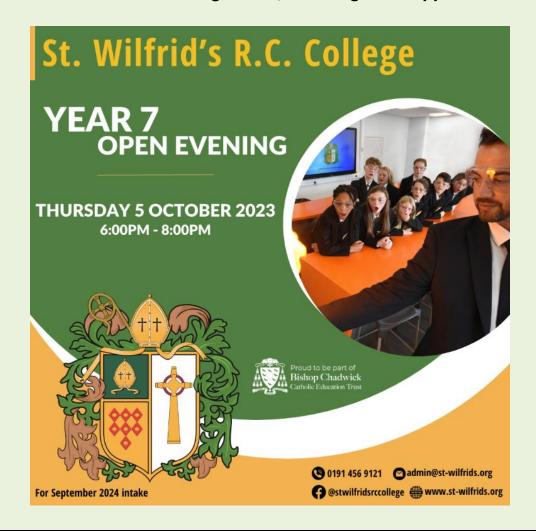
Information Bulletin for Parents and Carers Friday 22 September 2023



Excellence through Faith, Learning and Support



Faith:

Our assembly theme next week is our school saints: Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert, Hilda, Margaret Clitherow and

Columba. Our school saints – that our Houses are named after - are all influential northern saints that personified the virtues we wish to develop in our students, striving to be the best versions of themselves. Please encourage your child to find out more about their House saint.

Learning:

Students of the Week

Our wonderful winners this week were:

Aidan: Rory Laylock 7A1 and Leo Ferreira 10A1
Bede: Salem Matadi 9B2 and Haryak Karwan 10B2
Cuthbert: Badr Mohamed 8C2 and Asma Safi 9C2
Hilda: Kayden McGee 8H2 and Jack Anderson 10H1
Margaret Clitherow: Lacey Duffield 8MC2 and Chloe Clark 11MC1

Tutor Group of the Week: 11H2 Headteacher's Award: Oscar Frail 9B1

Well done to all of you – an excellent achievement! Keep being the best versions of yourselves.

Science Trip to the Centre for Life

On Wednesday, 24 students from Year 9 visited the Centre for Life, Newcastle, to participate in a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) workshop where they had the opportunity to dissect lungs, hearts and blood. This helped to build their practical skills and extend their knowledge of science beyond the curriculum.

Year 11

This week, Year 11 have focused on being the best versions of themselves as they aim to make a positive start to this crucial year. Next year they will be entering a competitive world of sixth form, college and apprenticeship places; therefore, next week we will discuss the ways we plan to support them to thrive this academic year, to set themselves apart from their competition.

The two-week Year 11 prelim examination window begins on Monday 16 October, and we would like our students to get a head start with their revision. In the three weeks leading up to their prelim examinations, our students will be introduced to one revision strategy each week during reading time. Effective use of this strategy will be demonstrated to students in their subject lessons, to be implemented within independent revision or supported study.

As well as their usual Monday morning assembly, a second brief assembly will take place on Tuesday morning to outline the examination procedure. Replicating the nature of external examinations during the prelim window ensures students are familiar with the structure they will experience in their summer series.

Support:

School Punctuality and Attendance

If your child arrives in the school building after 8.40 on a morning this is classed as late for school; they will receive a same day 30-minute detention after school. It is key that all students arrive promptly to school fully prepared for their day to be the best versions of themselves that they can be. You will receive notification of this detention through the Class Charts app.

Students that are late for school will be issued with a same day after school detention (D2) for 30 minutes. Parents/carers will receive a text that day to inform. If there is a genuine, unavoidable reason why your child is going to be late please either escort them to reception and inform our receptionists or phone ahead.

We aspire for all our children to grow to be the very best versions of themselves – attendance matters.

When in school they:

- Build their confidence and self-esteem
- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Achieve
- Experience new things
- Develop new skills
- Develop awareness of other cultures, religions, ethnicities and gender differences
- Gain qualifications
- Have the best possible start in life

Poor attendance will have a serious impact on future education and life chances:

- 95% attendance: children who attend over 95% are more likely to gain five or more 9-4 GCSEs or equivalent qualifications
- 91.1% attendance: missing 17 days of schools in one year and this could mean dropping an average of one GCSE grade per subject
- 82.1% attendance: missing 34 days of school in one year
- 80% attendance: If you have 80% attendance over the whole 11 years at schools, this equals missing over two years of education.

Please contact us if you need support to ensure your child attends school.

Safeguarding: Mobile Phone / Internet Safety – Sending Nudes

Please can parents/carers discuss with their children the dangers of getting naked online (and/or sending/receiving naked images of other children). We educate students about these dangers as part of our PSHE curriculum, in assemblies and each year we invite Northumbria Police into school to deliver a one-hour workshop to Year 7 students.

What's it about? Sending nudes is a term which describes the sharing of intimate images of yourself

with others, using technologies like text message or WhatsApp and social networking sites like Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, Tik Tok etc. It can often happen when judgement is clouded (e.g. pressure from someone else, alcohol or drugs) and can result in children:

- Sending accidently
- Being brave about a naughty photograph
- Feeling sexually confident
- Feeling less inhibited and less aware of risk and consequences
- Doing it as a dare
- Thinking that it is a good laugh and there is no harm in it

<u>Is it illegal?</u> Yes. The sharing of "indecent images of children" is the legal term for a sexual image of anyone under the age of 18. This includes:

- Nude or partially clothed
- Sexually posing
- Self-generated sexual images (selfies)
- Images depicting children engaging in sexual activity.

Taking a nude, asking for a nude, passing on a nude and making a pseudo-image are all illegal. Someone who does any of these things can be found guilty of:

- Creating child pornography
- Inciting a child to make pornography
- Inciting a child into a sexual act
- Distributing child pornography

It is illegal to create or share pornography under the age of 18 – this includes a child sharing an image of themself.

What are the potential consequences?

- Prison
- Criminal record
- Sign the sex offenders register
 - This starts at 2 years for a caution
 - A custodial sentence of 30 months or more means the perpetrator must sign it indefinitely
- Restrictions on travel and access to the internet
- Involvement of Children's Services
- Relationships with family and friends affected
- Case may feature in the media
- Difficulty getting a job

The first steps:

- 1 First off, check your child is ok. Do they need support. Are you the parent ok? Do you need support?
- 2 Find the best person to support you and your child: friends, family, school? Our safeguarding policy available on our website clearly outlines the process we will take when supporting students that have sent or received nudes, when we will contact parents/carers etc.
- 3 Encourage your child to be honest about what has happened. People are only able to help when they have all the facts.

- 4 Don't wait. The quicker it is dealt with, the more control your child has.
- 5 If someone is pushing or forcing your child to get naked online, you should report them to the Police. Not only is it illegal but you may be preventing them from doing it to someone else.
- 6 If you suspect your child has images of another child on their device, do not look at it yourself as you will have then viewed an illegal image of a minor.

Take control:

- 1 If your child posted an image onto a social networking site, ensure they remove it as soon as they can.
- 2 If they sent it to someone else, get in touch with them as soon as possible and ask them to delete it before it goes any further. Phones tend to have 'recently deleted' folders/albums too ask them to ensure it is deleted from here too.
- 3 If you think it has been shared wider, you might want to request the support of us at school to help manage the situation.
- 4 If the images is posted by someone else on a social network site e.g. Snapchat then report it
 - You need to use the site's reporting tools.
 - It is not enough just to say, 'I don't like it'. If it is a naked or semi-naked image of your child, tell the social network that it breaks their terms and conditions
- 5 If it has been posted online and has your child's name attached, they can check other places the images might be by searching for their name or username.
 - Use different search sites.
 - o Type your name in inverted commas ("Wilfrid Saint") it's more accurate.
 - If you have a popular name, use an additional help word ("Wilfrid Saint + South Shields).
- 6 Bury the bad stuff. If the image is online and has your child's name attached, encourage them to increase their positive online presence, check their privacy settings and take control of what people can see. The more positive stuff that is added, the further down the search lists the unwanted content will be.
- 7 Sometimes it is impossible to delete everything online. Your child will feel more in control if they have planned what they will say if people ask about it.
 - o I've made a mistake.
 - I've learnt by it.
 - o I've moved on.

Where can my child and I get help? There are lots of places you can get help:

- Childline: www.childline.org.uk
- Child Exploitation and Online Protections (CEOP): www.ceop.police.uk
- Northumbria Police: Call 101 for non urgent issues or 999 in an emergency, incidents can also be logged online www.northumbria.police.uk
- Victims First Northumbria: Support for victims of any crime 0800 011 3116 or www.victimsfirstnorthumbria.org.uk
- Kooth online counselling: www.kooth.com

For more information about all areas of online safety visit www.saferinternet.org.uk

Wellbeing Wednesday

This week our focus was upon forming positive relationships. We have asked students to consider what positive friendships look like. Relationships that involve an imbalance of power, coercion or manipulation are a child-on-child abuse concern. If you have any concerns about your child's relationships, please get in touch with their Head of House/Year or one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Class Charts Log In

All pupils and parents have access to class the class charts app to give information on attendance, rewards, sanctions and detentions. This is the main app we use to keep parents fully informed of their child's school day. If you have any issues getting logged in, please let school know by contacting you child's Head of House.

PSHE

Year 11 – FutureMe webinar – How to ace my revision!

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Question of the week:

What are Apprenticeships?

An apprenticeship is a paid job where the employee learns and gains valuable experiences. Alongside on-the-job training, apprentices spend at least 20% of their working hours completing classroom-based learning with a college, university or training provider which leads to a nationally recognised qualification.

An apprenticeship includes:

- paid employment with holiday leave
- hands-on-experience in a sector/role of interest
- at least 20% off-the-job training
- formal assessment which leads to a nationally recognised qualification

What is an apprenticeship? (apprenticeships.gov.uk)

Key dates / upcoming events:

• **Monday 25 September**: Zak Hull music performance, focus on mental health and online safety. Years 7/8/9.



Tuesday 26 September: European Day of Languages

• Friday 6 October: Year 7 Welcome Mass

Sixth Form:

Today we joined together as a 6th form community and celebrated our Year 12 Welcome Mass.

PSHE

Year 12 - Unifrog - Post 18 Intentions / Post 18 Planning

Year 13 – UCAS Early Entry Preparation

Responsible - Resilient - Respectful





