



St Pius Spotlight

'To renew all things in Christ'



28.11.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week in school! The children have been working very hard and we have started to decorate for Christmas. If you have any Christmas decorations that you would like to donate to school, please get in touch!

Next week, Class 3 have their Road Safety workshop on Monday afternoon. Please can they bring warm clothes in for the session and a change of footwear as the weather is so unpredictable at the moment?

It is our last non-uniform day before Christmas on Friday 5th December and it is Bring a Bottle. If you have any additional raffle prizes/donations for the Fayre, please feel free to bring those in to school also.

Best wishes as always,

Miss Hudson

Attendance

During celebration assembly on Friday, we have been celebrating whole class attendance and each week the class with the highest attendance will receive our Anna the Attendance Cat to live in their class all week! Well done to Class 4 who won this week.



Week beginning: Monday 17th November 2025	
Year group	Attendance percentage
Class 1	97.5%
Class 2	94.29%
Class 3	97.22%
Class 4	98.62%



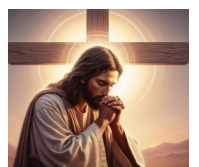
Our overall school attendance this week was 94.79%. Our attendance target is 97%.

Christmas Events

- 05.12.25: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle
- 11.12.25: Christmas Jumper Day
- 12.12.25: Christmas Fayre 2.30pm onwards
- 15.12.25: Christmas dinner day
- 16.12.25: EYFS & KS1 Nativity PM
- 17.12.25: KS2 Nativity and Raffle draw PM
- 18.12.25: Pantomime Trip PM
- 19.12.25: Christmas Parties AM/Mass 1.30PM



This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent.
May we enter the festive season with Hope.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College®

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

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Spotlight Celebration

School life this week



We had a lovely non-uniform day today! Class 1 had a party to celebrate the beginning of Advent and Jesus' upcoming birth and Class 4 made pretzels!



In this section, we celebrate our achievements both in and out of school. If you have something you would like us to share for your child—an achievement, work of art, event they attended - please send it to school via email and we will include it in the newsletter!

Dates for Your Diary

- 01.12.25: Class 3 Road safety workshop session 1 in school—outdoor clothing needed
- 05.12.25: Non-Uniform Day— Bring in toys/crafts/chocolates/bottles
- 08.12.25: Class 3 Road safety workshop session 2 in school—outdoor clothing needed
- 11.12.25: Christmas Jumper Day
- 12.12.25: Christmas Fayre 2.30pm onwards
- 16.12.25: Class 1 and 2 Nativity 2pm
- 17.12.25: Class 3 and 4 Carol Concert and Christmas Raffle 2pm
- 18.12.25: Pantomime Trip 1.30pm
- 19.12.25: Christmas Party Morning
- 19.12.25: Whole school Mass in school 1.30pm—all are welcome
- CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 20.12.25–04.01.26**
- 05.01.26: Spring Term begins
- 14.01.26: Class 3 Team building festival PM—please wear PE kits
- 16.01.26: Year 3 Games Festival PM—please wear PE kits
- 16.01.26: Class 1 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)
- 21.01.26: Class 4 Assembly 9am
- 30.01.26: Class 2 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)
- 04.02.26: Class 3 Assembly 9am
- 06.02.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle
- 18.02.26: Ash Wednesday Service in school—time TBC
- HALF TERM 21.02.26–01.03.26**
- 04.03.26: Class 1 PE trip PM—please wear warm, outdoor clothes
- 05.03.26: World Book Day
- 06.03.26: Class 3 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)
- 11.03.26: Class 2 Assembly 9am
- 13.03.26: Class 2 Invasion games festival PM—please wear PE kits
- 13.03.26: Non-uniform day—crafts, chocolates, toys
- 20.03.26: Class 4 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)
- 23.03.26 and 24.03.26: Parents evening Spring Term 3.30–5.30pm**
- 25.03.26: Class 1 Assembly 9am
- 25.03.06: Class 4 Rugby skills trip PM— please wear PE kits
- 30.03.26: Palm Sunday Procession 2.45pm
- 02.04.26: Easter Raffle and Easter Egg Competition awards 2pm
- EASTER HOLIDAYS 03.04.26–19.04.26**

Dates for Your Diary Continued

20.04.26: Summer Term begins

24.04.26: Class 2 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

29.04.26: Class 3 Assembly 9am

06.05.26: Class 4 Assembly 9am

08.05.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

11.05.26–14.05.26: KS2 SATs

15.05.26: Class 1 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

22.05.26: Pentecost Procession 2.45pm

22.05.26: Non-uniform day crafts, chocolates, toys

HALF TERM 23.05.26–31.05.26

05.06.26: Class 4 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

10.06.26: Class 1 Assembly

12.06.26: Non-uniform day—bring a bottle

19.06.26: Class 3 Celebration of the Word 2.45pm (followed by Coffee and chat)

24.06.26: Class 2 Assembly

25.06.26: St Bede's Uniform evening for Y6 parents

26.06.26: Non-uniform day—crafts, chocolates, toys

01.07.26–02.07.26: St Bede's Transition days for Year 6

02.07.26: Transition day in school

03.07.26: Non-uniform day—£1 contribution

10.07.26: Sports Day and School Fayre

13.07.26: School Raffle Draw 2pm

13.07.26–15.07.26: Robinwood residential for Class 4

Due to the residential dates, the Year 6 Leavers Mass—Time TBC and Year 6 Leavers Performance 4pm, will be rearranged—we will let you know the new dates asap.

Monday 20th July - Monday 31st August - Summer Holidays 2026