

# Newsletter

Issue 19

05<sup>th</sup> February 2021

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4EU

<http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryipswich.com>



## Tweet of the Week

"The Lord does not call us to be soloists, but to be part of a choir that can sometimes miss a note or two, but must always try to sing in unison."

[Pope Francis \(@Pontifex\)](#)



## SAFEGUARDING

Please be reassured that although the school is closed to some children, we are still here to support you and your family. If you have any safeguarding concerns please email [admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk) and Mrs Berry will contact you directly.

Dear Parents/Carers,

This has been a fantastic week as we've joined in with Children's Mental Health Week.

It has been such an honour to have the children, at home and in school, share their feelings and express themselves with us.

There have been circle times, musical activities, art activities and so much more.

Watch this space, next week, for some brilliant photos of their artwork!

Thank you to all of those who have donated, so far, to Place2Be. The work they are doing with children is so vital. If you still wish to donate please follow the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stmarysipswich>



## **February Half Term:**

The school will be closed to all pupils for February Half Term, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021. School will reopen on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to the vulnerable and key worker children that already have a confirmed space.

**Face Masks:**

Please could we remind all parents to please wear a face mask/covering when dropping off or collecting your child from school.

**Thank you to all of our Critical Workers:**

The whole school community would like to thank all of our critical workers their on-going work during this pandemic.



**Year1**

Year 1 made some lion masks and wrote a story about a lion cub's first hunt. We wrote as if we were the lion so the masks helped us get into character. Rooaar! We were very tired afterwards. Sleepy lions in fact.



As part of our work on Handa's Surprise Year 1 have designed their own batik style fabrics. They even did a bit of ironing to fix the colour!



## Parent Helpline for Remote Learning:

### Ipswich Schools' Remote Learning Helpline for families

Remote Learning Support Assistants in 18 of our schools in Ipswich will be manning an "after-hours" helpline for families to support remote learning. This is designed to support parents and carers whose commitments make it difficult for them to contact their school during normal school hours.

We would always encourage parents and carers to speak to their school first, but if you need a chat about remote learning in the evening or weekend [this is what we can help with:](#)

- Trouble shooting IT issues connected to work sent home from school
- Understanding instructions in work sent home from school
- Advice and tips on online resources that might help with completion of work sent home
- Ideas to support your child's study skills

Sometimes we'll be able to support with enquiries on the spot, and where we can't help fix issues there and then, we'll act as a messaging service with your school, and can call you back during helpline hours.

#### What we can't help with:

- Pastoral, behaviour or wellbeing concerns
- Complaints
- Safeguarding issues
- Free School Meals
- School place availability
- Schools that are not in the [Ipswich Opportunity Area](#)

These should always be addressed to your school.

If you feel worried and need support with any of the above, Suffolk County Council provide information [on their website](#) and provide a helpline: 0800 068 3131

We also have a growing list of links to advice and support for families on the [Ipswich Opportunity Area](#) website.

**\*\*\*live from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021\*\*\***

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## Ipswich Opportunity Area Remote Learning Helpline



**0800  
541115**

**Mon - Fri  
6pm-9pm**

**Saturday  
9am-Noon**

**Ipswich  
Opportunity  
Area**

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## Important, Track and Trace for February Half Term:

If your child receives a positive Covid test during the February half term please follow the procedure below.

Symptoms began on (or date of positive test if asymptomatic)	Between Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February
Action Required	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 10 days	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 10 days	Parents Inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 10 days	Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms (for example, delays caused by postal tests), pupil was not in setting and therefore there is no need to contact school.
Please email <a href="mailto:admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.uk">admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.uk</a> in the event of a confirmed case.				
Parental Responsibility	Parents to notify close contact family and friends and follow advice as per NHS Covid-19 guidelines <a href="http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/">http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</a>			

## Science:

Mr Cook will be sending 10 'Starters for STEM' science activities weekly for children to try at home. We'd love to see pictures of children completing the activities, for next week's newsletter.

There are some extra, more challenging STEM challenges available here

(<https://practicalaction.org/stem/?fbclid=IwAR2Jq0btVVU75U6JOe0NIhvOxdYjwaZcAToPkzhSI0xIhCMXN8abXaoBVOQ>) too! Have fun!

## Starters for STEM

Starters for STEM are 10 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science, technology, engineering and maths skills. These activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to talk about the world around them. If you see a link you can explore how to extend these activities, you will need to sign up, for free, to access these materials. Don't forget to share your work on social media [#ScienceFromHome](#)

**Nature Treasure Box**

Use an empty egg box as a treasure box to collect things from the garden.

Can you collect lots of things of the same colour? What about different smells? How many different things can you collect?

**Has spring sprung?**

Look outside. Can you see how the trees and plants are changing? What flowers can you see? Draw a picture to show that spring is here.

<http://tiny.cc/50wxlz>

**What can you hear?**

Sit really quietly somewhere either in or outside. What can you hear? Can you hear any bird song? Can you identify the birds?

<https://www.british-birdsongs.uk/>

**Oh Crumbs!**

Take a biscuit and put it in a sealed bag. Now try and crush the biscuit into little pieces while it is still in the bag. Can you pour the biscuit into a bowl? What things can you usually pour out? Is the biscuit a solid or a liquid?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rx32hm>

**As much use as a chocolate teapot!**

Think up some silly products, such as a chocolate teapot. It would melt as soon as you added hot water. Draw pictures of your ideas.

<https://youtu.be/xOKr462HLc0>

**Floating and Sinking**

What can you find in your house that sinks in the bath? Are there things that float?

What do you notice? Can you sort them.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rxfdsu>

**What did you have for dinner?**

Draw a picture of a big plate and then draw what you had for dinner last night.

Find out what type of foods you ate for your meal e.g. dairy product, protein, carbohydrate. Can you find out why your body needs these types of food?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rxz5r>

**Water Cycle in a bag**

Take a clean plastic sandwich bag. Carefully pour some water into it, so it is a third full. Seal it and tape it to a window that gets the sun. Watch what happens inside the bag when the sun is shining on the window. Can you explain this?

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rx32pu>

**Parts of a flower**

Ask your parents or carers if you can take a flower from the garden. Carefully dissect it. Can you name the different parts? Do you know what they do? This booklet might help you.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/rx33qn>

**Explore Earth & Space**

Join the alien explorer, Paxi, on his adventures around Earth and Space.

Discover the Solar System, comets and how scientists are investigating whether there is life on Mars.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cx6yuu>

## Online Safety Mr Cook:

Please take the time to read the information regarding age rating advise




<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:6487dfb9-2880-4ba8-9eba-d51de12d0f14>

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold a informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide focuses on one area of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. If you are a parent or carer please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, tips and advice.

Published: 02/03/19

# What parents need to know about AGE RATINGS

If you have children, it is understandable to have concerns about the films and TV shows they watch, as well as the games they play. In this guide, we take a look at the two official ways you can assess if a particular title is suitable for your child. Both the BBFC and PEGI have search facilities on their websites that can be used to look up individual titles so you can check their ratings.



### RATINGS FOR FILMS, TV & MUSIC VIDEOS

Since 1912, the BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) has informed UK residents of the age suitability of films, TV and music videos - providing parents with the information needed to assess whether or not it is appropriate for their child's age. This applies to cinema releases, DVDs and streaming video services such as Netflix.

### WHAT ARE THE BBFC RATINGS?

BBFC ratings are broken down into seven age categories:

- U**: Unrated, suitable for all ages
- PG**: Parental Guidance required
- 12**: Suitable for people aged 12 and over
- 12A**: Suitable for people aged 12 and over, with a parental warning
- 15**: Suitable for people aged 15 and over
- 18**: Suitable for people aged 18 and over
- R18**: Adults only - suitable only for adults and specialist retailers

### WHAT ELSE CAN BBFC REVEAL?

Accompanied with the age suitability rating, BBFC also provide an additional warning regarding the content and what to expect, such as swearing, sexual content, violence and anything you may consider to be inappropriate for your child. In addition to this, the content is also rated in three levels: frequent, mild or strong.

### LIMITATIONS OF BBFC RATINGS

It's important to note that there is no obligation on streaming video services to use or display BBFC ratings. Due to this, we advise that you check the rating online before your child streams the content. It may also be a good idea to watch the content first yourself or discuss it with other parents to help you decide whether or not it is suitable for your child.

### RATINGS FOR GAMES

PEGI (Pan European Game Information) is a content rating system that ensures all video games are labelled with a minimum age recommendation. These age recommendations are based on the types of content featured within a game. With each game, PEGI also provide a content descriptor that indicates the potential issues and concerns, including sex, violence, bad language and drugs.

### WHAT ARE THE PEGI RATINGS?

PEGI ratings are split into age restriction and content descriptors. Additional content descriptors help parents and child to understand the type of content featured within a particular game, including sex, bad language, gambling, drugs, violence, and in-game purchases. In combination, the two different ratings can provide a good level of information to help make informed decisions regarding the suitability for your child.

PEGI age ratings are broken down into five categories:

- 3**: Suitable for ages 3 and over
- 7**: Suitable for ages 7 and over
- 12**: Suitable for ages 12 and over
- 16**: Suitable for ages 16 and over
- 18**: Suitable for ages 18 and over

PEGI content descriptors are broken down into eight categories:

- Sex
- Violence
- Bad Language
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Smoking
- Discrimination
- In-Game Purchases
- Gambling

### LIMITATIONS OF PEGI RATINGS

It's possible for young people to buy games online without a required proof of age, opening them up to age-inappropriate content without you knowing. We advise that you regularly monitor your child's gaming activities and maintain a honest and healthy dialogue with them about the online world.

### PARENTAL CONTROLS

It is a good idea to put in place parental controls for all online accounts which your child may use to purchase or download online games e.g. The App Store, Google Play Store, PlayStation Store and Microsoft Xbox Store etc.

Source: [www.bbfc.co.uk](http://www.bbfc.co.uk) | Source: [www.pegi.info](http://www.pegi.info)

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

## Keep Suffolk Moving:

Please find attached to the newsletter a letter from Cllr James Reeder, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Prevention, alerting schools to a new [digital exercise resource](#) aimed at helping parents and carers build exercise into the daily routines of children learning at home during the current lockdown.

More information can be found at

<https://www.keepmovingsuffolk.com/home-schooling/>



## Dates for your Diary:

### **Term dates for 2021**

#### **Spring Term 2021**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

**Half term:** 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February

**Staff Training day:** 4<sup>th</sup> January

#### **Summer Term 2021**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July

**Bank holiday:** 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**Half term:** 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June

**Staff Training days:** 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July (disaggregated)

### **Term dates for 2021 - 2022**

#### **Autumn Term 2021**

Wednesday 01<sup>st</sup> September – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**Half term:** 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October

**Staff Training day:** 01<sup>st</sup> September

#### **Spring Term 2022**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 08<sup>th</sup> April

**Half term:** 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February

**Staff Training day:** 4<sup>th</sup> January

#### **Summer Term 2022**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

**Bank holiday:** 02<sup>nd</sup> May

**Half term:** 30<sup>th</sup> May – 03<sup>rd</sup> June

**Staff Training days:** 25<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July

## **Job Advert for a Headteacher:**



### **Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School**

Service before self

Sporle Road, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 7HL

Website: [www.shcprimary.co.uk](http://www.shcprimary.co.uk)



## **HEADTEACHER**

Salary: Group 1 L12 - 18

Full time permanent

Required September 2021

The Governors of our school, wish to appoint someone with the vision and skills to lead our school as we grow. Our new Headteacher will be innovative and able to lead others to realise their full potential.

### **We are looking for a Headteacher who:**

- Has a deep commitment to the vision and ethos of Catholic Education and is capable of sharing their faith with the whole school community.
- Has the skills and drive to develop and grow the school to its full potential and size.
- Is an outstanding leader with a proven and demonstrable track record of driving and sustaining improvement, is a high effective leader who has the ability to lead, motivate and challenge children and staff.
- Is an effective communicator across the school, with the wider Sacred Heart family and is committed to continuing the effective partnerships between parish, parents and community.
- Has the necessary drive to pursue and achieve the highest expectation for pupils' attainment, progress and personal development.

### **In return we offer:**

- An opportunity to grow professionally in a welcoming and friendly Catholic school.
- A caring school community supported by a strong, effective and vibrant Governing Body together with an engaged wider school and Parish family.
- Happy, well behaved, confident children who are eager to learn and enjoy all aspects of school life.
- A dedicated staff team who strive for high standards of teaching and learning, who help and support each other

If you would like an informal conversation with the Chair of Governors, please contact Jane Delph at: [ssc@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:ssc@rcdea.org.uk) to book a call.

For an application pack please visit: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/schools/school-vacancies/>  
<http://www.shcprimary.co.uk/job-vacancies/> Homepage | Educator Solutions  
([educationjobfinder.org.uk](http://educationjobfinder.org.uk)), <https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/>  
<https://www.ctqonline.co.uk/>

All Applications must be returned to Jane Delph at: [ssc@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:ssc@rcdea.org.uk).

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