

The SJV Daily News

24th April 2026

Everything we can be, with Christ in Our Hearts

Free

Marathon Mania!

It's that time of the year again!



Congratulations to Mr. McGaw and Mr. And Mrs. Batchelor for completing the Manchester Marathon. While Mr. McGaw was not impressed with all the landmarks he had to run by, all three did amazingly well! Mr. McGaw also completed the Paris Marathon the previous week AND Mr. Batchelor is running in the one and only London Marathon this weekend!

And...so are the Children, Parents and Staff of SJV! Now an annual event, organised by our own human dynamo Mrs. Kavanagh, we go again tomorrow morning!! GO SJV!



St John Vianney Catholic School

School Newsletter

Edition: 363 24th April 2026

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



The Good Shepherd

We reflected on this coming Sunday's Gospel at assembly today, and on the importance of 'following' the right people; people who set the right example...and we are blessed at this school to be surrounded by good choices. The adults lead the way, as always, as parents help the teachers to uphold the highest of expectations and standards, all done in a way that doesn't feel in the least oppressive. Children are happy to follow these exceptional role models and that is the heart of our success. Our visitors from Belgium this week noted how hard-working and responsive the children were in their classes and how skilled the teachers are in giving them what they need in such a stimulating way. Of course it takes hard work from everyone to create an environment such as this, but if you ever think that it is too hard (as we sometimes do), take a beat and walk through a few of SJV classes. We are creating the role models of tomorrow!

Mr. McNicholas

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:

- **Whole Class photos** : Monday 27th April. Please make sure your child is in the correct school uniform. Use the link below to view the parents page of the website for uniform
- **School Closed on Thursday 7th May - our school is used as a polling station**
- **Y6 SATs week** - week commencing 11th May
- **Y6 visit to Ben Kinsella workshop** - Tuesday 19th May
- **Y1 visit to the London Transport Museum** – Wednesday 20th May
- **Reception Class Assembly** – Friday 22nd May
- **Half term break** – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May
- **Inset Day** – Monday 1st June
- **School reopens to pupils on Tuesday 2nd June**

- **Summer Fair: Saturday 27th June – Save the date – details to follow next term.**

- **A reminder regarding hair accessories** - please keep these to a minimum. Elaborate hairbands with 'ears', large bows, etc are not allowed. Please use the link to view the school uniform page of the website:
- <https://www.st-johnvianney.haringey.sch.uk/parents>

Reminder for Parents and Carers

*For safeguarding reasons, parents and **carers must not use the children's playground toilets** during drop-off and collection times. Adult toilets are available near the school office. Please walk around to the office if you need to use these facilities. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.*

Felix Project: The Felix Project is for our school community only. Please do not share this information with the wider community. We cannot have members of the public on the school grounds for safeguarding reasons. Please also bear in mind we need to help all of our families so we ask that you only take one or two items of each product. It is not acceptable to take bags full of one product. Please do not put our staff in the awkward position of having to ask you to put products back so that others may avail of them.

Academisation Consultation

Please remember, you can have your say about the proposed academisation of St. John Vianney from now until the 15th May. [CLICK HERE for more details](#) and to give your feedback.

There is a **meeting for parents this coming Monday 27th April 2026 at 6pm**, where we will, along with Governors, the Lux Mundi Catholic Academy and the Diocese of Westminster, present the plans and to take any questions you may have.

Mary Prayer May Appeal

Help Us Make Mary's Prayer Area Beautiful!

May is the special month of **Our Lady**, and we would love to make our school shrine bright, colourful, and full of life.

Can you help?

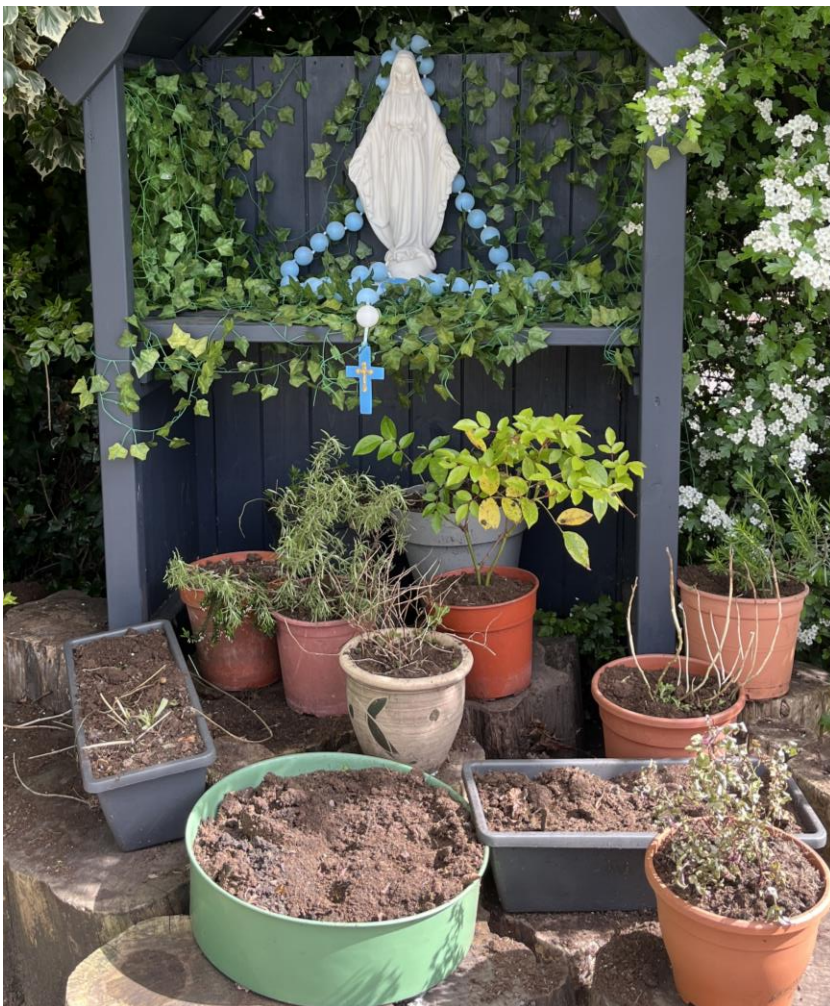
We are asking children to bring in:

- Small **potted plants**
- Colourful **flowers**
- Anything that will help decorate the shrine

Even one small plant from each child will make a big difference!

Different children, different flowers – together we can create something beautiful!

Please bring your plants IN THE NEXT 2 WEEK!



SJV Nursery



SJV Nursery 15 Hours / 30 Hours Entitlement

- We have an intake in the summer term for children turning **3 by 31 March 2026**, in the spring term, subject to availability. Applications forms are available for this intake.
- **Places for Nursery in September 2026** : Application forms are now available in the school office for September 2026 intake. Your child must be 3 years old by 31st August 2026.

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



Community Notices

NB: these notices are posted as they may be of interest to our families. We do not endorse them in any way and participation is at your discretion.


<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/growing-up-in-the-online-world-a-national-consultation>

Open consultation

Growing up in the online world: a national consultation

From: [Department for Science, Innovation and Technology](#)

Published 2 March 2026

 [Get emails about this page](#)

Summary

We are consulting on further measures to prepare children for the future in an age of rapid technological change. This includes potential age restrictions on social media and other services such as gaming sites and AI chatbots, restrictions on addictive design features and risky functionalities, and better support for parents and families.

This consultation closes at
11:59pm on 26 May 2026

Online Safety

Children and Phone Safety - NSPCC

The NSPCC's guidance on children, mobile phones and online safety is a useful resource for parents. It addresses one of the most common questions parents ask: when is a child ready for a phone, and how can families manage the risks?

The guide offers balanced, practical advice on readiness, boundary-setting, parental controls, and ongoing conversations about safe and responsible use.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/children-phones-online-safety/>

NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Keeping children safe

Advice for families

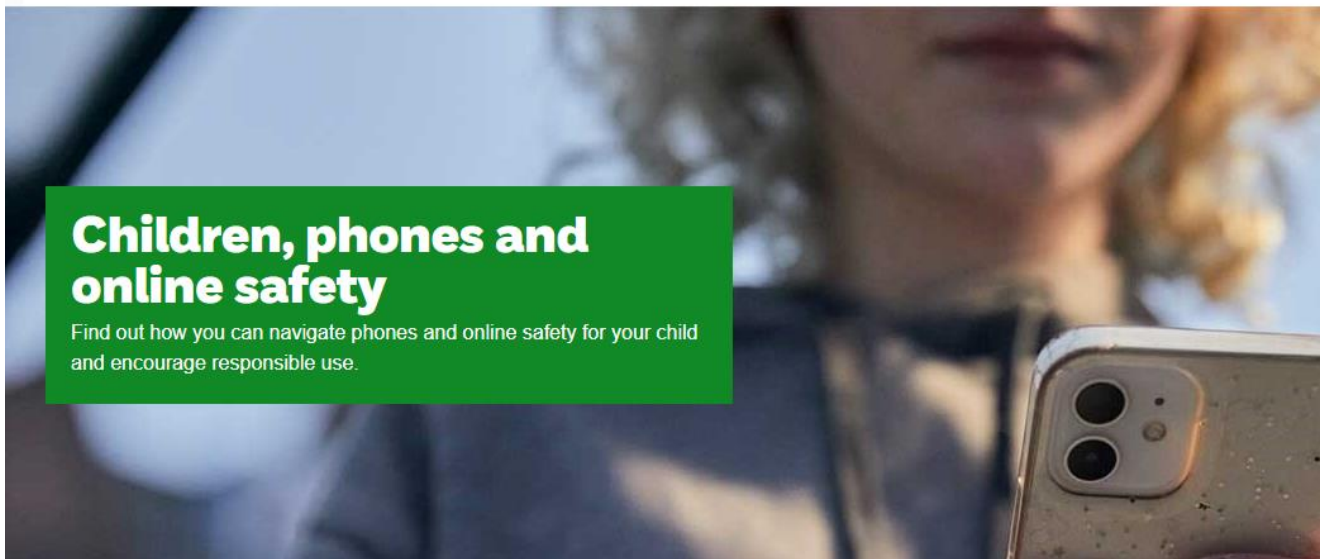
Support us

About us

[Home](#) | [Keeping children safe](#) | [Online safety](#) | Children, phones and online safety

Children, phones and online safety

Find out how you can navigate phones and online safety for your child and encourage responsible use.





International Attention!

This week SJV were asked by the authors of Opening Worlds, the knowledge-rich History and Geography curriculum used across Haringey, the UK and now in Europe, to showcase it in action for a delegate from Belgium, who are working on implementing the curriculum there too.

The author of the curriculum wrote after the delegation had left:

"Huge thanks for hosting yet another group of Flemish visitors on Wednesday. This time it was a group of curriculum resource writers who were looking at the quality of the lesson resources and booklets as well as how the teachers used them.

They were blown away by the quality of the teaching, the attentiveness of the children and the ambition of the school to serve its community. I love coming into St John Vianney - it's an oasis of calm and learning in Tottenham."

HUGE thanks to Ms. Giltinan and Ms. Griffin for opening up their classrooms in this way. It is NOT easy to teach with 8 adults wandering around and watching your every move!

I am very proud that visitors such as this continue to travel long distances to see the amazing work of teachers and children!

Nice anecdote: one of the visitors asked if Ms. Giltinan and Ms. Griffin had training in Storytelling (a key part of delivery of this curriculum), and they said, "No...we're Irish". Enough said!

Bruce Castle Park Y1



Year 1's trip took place in the glorious Tottenham sunshine. They went to Bruce Castle Museum and the class did a 'Plants and Habitats' workshop with a lovely Museum teacher called Lucy. She was very complimentary of the class! No surprise there!



Bruce Castle Park Y1



Bruce Castle Park Y1



2d to 3d in Y4 Art!



Y4 used their skills in drawing 2d shapes to visualize what they would look like in 3d. They really cheered the playground up in the process!



2d to 3d in Y4 Art!



Cooking is Back in Y5!



It's Spag Bol time again, as Ms. Griffin led the chopping, slicing, dicing and spicing in D&T!



Cooking is Back in Y5!



Bank of England for Y5



Y5 has a wonderful trip this week to the Bank of England – they learned about the incredibly complex world of 'Money'. In the process, they got to handle sheets and sheets of 'raw' banknotes!



Just some Sunny Pictures!



Just some Sunny Pictures!



STARS OF THE WEEK

THE FORCE IS STRONG IN THESE ONES...

24th April 2026



Reception:

First, I would like to choose R as star of the week. Over the past two weeks, I have noticed a wonderful growth in her confidence since the beginning of the year. She is eager to contribute during carpet time, regularly putting her hand up and she is now writing sentences with confidence while taking great pride in her work. In addition to this, R consistently shows kindness and care towards her friends, making her a real joy to have in class. Well done, R!

My second star of the week is M, for being such a kind and thoughtful friend. I often notice the gentle and supportive way she helps others, whether that's assisting friends who may not have understood the instructions, supporting her partner during carpet time or quietly looking out for those who need it. She does all of this not for recognition, but out of genuine kindness and it certainly never goes unnoticed. Thank you, M!

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Class 1:

Well done to Class 1 this week for working so hard. A special big well done to all of you for doing your best on our class trip. The weather was glorious. We did a lot of walking which can be tiring! You did so well not complaining but getting on with what was being asked of you by all of your adults.

I have two stars that have really shown their best this week by listening to class instructions, but we really noticed their behaviour and their in-depth subject knowledge when we visited Bruce Castle Museum this week. They completed their trail booklets and remembered some key facts and information about plants when we had our class re-cap discussion lessons. They were engaged with their museum learning teacher, thinking carefully about their question before answering them and explaining. They both did great comprehension dictation re-call sentences in their phonics work this week, remembering the writing rules. Great effort and a big well done to **M and F.**

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Class 2:

This week, my first star goes to I. You have made such a wonderful start in our class, settling in with confidence and already making lots of friends. You bring such a bright and positive energy to the classroom, you really are a little ray of sunshine! We are so lucky to have you in Class 2. Well done, I!

My second star is for S. You showed such kindness and care in the way you welcomed our new friend into the class, helping her to feel happy and included. You are also incredibly helpful at lunchtime, supporting Ms Zafar with setting up games in the playground. Your thoughtful and helpful attitude is truly appreciated. Well done, S!

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Class 3:

T – She has been working really hard in writing this week and she has produced some fantastic sentences. Her writing about Mount Vesuvius erupting in Pompeii was excellent, and she used fronted adverbials brilliantly to add further detail and interest. Keep up the excellent effort!

J – He is a very hardworking member of the class and he always puts in great effort in lessons—especially in maths, which he clearly enjoys! Not only that, but he is always willing to help others and will often ask if there are any jobs that he can do around the classroom. Well done for having such a helpful attitude and a positive approach to tasks.

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Class 4:

Our first star is a maths star. We have been learning about time which is always a tricky topic, looking at converting between the 12-hour and 24-hour clock and solving two-step word problems. There is no doubt that LJ gets it! She approached the work in a clear, logical way, using timelines to show her thinking step by step. It was fantastic to see such confidence and understanding, well done, LJ!

Our second star goes to R, who lights up the room when she walks in. She brings such positive energy to our classroom and is always making connections between the world and what we are learning. We were all intrigued by the Ethiopian Bible she brought to show us while we were learning about Christianity in the Aksum Empire. R is eager to contribute to discussions, sharing her ideas thoughtfully and helping to move our learning forward.

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Class 5:

Our first star is a double star this week and it's for fantastic contribution during our RE lesson. We were looking at ethical decision making and how right and wrong are decided. I was very impressed with these two lads and how they were piecing information together and making links with Catholic beliefs in such a thoughtful and mature way. But most of all, they stood out for their willingness to share and take a risk. Very well done to I and M.

Our second star is for a determined young lady and her amazing attitude. She came in to us this week with a broken foot, a set of crutches and a very fancy boot. Most adults would take that as their cue to sit back, relax and let everyone else pander to them. Not her. She has managed to quietly and seamlessly transition from one space to the other without any fuss despite being in a lot of pain and discomfort and has just got on with her learning as if nothing at all has happened. Well done to E.

STARS OF THE WEEK

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Class 6:

For always being so polite, well-mannered, kind, caring, determined and for being such a **genuine** member of our class...well done K.

For trying so hard in her writing (and other subjects) in recent weeks. She understands her targets and is **proactive** in doing something about them. She accepts constructive criticism with a smile and shows genuine care in doing her absolute best. Well done C.

Celebrate!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Celebrate!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY







