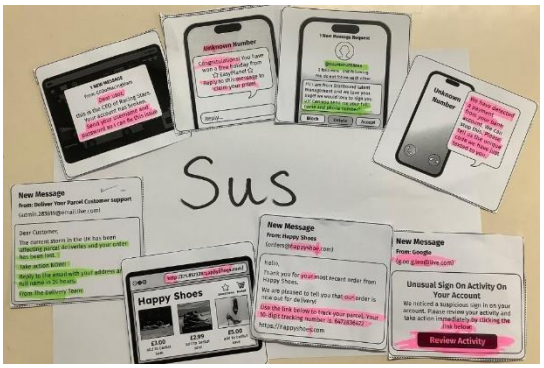
We found out that hackers can do this in sneaky ways, like sending messages pretending to be someone they are not.

We also had a lesson all about age-appropriate apps. This raised some interesting questions. One area was Snapchat, where children felt they may not be safe. We talked about checking with grown-ups if they are unsure.

Year 4

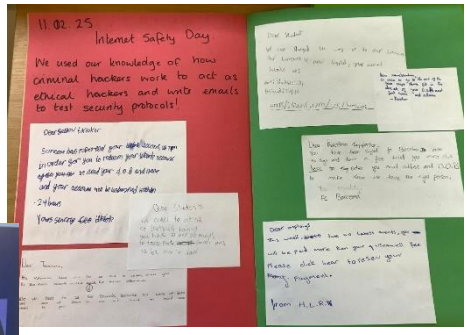
Learning about cyber security has been a real eye opener for some of our children. We learn how to ensure that our personal information isn't at risk when going online, in addition to how others might use our personal data in scams online.

Year 5

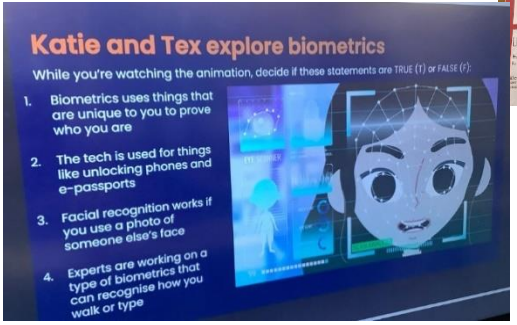


To mark Internet Safety Day today, Y5 did some activities about recognising scams online. We took part in a live lesson, did some role play on responding to telephone scams and sorted the Safe from the Suspicious.

Year 6



Year 6 participated in a live lesson on Internet Safety Day. They then used our knowledge of how criminal hackers work to act as ethical hackers and wrote emails to test security protocols. We also learned about some different jobs that can be found in the technology industry.



Dance Show at St Francis School

A 325 strong crowd witness greatness!

I was really proud of our Dancers on Tuesday 11th February. After weeks of preparation, today was the day of the final rehearsal before the big live show! The team were all nervous as they were preparing to practise on the stage this afternoon, but the nerves didn't show at all as they had an amazing time in the bright lights. Their dance got a lovely ovation from the other schools watching.
We then watched the other schools performances and gave them a big cheer as they were all super too.
The evening was finally here and the night was upon us. It was time for the live event. Over 325 spectators poured through the doors eagerly anticipating the show of all shows. It didn't disappoint. Our children showed tremendous spirit and courage, smiling their way through a breath-taking performance. Possibly the greatest dance to Aladdin's 'Friend Like Me' in history. The round of applause was thunderous. Their parents so proud. For most of them, it was their first time on stage in front of an audience, let alone a 300 strong auditorium!
They are all superstars in my eyes. Well done St Mary's Dance Team.

Mr Hagland

Sporting Successes

We had football matches for our Year 4 boys and our A team boys yesterday against St Pauls Walden on Wednesday 12th February. The boys played amazingly well, winning both games by many goals. The passing and movement was excellent to see, especially for our Year 4's who were representing the school for the first time.

On 13th February, our netballers played in a tournament with King James, Pixmore, Norton and St Francis. The team played really well winning 2, drawing 1 and losing to last years champs.
This was a warmup tournament for the main event in a months' time. The team are going to practise hard, aiming to go one better than their runners up position earlier in the year.

Attention Year 6 Parents

Please complete the Google form attached about an informal meeting for parents relating to SATs preparation.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeNvYQMffaDg2r8Pz2u4aI5H9NN-BKHcawKi29EWf70r-CtSw/viewform?usp=header

Valentines Disco

The children had a ball at the disco last night and it was so wonderful to see them all dancing and enjoying time with each other.
Thank you to all the adults who worked hard to make this event happen. We raised £1000 towards new IT equipment from this event!

Attachments with this newsletter:

- Growing Voices flyer

Spring Term 2025

February Half Term: 17th February to 21st February 2025
Easter Holidays: 7th April to 22nd April 2025 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***

Summer Term 2025

INSET DAY: 22nd April 2025
MAY BANK HOLIDAY: 5th May 2025
Spring Half Term: 26th May to 31st May 2025
INSET DAY: Monday 2nd June 2025
Summer Term Ends: 23rd July 2025 ***(Break up at 1.00pm)***
Summer Holidays: 24th July to 2nd September 2025