



WEEKLY SNIPPETS

Friday 4th October 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

Another busy week at Team SJB.

It was great to hear that Year 6 had a good time at the Dock Museum on Thursday. This trip supported their history topic of 'The Barrow Blitz'.

Year 3 had a fun afternoon labelling the parts of the human body. See page 4 for pictures.

Mrs Dobson and I were very pleased to show some potential new parents around school on Wednesday. We hope they will be able to join us from September 2025 onwards.

It was Year 5's turn to lead our debate assembly this week. The motion discussed was '**Should Playtime be Longer at SJB?**' As you can imagine this provoked some lively debate! Very well done to the two teams for giving us a reasoned and confident performance.

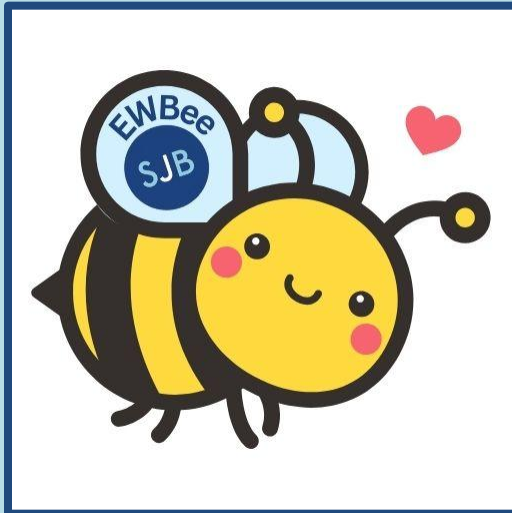
On Thursday we enjoyed a **Disney** themed lunch in school. Huge thanks to Mrs Bleasdale and Ms Armstrong - the Mickey Mouse cupcakes looked great! 172 lunches in total - well done to everyone who tried a school dinner for the first time.



Some of our classes have started assessments this week. This is nothing to worry about. We use the results to target our teaching over the coming months. You will get a full update at parentals at the end of this month. Keep an eye out for an email next week to book your appointment.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and restful weekend,
Mrs Fletcher and the SJB Team

Dates for Diaries - Week commencing: Monday 7th October 2024	
Mon	Year 3 and 4 multi-sport 3:15-4:00pm
Tues	Year 5 & 6 Recorder Club 8am-8:35am Gymnastics club 8-8:30 KS2 Choir 3:15-4pm
Wed	Athletics Club 8:00-8:40am
Thur	Tag Rugby Club years 4/5/6 8:00-8:40am - cancelled- Mr Maher on a First Aid course Ukulele 3:15-4pm
Fri	KS2 Running club 8:00-8:40am Year 5 and 6 multi-sport 3:15-4pm Year 3 and 4 Football Club 3:15-4pm



Emotional Wellbeing - 10 words

This week in assembly, we talked about feeling **sad**. This isn't a comfortable feeling but it's one we have to accept happening to any of us. The best thing to do when you are sad is to talk to someone about how you are feeling. It's not always easy to do that when you are feeling sad as you often want to hide away so we talked about popping a little note into the class 'Worry Box' so the teachers know that you want a chat. They can't fix every problem but they can certainly listen.



Great work Year 3!
The children could talk
confidently about their
learning and they had
fun too!





SJB PTA FUNDRAISING

Autumn DISCO

THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Nursery 2pm - 2.30pm

Tickets £2
includes non uniform all day,
juice and biscuits

Please see the office if the cost is a problem for
your family.



SJB PTA FUNDRAISING

Autumn DISCO

THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Reception, Year 1 & 2 2.30-3.15pm
Year 3 & 4 3.20 - 4.10pm
Year 5 & 6 4.15-5pm

Tickets £4/£3 siblings
includes non uniform all day, hot
dog/vegan sausage roll, juice and
biscuits

Please see the office if the cost is a problem for
your family.

SIR JOHN BARROW SCHOOL WEEKLY SNIPPETS



SUCCESSING
ENJOYING
BELONGING

For further guidance, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

There are a number of ways that games commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens while the game itself. There is also party where a group of players connect to the console, even if they aren't playing the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many parents report very often – and often via a third-party app such as Discord.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

Whether it's text or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to talk. Many games default to making it an opt-in feature, but some don't. Making it opt-in could start leaving messages with the game to both people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most children have a reasonably good idea of what it means to opt-in, what they may not realise is that opt-in often means that they can be contacted by strangers who may be trying to be friendly or abusive.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a friend or a trustworthy friend, sending gifts to encourage the child and wanting photos. Just as in any messaging platform, it's good to educate young people to avoid giving out personal information. They shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

DANGER OF GROOMING

BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can be fun, because of how a match plays out, when a full chat only focuses on people who engage in trolling – or worse, bullying – or offensive and abusive language to create pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These trolls often use a variety of tactics, such as insulting and other harmful behavior. They normally use a lot of expletives to get a younger, more impressionable player's attention.

POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like to chat with a stranger when meeting them in the game, they can search for a friend request, or use the party chat together in the game. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then be used to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or groom younger players.

COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a disadvantage or someone forcing an advantage over another, or they're just a bad team. This can lead to unconstructive messages that they away from playful trash talk, and worse into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get hostile about in-game chat, and the impact of this on young gamers' emotional wellbeing could be severe.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without the risk of contact from strangers. But it isn't possible to always lock out of game. That chat options in the console or in the game's settings, such as a hardware key to lock to game and turn on/off chat, can be used to lock out of chat, depending on the platform and the game, so they can opt the dangers themselves.

REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can help to ensure an enjoyable experience. This normally works as the account that's being used to play in the future. If that account's account creates any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done while the game itself, so lock out has a registry of reported players, but there tend to be designed to be complex.

CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party app like Discord. This offers a better option to chat in a private space and avoid any risk of chat in the console or in the game's settings. It's also a good idea to consider if the child needs to be able to chat with friends, so they can be contacted by someone they know.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the difference between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes abusive or inappropriate behavior from an older online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult or a teacher. Encourage children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and discuss them with you so they can be aware of what to do if they're being contacted by someone they don't know.

Meet Our Expert

Lord Cumber is the father of Caid of Caid and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and teaches students the importance of online safety, writing about what he's learned. He's also been published in sites including TechCrunch, and many more.

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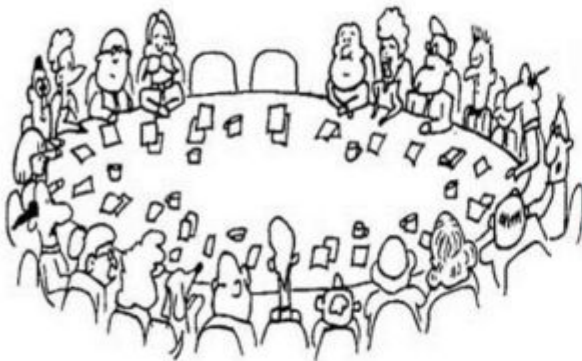
WEEKLY SNIPPETS



SIR JOHN BARROW PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

☎ 01229 483960 ✉ admin@sjbarrow.cumbria.sch.uk

We have vacant Governor posts.....



**School
governors
make a
difference**

....can you help?

- Are you able to attend meetings during the school term?
- Are you interested in helping to deliver the best possible education to help SJB children achieve their full potential?
- Do you see yourself acting as a 'Critical Friend' to the School Leadership Team, to help create positive school improvements?

In return you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are making a real difference.

You will have the opportunity to use and improve a range of highly transferable skills, work with new people and apply your knowledge and experience to benefit our local community.

No experience is needed as training is available.

**If you are interested in the role, please email Mr John Barrett,
Chair of Governors: jbarrett@sjbarrow.cumbria.sch.uk**

Thank you, we look forward to hearing from you!

PTO for details on the role of school governors



SIR JOHN BARROW PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

☎ 01229 483960 ✉ admin@sjbarrow.cumbria.sch.uk

What do school governors do?

- Governors work together as a team, making collective decisions to ensure that all pupils receive an education that empowers them to learn and achieve their full potential.
- Governors define the school's strategic direction through setting annual improvement plans focused on priority development areas.
- Governors raise standards across the school by regularly monitoring performance against agreed targets.
- Governors oversee the school's budget and a three-year 'value for money' balanced financial plan.

What skills are needed?

No special skills are required. The only essential requirement is a keen interest in the strategic management of the school and in the education of the pupils, as well as the time and willingness to get involved. The following are very welcome: professional experience and/or qualifications and/or soft skills (e.g. interpersonal skills, team-working, the ability to constructively challenge and data interpretation) will be very useful to consolidate the Governing Body's expertise. No experience of the role is required - training is provided in a variety of ways: at GB meetings, from a buddy governor, online resources and group events with other governors from local schools.

Who can be a governor?

You can if you are aged 18 or over and have a minimum of 6 hours a month to spare. It is not necessary to be a parent of a child in school, or to have any connections to SJB. The most important things which a volunteer can bring to the role are time, commitment and enthusiasm. Many local employers are willing to allow employees time away from work to carry out governor business or training.

What are the benefits of being a school governor?

There are many varied and valid reasons why people take on the role. It is mutually beneficial – children benefit from better life chances and the community these are the next generation of Ulverston adults; it also gives you the opportunity to develop new skills and to fine-tune existing skills.



OCTOBER HALF TERM AT LITTLE REBELS



OUR LADY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY, DALTON
TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER - THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER

9-3PM OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN FROM 4-11YRS

BOOK NOW @ WWW.LITTLEREBELS.UK