



Mr. McNicholas

St John Vianney Catholic School School Newsletter

Edition: 350 19th December 2025

"Everything we can be, with Christ in our hearts."



Happy Christmas and a Happy 2026!

What a term! 7 months long (or so it felt) and full of all the good stuff we've come to expect at SJV! The children have worked so hard, from September to today, and they have made so much progress on their journey. Their good humour, enthusiasm and exemplary behaviour make every day a day to remember and we are so grateful fro your support in shaping their attitude to school. They are ready to learn, which saves so much time!

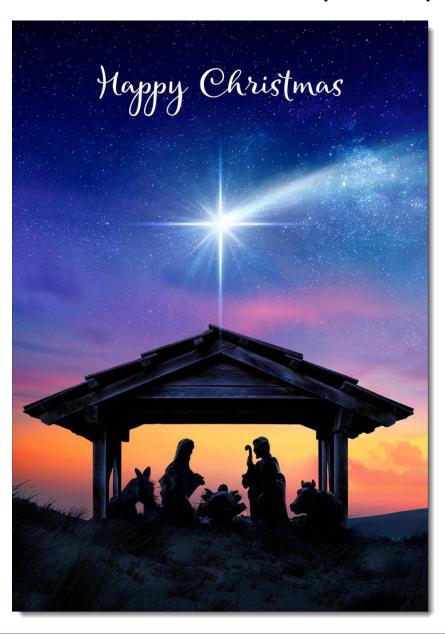
After such a long term, it only remains for me to wish you all a blessed Christmas with your families and friends and we'll see you all in the new year!

Notices & Reminders

We are a NUT FREE Zone – we have children and adults with NUT allergies. Please be mindful with your child's packed lunch and after school snacks.

Key Dates for your diary - Please keep this information for reference:

- Tuesday 6th January 2026 pupils return to school after the Christmas holiday
- All morning interventions Y5 Maths, Y4 Maths and Y1 phonics restart on Tuesday 6th January 2026
- School Choir restarts at 8am on Wednesday 7th January 2026



Farewell!







To all of the customers of the best coffee shop in town – thank you for your custom!

Barista Kavanagh

SJV Nursery



SJV Nursery 2025/2026 - 15 hours / 30 hours entitlement

Places are available for this autumn term if your child has turned **3 years by 31 August 2025.**

- If your child is due to turn **3 this autumn term, up to 31 December 2025**, we have an intake in the spring term 2026, subject to availability. Applications forms will be available after the October 2025 half term holiday for this intake.
- We also have an intake in the summer term for children turning 3 by 31 March 2026, in the spring term, subject to availability. Applications forms will be available in February 2026 for this intake.

Please call into the school office to collect an application form or to speak to Mrs Alfonso if you have any questions.



Christmas Fair '25



Christmas Fair '25



Christmas Fair '25



Christmas Lunch!



Christmas Lunch!



D&T Smoothies











Online Safety

Age ratings

Despite age restrictions, many primary school children access popular social media and entertainment platforms. These Apps are NOT recommended for primary aged children, particularly without parental controls and supervision:

YouTube (13+) – Video streaming platform with a separate YouTube Kids app for younger users.

TikTok (13+) – Short-form video-sharing app with a restricted mode for younger users.

Instagram (13+) – Photo and video-sharing social media platform owned by Meta.

Snapchat (13+) – Social media app for sharing disappearing messages and videos.

Roblox (13+ for full access, but children under 13 can have restricted accounts) – Online game creation and playing platform.

Discord (13+) – Chat and voice communication app popular among gamers.

Facebook (13+) – Social media platform, though less commonly used by younger children.

Twitter (now X) (13+) – Social media and microblogging platform.

Twitch (13+) – Live streaming platform, mainly for gaming content.

Reddit (13+) – Forum-based social platform with a variety of discussions.

Online Safety

There are several reliable websites where parents can check age ratings, safety information, and parental controls for apps their children are using. Here are some suggestions:

1. Common Sense Media

- Provides detailed reviews of apps, games, movies, and websites.
- Includes age ratings, expert opinions, and parent/child reviews.
- Explains risks such as privacy concerns, in-app purchases, and chat features.

2. ESRB (Entertainment Software Rating Board)

- •Official age ratings for video games and some apps.
- •Helps parents understand the content (e.g., violence, language, online interactions).

3. Google Play Store & Apple App Store

- Official age ratings for each app.
- Found in the **app description** under "Age rating" or "Parental Guidance".

4. Internet Matters

- •UK-based resource with parent guides on digital safety.
- Provides app safety advice, age ratings, and parental controls.

5. National Online Safety

- Provides free downloadable safety guides for popular apps.
- •Covers potential risks like **cyberbullying**, **privacy**, **and in-app purchases**.

STARS OF THE WEEK

THE FORCE IS STRONG IN THESE ONES...



Class 1:

Well done to everybody in **Class 1** this week! You have all worked extra hard with your Christmas performance! You were the best Shepherds EVER! You all supported each other like the amazing team that you are to put on the best show for everyone! You have all worked so hard this Autumn Term! It is for this reason that I have chosen you **ALL!** As stars of the week! Amazing work class team 1 we are all so proud of you!

19th December 2025

STARS OF THE WEEK

THE FORCE IS STRONG IN THESE ONES...



Class 2:

This week, the star of the week is going to the whole class. Class 2 have shown incredible generosity through their reverse Advent calendar, bringing in lots of items to donate to the food bank and help those less fortunate. You should all be so proud of your kindness.

We have also been extremely impressed with how well you worked during your Design and Technology lessons while designing and making smoothies. You listened carefully to instructions and were sensible and responsible when using sharp equipment to peel, cut, and slice the fruits and vegetables. The smoothies you made were absolutely incredible! Well done, Class 2, you have truly been stars this week!



Class 3:

Mx - She is a kind, friendly and smiley member of our class and she spreads happiness throughout the classroom. She has been trying really hard this term and putting in lots of effort, especially in maths. Keep up the fantastic work, well done!

My – She has shown a positive attitude towards her learning, which has been fantastic to see. She has been trying really hard in both writing and maths, and she has made steady progress in both subjects. Well done and keep up the effort.



Class 4:

Our first star goes to O, who has been working really hard in maths this week. We've started division, and she has shown a real natural understanding of it, which doesn't surprise us at all! Division is all about sharing amounts equally, and as such a kind and sharing person, this way of thinking comes very naturally to her. Well done, O - keep up the fantastic hard work! Our second star goes to A, who really impressed us all in writing this week. Her retelling of Michael Morpurgo's wonderful Christmas story *Coming Home* was full of atmosphere and interest. The way she drew the reader in was so effective that even Michael Morpurgo himself would have been inspired! Our next star is J, who always comes into school with a big smile on her face. She is enthusiastic, positive, and consistently does the right thing. J brings such a lovely energy into the classroom and is always ready to learn and help others. She is such a pleasure to have in class and a great role model. Thank you J



Class 5:

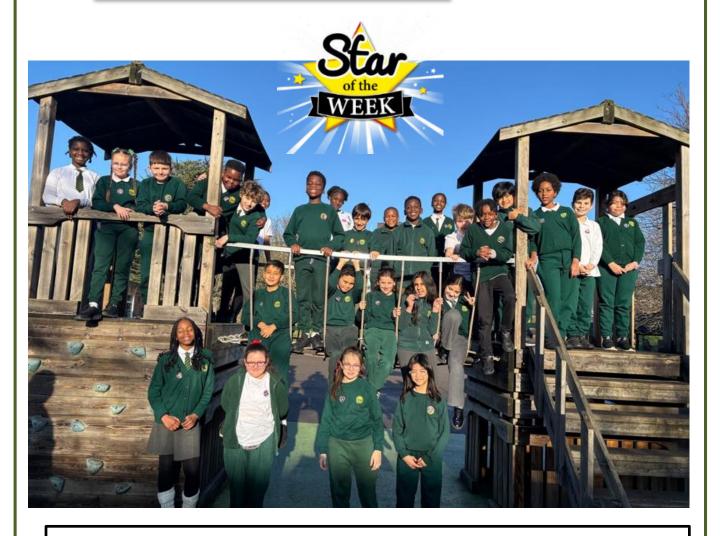
Our stars this week are for two children who have proven themselves to be important pillars of the class 5 community. Our first star stands out for his amazing energy and commitment to maintaining high levels of active listening at all times. He focuses like a laser beam when an adult is talking and invariably gets all instructions spot on. He is unfailingly polite and kind and can truly work with anyone in the classroom. Well done R for your respectful attention at all times.

Our second star is for a young lady who can be relied upon to carry out any task with care and precision. She is conscientious about the work she produces, is receptive to help and advice and is brave enough to try new things and get them wrong. If I want something done properly in Class 5, she is the go-to person. Thank you and well done to M.

19th December 2025

STARS OF THE WEEK

THE FORCE IS STRONG IN THESE ONES...



Class 6:

For amazing work in Design & Technology in their designing, making and evaluating their playgrounds. Every year class 6 step up and this class was no exception. They were well-prepared, they worked collaboratively and supportively to produce the best playgrounds yet! Well done to ALL of Class 6!











