

# St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

22/04/2022



*'Let your light shine'*

I can't believe that we are already in the summer term – this year is just flying by! Now that we are getting back to normal, our summer term is going to be packed full of exciting experiences and trips, to make up for the disruption of the last 2 years. There will be lots of hard work too, of course, but our children have coped brilliantly with the events of the last 2 years, showing resilience, compassion and perseverance; they inspire me every day and really deserve to have some fun! Keep reading our newsletter each week to find out about more of the events we have planned for this term. One event we are all getting excited about is our school's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 19<sup>th</sup> May. To celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we will be holding a huge party on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May – there will be delicious food, dancing, games, a visit from the ice cream van and a special commemorative gift for all our children to help them remember these historic occasions. I will tell you more in our newsletters over the next few weeks...

Have a wonderful weekend everyone – let's hope the sun keeps shining!

Miss Hodgkinson

## Letting our light shine

Thank you children for brightening up the day of passers by on Lovely Lane with the beautifully decorated cross, which was created by all our children. We have received messages of thanks, including this one and a photo taken by Jo Goddard, who stopped to enjoy the beautiful scene and sent this message:

***"Just a lovely display of happy flowers to be enjoyed as people go by for their journeys.  
It brightened my day. Thank you."***



## Be on time!

Being on time to school, every day is really important. Children who are late miss vital learning and are picking up bad habits that could affect their future employability. Being just a few minutes late each day builds up to large amounts of lost learning over a school year.

Minutes late per day	Days of lost learning in a year
5 minutes	3 ½ days
10 minutes	7 days
15 minutes	10 days

**Please make sure your child is in school by 8:45am EVERY DAY ready to learn.**

## Our Christian value for this half term is:

***'Service'***

This week we pray for all who serve in the armed forces and are affected by war and conflict. We pray peace will return soon.

***"Serve one another in love."***

**Galatians 5:13**

**This week's big question is:**

**How many ways can you show that you care?**



## Reading Rocks!

Last half term's golden ticket winners enjoyed the trip to Waterstones, each choosing a fantastic book of their choice. It was great to see some children choosing a book by author Ross Montgomery, who visited St Barnabas last term.



## Staying Safe Online

This week's e safety message centres around Facebook messenger. It is a communication tool within Facebook, but can also be used as a stand-alone app. It allows 1:1 and group chats and has recently had a new 'rooms' feature added where a video call with up to 50 people can take place. Our guide gives tips to parents and carers about the potential dangers.

As National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FACEBOOK MESSENGER

Facebook Messenger is a communication app through which users can exchange messages and send photos, stickers, and video and audio files. Messenger allows both one-to-one and group chats, has a stories feature and – via its latest addition, Rooms – can host a video call with up to 50 people. As of 2021, the app had 315 million users in the UK alone (more than half the population!) among its 1.3 billion users worldwide. Whereas Messenger is integrated into Facebook on desktops and laptops, it has existed as a standalone app for mobile devices since 2011.

**AGE RATING 13+**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ADDICTIVE NATURE**  
Messenger's numerous features can encourage children to spend more time on the app – and therefore on their phone, increasing their levels of screen time. It also makes it easy for the user to 'miss' messages, especially among older children, who will almost certainly have a high proportion of their friends communicating via the app.
- LIVE STREAMING**  
The new Rooms feature lets Messenger users hold video calls with up to 50 people. A young person can join any room they see, but the other people in these rooms don't even necessarily need to be Facebook account holders. This live streaming development brings risks, factors around privacy, security and the possibility of exposure to inappropriate content.
- REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS**  
If the Facebook profile which accompanies their Messenger app is set to public, there's a possibility that young people will receive message requests from individuals they don't know. There have previously been reports of grooming attempts on Facebook, with predators using fake profiles to engage children in conversation.
- OVERSHARING PERSONAL INFO**  
If the app is given access to their device's photo library or location services, young people can unintentionally share sensitive information (private photos, videos, their name or current whereabouts) with people on Messenger who they don't know, including friends, shared photos or videos don't always stay private: recipients could save and re-share them with others.
- CYBERBULLYING**  
Like many communication apps, Messenger can be an avenue for cyberbullies or trolls to target children. This might take the form of harassment, abusive messages or being purposely excluded from (or targeted in) group chats. A 2021 Ofcom report revealed that more than half (55%) of 12-15-year-olds had suffered such negative experiences online in the preceding year.
- SECRET CONVERSATIONS**  
The Secret Conversations function lets Messenger users have encrypted exchanges that no-one else can read. Unlike regular chats on the app, these can only be viewed on the device being used at the time. Messages can also be set to delete once read (although screenshots can be taken), so a child could chat privately with someone without any record of that conversation having taken place.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

- USE ADDITIONAL SECURITY**  
Messenger's App Lock feature uses your child's fingerprint or face ID to ensure that nobody else can access their messages without permission. Messenger has also added a variety of optional tools to increase young people's safety on the app, including two-factor authentication, login alerts and filtered message requests.
- REPORT INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR**  
If your child experiences anything negative on Messenger, you can help them report it. Facebook can then take action such as disabling the offender's account, limiting their ability to send messages or blocking them from contacting your child again. If your child doesn't want to display to others that they're online, they can switch off Active Status in the app's settings.
- ADJUST PRIVACY SETTINGS**  
Make your child's Messenger stories visible only to their friends. Avoid adding your child's phone number (so they can't be found by someone using their number to search for them), and not syncing contacts lets your child choose who to add (or not) individually. Via settings, you can control who appears in your child's chat list, who goes into the message request folder and who can't contact your child at all.
- REVIEW THE CHAT LIST**  
Some parents regularly check their children's Messenger conversations (to see who they're talking to, rather than what they're talking about). While this is certainly safe, it can seem intrusive. If approached in a sensible, collaborative way, however, it can help parents and carers to keep an eye on exactly who their child is communicating with.
- DISCUSS LIVE STREAMING**  
Talk with your child about safe and secure video calling. When setting up calls on Messenger Rooms, only invite people who your child knows and trust. Encourage them to lock a room if they don't want other people joining – and how to remove anyone they don't want on the call. Remind them about behaving responsibly during a live stream, even if it's with people they know.
- ENCOURAGE SAFE SHARING**  
Ensure your child knows to send pictures and videos only to family and trusted friends, and not to publicly share images which compromise their location (showing a landmark near home or clothing with identifiable logos, like a school or local club crest). Encourage them to pause before sharing anything – if there's a chance it could harm their reputation (or someone else's), don't send it.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Alice Wright is a former Facebook employee and social media expert with more than 15 years' experience in digital media. She has worked with some of the biggest organisations on the planet and has a vast understanding of how social media platforms work and how they engage their audience.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @nationalonlinesafety NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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# St Barnabas Church Spring Fayre

Saturday 12-3pm at church.

Stalls include – Tombola, poke a pot, crafts, cake stall, bric a brac, books and jigsaws and lots more. Refreshments also available

## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Y6 trip to Liverpool
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Y4 trip to Quarry Bank Mill
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs Week
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Christian Aid Week
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	St Barnabas CE Primary School 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Whole school party to celebrate our 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closes for the Whit break
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	School opens
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole school trip to Chester Zoo (Reception to Year 6)
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Walking Day – school closed
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	School closes for Summer

