

A Note from Miss Cousin - what a two weeks it has been!

We're two-thirds of the way through the school year, and there's so much to be proud of! Our students have been busy with fantastic learning and exciting events. Check out our Instagram to see some of the highlights from this year so far.

As we head into the Easter break, we want to remind everyone to stay safe and enjoy the time off. With the evenings getting lighter, it's a great opportunity to spend more time outdoors, but also a time to be extra careful when out and about. Please take care when crossing roads, be mindful of traffic, and always use crossings where possible.

We wish all of our families a very Happy Easter—take the time to relax, recharge, and have fun with your loved ones. Stay safe, and we look forward to seeing everyone back soon for the next part of our exciting year!

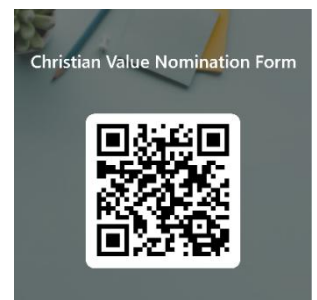
Exciting News – Our SIAMS Report

We are thrilled to share our recently published [SIAMS Report](#), which beautifully reflects the heart of St Wilfrid's. The report highlights our strong Christian vision, describing it as a "lived reality" where pupils and staff flourish together. It praises our "tangible culture of love and kindness where individuals are valued, nurtured, and believed in," our joyous and reflective collective worship, and our RE curriculum, which promotes critical thinking and understanding of different worldviews.

A special thank you to our pupils, staff, parents, and wider community—your dedication makes St Wilfrid's the wonderful place it is. Let's celebrate this achievement together as we continue to grow in faith, learning, and love.

Value Awards

We welcome your nominations for the children to receive any of our Christian Value Awards for living out the value in action: **translating the value into a virtue (kindness, love, respect, resilience, faith and joy)** through every day actions. Please use our Values Nomination Form, accessible through the QR code or [here](#), to submit your nominations. We will celebrate this once every two weeks on a Friday morning in our Golden Box Worship which you will be invited to attend. *This half term our focus value is 'Respect'.*



Feeling Proud

Well done to all the Golden Box entries this week! Your outstanding academic achievements and exemplary character continue to set a high standard for everyone. Keep up the fantastic work!



Another week another badge! 25meter front crawl for Ava! Stage 2 swimming completed and now moving on to stage 3. She has worked so hard for these and it's paid off! Great work!

Harriet and Violet performed at the Bonnington Theatre in Arnold in Shrek the Musical JR. Harriet was the ugly duckling and Violet was baby bear amongst many other roles. This was Violets first ever speaking part and she did absolutely wonderfully – they both did! I was lucky enough to go and enjoyed every second – it really was fantastic with so much talent. I laughed and cried my way through it – well done girls!





Ayla, Evie and River completed their first Dance Exam on Sunday - they get their results in a couple of weeks. Well done girls – a great achievement.



Well done to Ava who received her 25 meter swimming badge! Excellent work



Elizabeth, Charlotte and Henrietta at today's women's game with the captain, Lindsey Harkin. A friend of the family who sends the girls luck for their St Wilfrid League Games.



100 and 200 reads!



A huge congratulations to our incredible students, Oliver, Matilda, Maggie and Henry, who have reached 200 reads since September and Autumn who has reached 100!! Keep up the fantastic work! #100reads #200reads

#youngreaders #proudmoment

St Wilfrid's Voice






We truly value your feedback and are always striving to improve our school community for pupils, parents, and staff. We encourage you to take a moment to check out our latest Pupil, and Staff Voice updates, including results from Ofsted's Parent View. Your input helps shape the future of our school! Click [here](#). Thank you for your continued support – together, we grow stronger.

Thank You for Supporting Our Book Fair!

A big thank you to all the parents, carers, and children who supported our recent Book Fair. We are delighted to share that it raised **£240.40**, which will be used to buy new books for our school library. Your support helps us provide more great reading opportunities for the children, and we hugely appreciate it.

Lunchtime Donations

We're looking to add some fun and engaging items for our lunchtime play sessions, and we'd be so grateful for any donations of the following:

-  Small cars (for imaginative play and racing fun)
-  Floor mats (road or farm designs for creative play)
-  Baby dolls and pushchairs (for imaginative role-play)
-  Soft sponge balls (for safe, active play)
-  Small toys (such as figurines, action figures, or any little toys that encourage creative play)

If you have any of these items lying around at home that your child no longer uses, we'd love to give them a second life during lunchtime!

When Courageous Advocacy Meets Running Club!

Two of our Year 5 students have decided to team up with Betel UK to support their incredible mission! This May, Betel's residents are taking on the 3 Peak Challenge to raise funds for much-needed renovations at their Women's House.

To show our support, **St Wilfrid's Running Club - starting in the summer term (week comm 21st April) with Miss Cousin - will be running over 7km a week**, ensuring that by the end of half-term, we've covered the full 37km distance of the challenge! That's 37km in just 5 weeks!!

If your child would like to take part, please ensure they have their running trainers with them. The running sessions will be at lunchtime, but as my timetable varies, I can't guarantee the exact day - so if they have their shoes, they can join in whenever I'm available!

Every donation makes a difference and will directly impact this important cause. Let's spread the word and help make this happen! If you'd like to support the children with this and make a donation, click [here](#).

[Richard Whitehead – Run With Rich](#)

The Richard Whitehead Foundation's post



The Richard Whitehead Foundation

20 March at 18:06 · 🌐



Today is International Day of Happiness, and this year's theme is Caring & Sharing, a perfect reminder of the power of connecting with others through sport 🏃💙

Run With Rich is our annual flagship event and one of the most inclusive events of its kind in the UK. It's a friendly, fun, and welcoming community event, where disabled and non-disabled people take part together in either a 1K sensory or 5K 'YOUR WAY'.

At last year's event, we saw so many smiling faces, proving just how powerful sport, inclusivity and a sense of community can be in bringing us happiness.

This year, we want to make it even bigger and better. With just 6 weeks to go until early bird registrations close, now's the time to sign up!

📅 27th September, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham

Please join us, share with friends and family, we'd love to see you there! 🔗

<https://richardwhitehead.enthuse.com/cf/run-with-rich-2025>

#InternationalDayOfHappiness #CaringAndSharing #RunWithRich #InclusiveSport

#CommunityMatters #TakePartYourWay

Richard Whitehead



Thank You to Our School Governors

We would like to say a big thank you to our school governors for their continued support and dedication to our school community. Their commitment helps ensure the best opportunities for our children.

A special thank you to Craig Harrison, who has completed his four-year term as a parent governor—his hard work and contribution have been greatly appreciated.

This term, we've welcomed Sarah Vanner as a co-opted governor alongside Julie and Lindsay, and we look forward to Jessica Godfrey joining as our new parent governor next term.

We are grateful to all our governors for the time and effort they give to our school! See their Spring Term newsletter [here](#).

A Huge Thank You to Our PSA

We would like to say a massive thank you to our PSA for their continued hard work and dedication in raising funds for our school. Their efforts make a huge difference, helping to provide valuable resources and opportunities for our children.

As we enter the summer term, we look forward to working together on both new and familiar initiatives to support our school community.

If you'd like to get involved, whether in a big or small way, we'd love to hear from you! Every little bit of help makes a difference. Get in touch if you're interested in supporting the PSA. Thank you for all that you do!

Enrichment Update – Summer Term

Here is our initial enrichment programme for the Summer Term. We are still awaiting confirmation from *Chess in Schools and Communities* and hope to add it to our list once we receive their availability.

Please note, last term, we offered 24 clubs, 19 of which were free of charge! You can find more details about our enrichment participation on our [website](#). Keep checking as we do continue to add to this offer. Please find our participation in sporting events [here](#).

Attendance Matters: Striving for 97%!

Our school aims for a 97% attendance rate - a target set to ensure students are getting the most from their education. While 96% attendance is roughly in line with the national average, anything below that means important learning time is being missed. Over the last two weeks, we will share how we've been doing, but remember, attendance makes a big difference. Let's work together to meet our goal and give every student the best chance to succeed!

Session Attendance Summary (17 Mar 2025 - 21 Mar 2025)

	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	All Years
Attendance	98.67%	86.79%	96.00%	95.33%	98.00%	91.00%	93.93%	94.32%

Session Attendance Summary (24 Mar 2025 - 28 Mar 2025)

	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	All Years
Attendance	93.33%	93.21%	97.67%	89.67%	97.67%	96.67%	95.00%	94.76%

Our goal is to promote a positive atmosphere for all students. The class certificate rewards are exciting for the children and encourage teamwork. When a class earns five certificates, they enjoy an extra break. Thank you for your support as we create a positive school environment.

Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)



Catch up on all the fun on our [Instagram highlights](#).

Pupil Free School Meals and Milk: If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals, apply online [here](#).



Diary Dates	
Fri 4 th April	Break up for Easter
April 7 th - Fri 11 th April	Playscheme open
Tues 22 nd April	Children return to school Y4 Egyptians Partake Day
Mon 28 th April – Fri 2 nd May	Parent/Consultation Evenings
Tues 29 th April	Y5 DaART Graduation
Mon 28 th April	Y4 Residential Parent Meeting 5:30pm
Fri 2 nd May	Reading Café Year 3 3pm
Mon 5 th May	Bank Holiday
Thurs 8 th May	Reception trip to Field Farm
Mon 12 th - Thurs 15 th May	SATs Week
Fri 16 th May	Reading Café Year 4 3pm Year 6 Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Sun 18 th May	Village Get Together
Thurs 22 nd May	Y3 Class Worship at St Wilfrid's Church 9:45am Disco
Fri 23 rd May	Break up for half term
Mon 2 nd – Wed 4 th June	Y4 Hagg Farm Residential
Mon 2 nd June	Children return to school
Wed 4 th June	Y3 Egyptians Partake Day
Friday 13 th June	Reading Café Year 5 3pm
Mon 16 th June	Y6 trip to Nottingham University
Thurs 19 th and Fri 20 th June	Y6 Bikeability
Mon 23 rd and Tues 24 th June	Y6 Bikeability
Friday 27 th June	Reading Café Year 6 3pm
Mon 30 th June	Y6 Transition to Southwell Minster School
Thurs 3 rd July	CFS Induction Day
Tues 8 th July	KS2 Summer Production (time TBC)

Wed 9 th July	
Fri 11 th July	Y2 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Fri 18 th July	Y6 Stepping Up Day at Southwell Minster
Mon 21 st -Thurs 24 th July	Y6 Hathersage Residential
Thurs 22 nd May	Y2 Kings and Castle Life Partake Day
Fri 25 th July	Y6 Leavers' Service Last Day for pupils
Mon 28 th July/Tues 29 th July	Inset Day
Mon 28 th - Fri 8 th August	Playscheme open



Kids & smartphones – what's the big deal?

When children first started getting smartphones a decade ago, there was no research about their impact. Now there is, and it's overwhelming.



HARMFUL CONTENT

Smartphones act as a gateway to pornography, violent and extreme content. Often kids don't seek them out but are exposed to them via algorithms and messaging apps. Once seen, these things can never be unseen. 90% of girls and 50% of boys say they're sent explicit content they didn't want to see.



ADDICTION

Tech companies intentionally make apps addictive, because the more time we spend, the more data they harvest, the more money they make. By leveraging dopamine circuits, they trigger brain responses akin to slot machine gambling. 1 in 4 young adults show signs of behavioural addiction to smartphones.



ACADEMIC DISTRACTION

The average teen receives 237 smartphone notifications a day – one every few minutes – making focusing on schoolwork hard. Studies show that excessive smartphone use has negative impacts on academic performance. Children at schools with effective smartphone bans get GCSE's 1-2 grades higher.



GROOMING

Sites like TikTok, Snapchat and Roblox are used by sexual predators to target children with their first smartphones, blackmailing them into sharing sexual content. Sextortion is now the fastest growing crime against teens. Since 2022, there has been a 66% rise in 'self generated' sexual abuse imagery of children under 10.



CYBERBULLYING

Disagreements between pupils used to stop at the school gate, now they follow kids wherever they go, 24/7. Young people who experience cyberbullying are twice as likely to attempt suicide and self-harm. One in six teens report being cyberbullied in the past month, according to the World Health Organisation.



MENTAL ILLNESS

Rates of depression, anxiety and suicide in young people have spiked globally since 2010, when children first began getting smartphones. The first generation to grow up with smartphones are now adults – data shows that the younger they got their first smartphone, the worse their mental health today.



OPPORTUNITY COST

Underpinning all these harms is one that is potentially the most significant of all. For the first time in human history, children are spending more time on devices than they are playing – an activity crucial to our healthy development. Smartphones are experience blockers, distracting children from engaging in the real world. The average UK 12-year-old now spends 29 hours a week – equivalent to a part-time job – on their smartphone. This leaves little time for the real world activities and relationships that enable us to learn the essential life skills we need to transition into adulthood. The average daily time that teens spend with friends has plummeted by 65% since 2010.

Join the grassroots parents movement to protect childhood from Big Tech

www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/join

For all links to stats references see www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/the-problem

