



What a week for our Y5 children to go on their residential to London! Following the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, our pupils were able to experience the amazing atmosphere in the capital and soak up the sights.

As usual, the behaviour of our children was exceptional, impressing everyone they met with their attitudes and enthusiasm for new experiences.

When our pupils leave us in Year 6, and reminisce about their four years at SJS, residential trips are always mentioned. Children missed out on these experiences during Covid, and it is so rewarding to see these trips up and running again. After all learning is so much more than being within the school building!

**SJS STARS OF THE WEEK**

- Y3AH: James Birch
  - Y4CG: Millie Morgan
  - Y5GG: Lucas Gledhill
  - Y6ER: Alistair Bradder
  - Y3RD: Ben Lycett
  - Y4KT: Harry Clancy
  - Y5HK: Matilda Evans
  - Y6MC: Charlie Leeks
  - Y4OS: Sophie Hawksworth
  - Y5DW: Evie Aubrey
  - Y6CH: Molly Shaw
- Mr Tee: Presley Krompass  
 Dining-Room: Oscar Williams
- Y3/5 Yard: Frankie Brookes  
 Y4/6 Yard: Isla Gillott-Smith

**READING AROUND THE WORLD**

**Y3 - LONDON**

Alfie Kaine

**Y3 - PARIS**

Amelia Witton

**Y4 - PRETORIA**

Celia Fletcher

**Y4 - RIYADH**

William Price  
 David Staniforth  
 Martha Sulikowska

**Y4 - MOSCOW**

James Reed  
 Lucy Martin  
 James Gourley  
 David Staniforth

Martha Sulikowska  
 William Edwards  
 Oscar Edwards

**Y5 - KUALA LUMPUR**

Vanessa Horvathorva

**Y6 - OTTAWA**

Mason Walker  
 Archie Jowitt

**CHOIR**

Well done to the choir for their amazing performance at The Venue on Wednesday evening as part of the Valley Music Festival. Their performance was absolutely brilliant and their behaviour was exemplary. Mrs Shaw is very proud of you!

The last choir rehearsal this academic year will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Mrs Shaw would like to say thank you and well done to the choir for all of their hard work and wonderful singing this year. Choir will start again in September.

## **CRAZY CROWN COMPETITION WINNERS**

A big well done to the children who went above and beyond to create crazy crowns to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee before the holiday. The teachers had a tough time picking the winners but, after much deliberation, decided to award prizes to the following children:

Dottie Cookson and Maja Plenik Mastalerz (Y3RD)  
Isla McGrail (Y3AH)  
Phoebe Silvester (Y4KT)  
James Gourley (Y4OS)  
Gracie Redwood-Peace and Aimee Woolley (Y5GG)  
Delyse Galloway (Y5HK)

Thank you to everyone who took part - we hope you had fun making and wearing your crazy crown for the day.

## **PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE**



**Stocksbridge Junior School**

**Pre-Loved School Uniform Sale**

**Donation to School £1**

**20 & 22 & 24 June 2022**

**9am - 3:30pm**

**Stocksbridge Junior School,  
Cedar Road, Sheffield,  
S36 1AS**

## PE NEXT WEEK

Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate PE kit on their class' PE day next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y5HK Y6CH	Y4KT Y5DW	Y3AH Y3RD Y6ER	Y6MC Y5GG	Y4OS Y4CG Y4CG (Swimming)

## SUMMER ACTIVE TRAVEL CHALLENGE

Monday 13th June - Friday 15th July.

Before half term, School Council met with Amy, our Active Travel Officer, to discuss ways we can encourage children and parents to leave the cars at home and travel to school actively. The children came up with the idea of a competition which will just be like a 10-Day Active Travel but over an extended period of time. We will start this on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June and it will run until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July. We are going to call this 'Summer Active Travel Challenge'.

Each morning, each child will be awarded a mark for travelling actively to school. At the end of the week, the top three most active classes will be revealed in our Celebration Assembly. At the end of the challenge, the overall winners will receive a prize.

Everyone can get involved! Live too far away? There are ways your child can still travel actively to school:  
 Park and Stride - Park your car further away from school and encourage your child to walk the rest of the way.

Social Stride - Meet at a friend's house and walk the rest of the way.

Clean Air Day - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

To mark clean air day in school, we will be joined by Amy, our Active Travel Officer, who will be giving out spot prizes at the gate to children who cycle or scoot to school on that day. We will also be finding out more about how we can help to keep the air around our local area clean and pollution-free.

## STOCKSBRIDGE LIBRARY BUILDING

We were pleased to welcome Amanda from Sheffield City Council to our School Council meeting before the holiday. Amanda has tasked our children to come up with a name for the proposed new library building in Stocksbridge. Your child should have brought home a letter today inviting you to take part in this exciting opportunity. We will also be thinking about this a little more in school and allowing classes to work together to research the history and heritage of our local area as inspiration. Classes will then be asked to reach a consensus on their chosen name and submit their choice. For more information, please visit [www.welcometostocksbridge.co.uk](http://www.welcometostocksbridge.co.uk). Please complete and return the letter to your child's class teacher by Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022. You never know - just one of our very own ideas may triumph.

## NEXT WEEK'S MENU...

WEEK 2	MONDAY <small>MEAT FREE</small>	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	<b>Menu Change:</b>  Burger or veggie burger in a bun (optional onions and ketchup), chips and pasta salad/salad  Chocolate ice-cream with fruit	All day breakfast	Roast chicken and Yorkshire pudding with gravy and mashed potato	Sweet and sour chicken with mixed rice <small>5 ASDAY</small>	Fish of the day or salmon fishcakes with chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH		Quorn all day breakfast <small>5 ASDAY</small>	Quorn roast with gravy and mashed potato	Vegetarian chilli with mixed rice	BBQ bean burger with chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS <small>5 ASDAY</small>		Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar	Seasonal vegetables Salad bar
DESSERTS		Carrot and orange muffins	Fruit and ice cream <small>5 ASDAY</small>	Fruit crumble and custard <small>5 ASDAY</small>	Chocolate orange cookies
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or yoghurt
JACKET POTATO & SANDWICH SELECTION	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings	Jacket potato with a choice of fillings

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about VIRTUAL REALITY

Virtual reality (VR for short) has existed for decades, but it's only in the last 10 years that the technology has really become publicly available. With VR's rapid rise as a gaming and educational medium, there are plenty of unknowns regarding its use – for adults and children alike. Is it safe? How long should someone use VR for? How expensive is it? What's clear is that VR is becoming ever more ubiquitous in everyday life: from companies using it for training to at-home fitness. Knowing what the technology is capable of is more useful than ever.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PREMATURE EXPOSURE

AGE RATING  
**13+**

While VR has already found its way into schools worldwide – allowing teachers to take their class on digital field trips – most manufacturers advise an age restriction of 13. This safeguard is based on the idea that children's brains, eyes and bodies are still developing. With the technology still in its infancy, not enough research has been conducted as to how VR affects children in the longer term.

### EYE STRAIN

One of the main worries about VR is that essentially having TV screens so close to your eyes could harm them with prolonged use. Lenses inside each headset have been specifically designed to trick the human eye into focusing to infinity (just as they would in the real world) to mitigate possible eye strain. Even so, longer VR sessions should be limited to adults only.

### PHYSICAL ACCIDENTS

When used correctly, VR isn't dangerous as there are safety features built in. A common concern is that a child wearing a headset could bump into real-world objects while playing – so creating a clear, tidy gaming space is essential. Headsets also come with 'Guardian' or digital barrier systems that can be set up beforehand, indicating where walls and furniture are located so nobody trips over and hurts themselves.

### SOCIAL VR

VR is more immersive than normal gaming and makes players feel very present in the moment. There are additional online safety fears, therefore, relating to trolling and abusive comments as players engage with each other in social VR spaces. Personal information shouldn't be given out and privacy and safety controls (who can see your real name, for example) need to be activated where possible.

### MOTION SICKNESS

Children who are prone to travel sickness might encounter what's known as 'simulator sickness'. This is nausea caused by the eyes seeing images which tell the brain that the person is moving, while the rest of the body knows it is stationary. Most apps have features to reduce this discomfort, while some games simply don't feature locomotion to make for a more comfortable experience.

### VIOLENT CONTENT

Among the growing range of VR games and apps, not all of them are appropriate for young players. Violent content can be far more visceral and disturbing in VR, so it's important to consider the age and maturity of your child before giving them access to this type of gameplay. As the majority of VR content is digital, online store access is easy – so careful curation is advised.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### START OFF SLOWLY

Just like regular video games, if your child wants to try VR the best way to reduce risks is moderation. Keep their VR sessions to short stints – and for young adults new to the technology, build up their usage time gradually to let them get acquainted with it. If they feel any discomfort, remove the headset and try again at a later point.

### ANTI-NAUSEA OPTIONS

It's wise to get used to VR while comfortably seated and progress to standing or 'room-scale' VR (where players physically walk around an area) later. Look at the in-app options first: switching between seated and standing adjusts the player's height, while a vignette or 'tunnel' darkens the peripheral vision to reduce nausea. Teleportation Mode and Snap Turning are also important options for enhancing comfort.

### NO SURPRISES

It's easy to get lost in the moment in VR – and possibly forget where you might be standing in the real world. A minimum 2m x 2m play area is recommended, with no plant pots or other delicate objects within reach of flailing arms. Take pets into account, too: don't let the cat or dog walk into the room, for example, because a VR player won't see them and could certainly trip. A child is far more likely to get over-enthusiastic in VR, posing a risk to themselves and anything in their path.

### RESEARCH CONTENT

There will be information online about most games and apps, explaining what type of experience they provide. They'll list age ratings indicating how violent the gameplay might be; comfort, so you'll know the intensity of the experience; and how much access the game requires to personal information or features like the built-in microphone.

### KEEP A WATCHING BRIEF

It may seem that a VR player is in their own world, but all VR headsets allow external viewing via a linked monitor or mobile phone. This is the best way to ensure whatever a child is playing is appropriate. More VR supervision tools are on the way, such as securing specific apps behind unlock patterns or sending an approval notification to the parent if their child wants to purchase a game.

## Meet Our Expert

Peter Graham is the editor at XR (extended reality) and Web3 specialist site [gmw3.com](http://gmw3.com) and has been writing about VR, augmented reality and the immersive tech industry for more than seven years. He's served as a panel speaker and a judge at awards events and game hackathons.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

# Football is Coming to Sheffield Libraries!!

Join Imagination Gaming for an exciting football themed competition in celebration of the Women's Euros 2022!



**Taking place at  
Stocksbridge Library on  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1.30-3.30pm.  
For children 7-10+ years of age.**

No need to book, just drop in and play. If football's not your thing there are other fantastic tabletop games to play. Ask the library staff for more details.



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