



# Matthew's C.E (Aided) Primary School and Nursery Centre



*'I can do all things because Christ gives me strength' Philippians 4:13*

## Friday Feature: 28th February 2025

This half-term we are focusing on the Christian Value of Justice



Please share the attached home school value with your child.

Dear Parents and Carers

### World Book Day - 6th March 2025

We will be taking part in World Book Day again this year. The children are invited to come dressed up as their favourite book character. Throughout the day there will be lots of book activities taking place. Please ask children to bring a copy of their favourite book to share. Staff will also be doing this, so the school community can discuss books and share stories.



### Red Nose Day

We will be taking part in Red Nose Day on 21st March. We are asking children to come dressed in Red and bring a £1 donation. Red Noses will be available to buy from the school office for £2.50 from Monday 3rd March.

### Children arriving late to school

Our school gates open at 8.40am and close at 8.50am. Any children arriving after the gates close will need to go through main reception. When arriving parents/carers will be asked to complete a late slip with a reason for lateness. After 5 occasions of being late you will receive a phone call to discuss the reasons why and if we can support you in any way. If your child arrives after 8.50am they are recorded as late with an L mark. After 9.20am they are recorded as a U code which is then recorded as a whole morning absence and is unauthorised. The Government states that as a school we need to promote good attendance and also work with parents to understand any issues there may be in getting children into school. Our Attendance Policy is available on the school website. This also outlines formal procedures such as penalty notices. If you have any concerns regarding attendance please contact the school office as Mrs Cadman-Smith is available to offer advice and support in her role as Pastoral Manager.

The children in class 3 St Cecilia have been working on their artwork for this half term based on multimedia stitch and paint. They have done amazingly.



## Weekly prayer



Dear God

Thank you for guidance during an amazing first week back at school.

Thank you for blessing us with our wonderful school, teachers and friends.

Thank you for showing us kindness and how to help others.

Thank you for teaching us how to persevere when we face challenges.

Amen

R1 St Teresa

## Attendance Award

This week the attendance award has gone to



Please see the photograph of the hall display. We will be publishing this each week so you can see the class totals.

Weekly Attendance		
1 <sup>st</sup>	St Teresa	96.99%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Francis	96%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	St Kateri	96%
4 <sup>th</sup>	St Padre Pio	95.71%
5 <sup>th</sup>	St Joseph	95.17%
6 <sup>th</sup>	St Nicholas	93.88%
7 <sup>th</sup>	St Sophia	93.67%
8 <sup>th</sup>	St Thomas More	93.53%
9 <sup>th</sup>	St Cecilia	92.9%

## Future Dates

Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Friday 21st March	Red Nose Day
Friday 11th April	Break up for Easter
Monday 28th April	Back to school
Monday 5th May	Bank holiday
Friday 23rd May	Break up for half term
Monday 2nd June	PD Day
Tuesday 3rd June	Back to school
Friday 18th July	Break up for summer

## Pupils of the Week

Nursery	Obim
R St Francis	Leah and Jermaine
R/1: St Teresa	Isaac
1/2: St Nicholas	Bradley
2: St Joseph	Ronny
3: St Cecilia	Ava
3/4: St Sophia	Harmonie
4/5: St Kateri	Jayda
5/6: St Thomas	Mylee
6: St Padre	Amber



## Readers of the Week



R :St Francis	Harsirat
R/1: St Teresa	Gurkirat
1/2: St Nicholas	Sera
2: St Joseph	Harrison
3: St Cecilia	Rauri
3/4: St Sophia	Evie
4/5: St Kateri	Aizah
5/6: St Thomas	Milosz
6 St Padre	Natalia

## Well Done

Well done to Jessie who had a dance competition at the International Centre for Jamfest Europe last weekend! Not only did her team win and come first, they also received the highest score of the day and were awarded Grand Champions!!!



Well done to Florence and Olivia who have been superstars in their dancing again.



And well done to Maxwell who was player of the week for Telford Town Eagles.





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

PEGI RATING  
7+

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

### ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODERs. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

### PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

### IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

### DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

### PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

### MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

### DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety®

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Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/21/21333431/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parade-fortnite>  
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>



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



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