

ST REGIS ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

7th June 2024



**ST REGIS STARS
OF THE WEEK!**

YEAR 7 – BLOSSOM

YEAR 8 – KHARIS

YEAR 9 – SHRIYA

YEAR 10 – AYODELE

YEAR 11 – EM

CHESTER – KHARIS

LICHFIELD – BLOSSOM

WORCESTER –

DAMILARE

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

IS LICHFIELD!



MESSAGE FROM MR PARRY

This week we hosted our Year 11 celebration assembly with a range of Awards handed out to Year 11 students. It was a joyous occasion and lovely way for Year 11 to come together to celebrate their time here at St Regis. There are a number of examinations remaining before they can fully relax, but we have very proud of the way they have applied themselves during this challenging period.

Our Year 9 and Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students departed for their expedition this morning and we wish them a very successful weekend, with some favorable weather conditions! We also had the pleasure of hosting a Talk the Talk workshop with selected Year 8 and Year 9 students this week. The workshops are Oracy focused and aim to improve confidence; equip students with talk structure and delivery skills; and build aspirations and focus on pathways.

Next week we have a group of Year 10 students attending the Food Show and on Thursday we look forward to hosting the Bishop of Lichfield, The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, on site as we mark the completion of our major roof refurbishment and celebrate the official re-opening of St Regis Academy.

I would also like to take the time to remind you of our goal to become cashless. We will not be accepting payments in cash in St Regis. Our preferred method for all payments will be the online payment system, ParentPay. This system enables you to pay for items such as: School Meals, Trips, Revision Guides, Music Lessons etc. and can provide parental consent for trips even if no payment is necessary.

If you've not used ParentPay yet and need an activation code or reminder, please email finance@stregisacademy.org with your child(ren)'s name and form(s). If you would still prefer to use cash to make payments to the academy, then we are able to issue a barcode which can be used at a PayPoint outlet of which there are a number in the vicinity of St Regis (details of PayPoint outlets can be found at consumer.paypoint.com).





Well done to our Year 8 students who took home the trophy at the Wolverhampton Unified Cricket!



We welcomed Three Spires Trust CEO into school this week for her CEO Listening Tour!

Well done!



Year 11 Leavers Assembly

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING



Working together to keep our young people safe

Secondary | June 2024

Algorithms: Understanding Their Role in Social Media

Algorithms play a crucial role in organising content, ranking search outcomes and displaying advertisements on the internet, especially on social media. They are primarily used to arrange content in a user's feed. Given the vast amount of content accessible, social platforms use algorithms to prioritise content they believe will appeal to a user, based on what they have liked, commented on, watched and shared.

Algorithms can have negative impacts on young individuals. They operate on the assumption that any interaction with content indicates a desire for similar information. Consequently, if a young person views inappropriate material, they may receive more of such content. Over time, this content may escalate in inappropriateness, potentially exposing children to extremely harmful material.

In this month's issue:

- Algorithms
- Edibles
- App focus: Reddit

How to support your child with the negative impact of algorithms

- 1 Social media limits**
Stepping away from social media and engaging in offline activities can enhance moods.
- 2 Curate feeds**
Exploring diverse content and following accounts that share positive content can help create a more uplifting social media environment.
- 3 Notice reactions**
Assisting your child in identifying content that triggers negative feelings and fostering healthy habits of disconnection can help disrupt the cycle of negative emotions.



4 WAYS ALGORITHMS CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

1



Mental health

Excessive engagement with negative content can increase anxiety and depression.

2

Misinformation and echo chambers

Young people may encounter misinformation and hate speech due to user-generated content in their feed, limiting exposure to diverse opinions and reinforcing existing views.



3

Body image and self-esteem

Social media promotes unrealistic beauty standards. The constant exposure to such content can negatively impact the self-esteem of young people who aspire to meet these standards.



4

Inappropriate content

It is very easy to come across content which is not age appropriate. This can be of a sexual nature, violent, sexist and racist.



Keeping your child safe is our number one priority at St Regis Academy.

You can contact your child's Form Tutor, Head of Year or the Designated Safeguarding Leads if you have any concerns or questions by emailing: admin@stregisacademy.org. If it is urgent, please call the school and ask for a DSL.

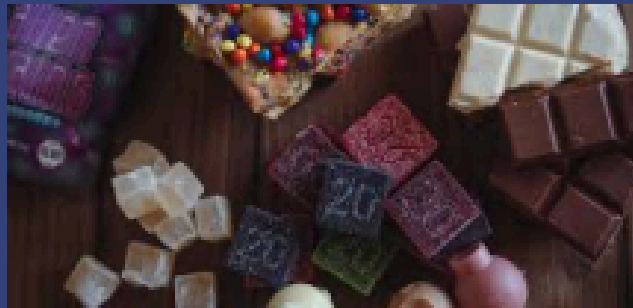


Edibles: What are they and what are the risks for young people?

Edibles refer to food items infused with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), a mood-altering ingredient derived from cannabis.

These products come in various forms such as cakes, sweets, chocolate, soft drinks and syrups. Unlike traditional cannabis, edibles do not have a distinct smell, making it challenging to detect their THC content. Furthermore, they may contain other illicit substances.

The packaging of these products is often appealing to young individuals, with some being marketed as 'gummies' to attract children.



Effects of edibles:

Consumption of THC through edibles can lead to altered perception, dizziness, slurred speech, heart palpitations, nausea and vomiting. Regular users of edibles may also face challenges like poor concentration and depression, among other symptoms, which can adversely affect mental health.

Availability of edibles to young people:

Edibles can be conveniently purchased online and delivered to a specified address. Some drug dealers have started promoting these products on social media platforms like Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat.

App Focus: Reddit

Reddit serves as a platform where users can engage with like-minded individuals within various communities. It acts as a social news site for discussing current events, accessible both as a website and an app.

Risks linked to Reddit:

- Users have the ability to form 'subreddits' focused on diverse interests, yet adults with unknown intentions can create communities that might appeal to young users.
- User-generated content could expose children to potential grooming risks.
- Due to minimal moderation on Reddit, there is a prevalence of inappropriate content.



Age

Restriction: 13

Tips for ensuring your child's safety on Reddit:

- Wait until your child is 13 years old before allowing them to use Reddit and ensure they provide their real age on their profile.
- Assist them in selecting suitable subreddits to follow and verify their appropriateness.
- Familiarise yourself with Reddit's functionality to assist and guide your child effectively.
- Adjust the message privacy setting to 'Whitelisted' to restrict messaging to approved contacts only.
- Turn off adult content in the feed settings for added protection.



FREE STEM DAY!

AT RAF MUSEUM MIDLANDS

Join us at RAF Museum Midlands for a free day of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) experiences, in collaboration with Wolverhampton Virtual School.

KS2 children (and adults too!) can take part in 3 engaging, hands-on activities, surrounded by our iconic collection of aircraft! Build and launch rockets, control robots, and much more!

*Free parking!

*Lunch is not provided - bring a picnic or visit our restaurant on site!



To secure your free place, please fill out your contact details below (to be completed by over 18s only):

SCAN



Or email learning-midlands@rafmuseum.org

DATE

SATURDAY 22 JUNE 2024

TIME

10:30AM - 2:30PM

LOCATION

RAF MUSEUM MIDLANDS,
SHIFNAL, TF11 8UP

Wolverhampton
VirtualSchool

Supporting achievement, promoting opportunity



From the Chaplain...

‘Yet not my will, but your will be done’ prayed Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane as he pleaded in anguish that there might be another way to fulfil God’s plans; a way to avoid the humiliation, the betrayal, the suffering and the cruel death ahead of him. For Christians, who believe that Jesus was both fully God and also fully human, it is a source of constant wonder and grace that God clothed himself in a vulnerable human body like ours and, as a human, suffered and died for love of us. It also means that whatever we suffer in life, whether we are falsely accused, publicly shamed, bullied or abused, we know that he understands. We know that he feels our shame and our pain. We are not alone.



We consider Jesus’ prayer this week as we reflect on ‘Jesus the Faithful’. ‘Now faith,’ writes St Paul in his letter to the Hebrews, ‘is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.’ In other words, it is the confidence we hold in God’s ability and desire to fulfil his promises to us. It is this faith in God’s love for us and in his word to us that gives us hope for the future and which allows us to carry joy in our hearts, even when going through the toughest of challenges. For we believe and we trust that in the end, ‘All shall be well’.

As we look back through our lives and indeed through the history of God’s people, we notice the challenges that we have already come through. Time and again we notice how we have faced seemingly impossible situations which we simply couldn’t see our way through. Time and again we have been challenged with injustice, anger, loss or disappointment. But as we remember and reflect, we notice how God has surrounded us with the people who would encourage us in those times. We notice too how God has been able to use even the worst situations and to bless us or others through them. That is not to say that we would wish to relive them; but we recognise how God has grown us in patience, in compassion, in strength and in faith because of all that we have experienced. With God, nothing is wasted.

As our exam students prepare to leave us and find their own ways in the world we pray that their faith and knowledge of God’s love for them will bring them courage and joy in the years to come.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29: 11-13