



# SCHOOL NEWS

**Our Motto:**  
Believe & Achieve

**Our Mission Statement:**  
Through Jesus we love, learn and grow

## Prayer

St George's Day was on Tuesday this week. St George is the patron saint of England.

Lord helps us to rejoice in the glorious victory of St. George. Help us to be as brave and fearless as he was and to always work for what is right. Help us to be kind and helpful to all. Amen

**Stop Press:** Amazing amount raised for Leukaemia UK—  
see inside for more details!

## ☆☆☆ SHINING STARS ☆☆☆

Nursery	Brodie	
Reception	April	Peyton
Year One	Isla	
Year Two	Abbie	Arlo
Year Three	Florence	Imogen
Year Four	Lillia	Ben
Year Five	Emily	Rohan
Year Six	Lilly-Ann	Theo N

### WINNING HOUSE THIS WEEK

## Douglas

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about our school

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'I can do all things through  
Christ who strengthens me.'

Phil 4:13



# CERTIFICATES



**Bronze certificates are awarded for gaining 50 house points.**

## BRONZE

Year 6 Harper Anthony

Year 5 Anna

Year 4 Ben

**Silver certificates are awarded for gaining 100 house points.**

## SILVER

Year 6 Jessica Joseph

Year 1 Cassie Charlotte Sophia

## Shining Stars

Congratulations to this week's Shining Stars. Certificates have been earned for perseverance, all-round good work, wonderful rain forest knowledge, super art work and excellent descriptive writing. Very well done, all of you!



## Reception

There was a special visit to Reception class from PCSO Maria Fetherstone on Wednesday. The children were extremely enthusiastic about meeting a real police officer and even more excited to sit in her police, patrol car!



Reception class have also been out in their garden area looking carefully at the beautiful blossom trees. Using their observational skills, they painted the tree and then added collage blossom petals.



## Happy Birthday Roger!

Our wonderful school crossing patrol, Roger, will be celebrating a very special birthday next week.

We'd like to send birthday congratulations to him, from everyone at St Marys!



## Fundraising for Leukaemia UK

What a few months it's been—raising money for Leukaemia UK.

First of all there was our Break the Rules Day, which brought in **£455.14**.



We followed that with the most fun of all Fun Runs, raising a truly phenomenal **£4469.20**.

Finally, last Sunday, Mrs Birchall completed the London Marathon in a time of 4 hours 38 minutes and 6 seconds. (That's her in the orange top, just crossing the line..) Apparently, she's almost got the feeling back in her legs now!



When we set out to raise money for this most worthy of causes, there was never any doubt that the St. Mary's family would step up and support our efforts wholeheartedly. We are overwhelmed and humbled, however, by the extent to which they have done so.

As a result of all **your** efforts the final total is an amazing.....

**£6756**

**Thank you so very, very much!**

## Ace Club

Are you interested in some extra hours working in our ACE Club before or after school?

Please speak to the school office if you would like more information.



## Upcoming Dates

Monday 26th April	1.30pm	Y4 Swimming
Tuesday 30th April	9am	Open the Book
Thursday 2nd May	All Day	Bikeability Y5
Friday 3rd May	All Day	Bikeability Y5
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY	SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 7th May	4pm	TriGolf Y3/4
Tuesday 7th May	4pm	Tag Rugby y5/6

Reminder Y6 SATs week is the week beginning 13th May

## Letters Home

Whole School—Spanish Club Letter

Year1—Hearing Test Letter

Band Club Letter

Y6—Leavers Hoodies

## Sports and Social Clubs

Monday	Guitar Lessons KS2	Lunchtimes
Tuesday	Brilliant Book Awards	Lunchtimes
Tuesday	Athletics EYFS & KS1	3.20-4.20pm
Wednesday	Spanish Club—All years	8.00-8.50am
Wednesday	KS2 Choir	3.20-4.15 pm
Thursday	Athletics KS2	3.20-4.20pm
Friday	Brass Club	3.20-4.15pm

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SHOPPING PLATFORMS

For people looking to make purchases on their phones, several shopping apps – such as Temu – allow users to buy goods at reduced prices. Others, like Vinted and Depop, let you sell items you no longer want. As internet shopping continues to grow, however, so does the risk of scammers, hackers and breaches of privacy.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MISSING ITEMS

Users of Vinted, Depop and Temu have reported not receiving their products despite payment being taken. Users can initially contact the seller to query a missing item, and they have between two and five days (depending on the app) to tell the company what has happened. However, once the money has reached the supposed 'seller', it can be quite difficult to get back.

### SCAMMERS AND PHISHING

Scammers are always on the lookout for unsuspecting buyers or sellers. Common tactics include cancelling shipment of an item once the payment has been processed or asking to conclude the chat and payment outside of the app, where the victim is no longer protected by the buyer protection plan. This should, naturally, be avoided at all costs.

### DATA MISUSE

Apps of all kinds frequently collect our data, often asking for more information than is necessary to set up an account. Data gathered in this way is then usually sold on to third parties for marketing purposes. Lately, certain apps have been under scrutiny for using spyware to track their members' activities – but all too often, the user's consent to this practice has been hidden away in the terms and conditions.

### FAKES OR REPLICAS

It's certainly not unheard of for poor-quality products to be falsely marketed as luxury items, using misleading pictures or clever wording. These disingenuous sales are sometimes outed by suspiciously low price tags, but this isn't always the case. For children and young people especially, there's a risk that the promise of bagging a high-end item for a fraction of its usual price will outweigh any suspicions they may have.

### SLOW REFUNDS

While all apps offer a refund if the product is damaged or doesn't match the description, it can take up to a month to be compensated for this. For many people (especially during a cost-of-living crisis) that can be a long time to be without both the product you bought and the hard-earned cash you spent on it.

### MISLEADING DESCRIPTION

Some people will be able to notice when, say, a product's photo and its description don't seem to match. This isn't a reliable means of picking up on misleading marketing, however – especially not for children and young people, many of whom may not yet realise that such practices even exist. While it's illegal to advertise one thing and sell another, plenty of shady traders use clever wording and omissions to get around this.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ALWAYS STAY ON THE APP

It's vital that users pay for any goods through the same app on which they found them, to ensure they are covered by buyer protection. This means users can access support if the item arrives damaged, isn't as described, or doesn't arrive at all – allowing them to seek compensation for the loss. Such regulations can't protect you, however, if you didn't do the deal through the app in question.

### BE WARY OF PHISHING ATTEMPTS

Scammers frequently send messages within these apps to steal personal and financial information from other users. Don't respond to these messages – and under no circumstances should you follow any links they contain. Check for spelling errors, as well as inspecting the name of the sender. Report any suspected phishing emails to the app's help centre – and notify your bank if you think your financial information has been compromised.

### CHECK REVIEWS

Take time to read the reviews and comments left by other users – not just of products, but of sellers and buyers, to ensure they're legitimate and reliable. Before buying an item online, check the reviews for comments about the product's quality, the seller's communication and the delivery time. If you're selling, check the reviews of your buyer for red flags such as frequent requests for refunds or claims of 'missing' items.

### KEEP SAFE AS A SELLER

Sellers can be exploited just as much as buyers. Some users may purchase an item, for example, then pretend it didn't arrive to secure a refund. Always take photos of the shipping label, along with a picture of you posting the item. Send the package's tracking number to the buyer and keep a copy for yourself, letting you investigate any future claims that it never arrived. When taking photos of items you're selling, ensure nothing personal is in the background.

### Meet Our Expert

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



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guides/shopping-apps](https://nationalcollege.com/guides/shopping-apps)