



# I am a Disciple for you Jesus



Holy Souls Catholic Primary School

Mallard Close, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6BN

Head Teacher: Mrs R A Girling

Summer Term 2023

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Newsletter 31

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Dear Parents, carers and children,

I hope you have had a good week. It has been incredibly busy here at school with Year 5 visiting Strafford upon Avon, some of Year 6 visiting their new secondary schools and Y2 making pizzas at Frankie and Benny's! The netball team were defeated at St Catherine's but played superbly. The whole school enjoyed Outdoor and Adventurous Activity training in orienteering.

We were delighted to meet our 30 new Reception families on Monday evening. Thank you for giving up your time to come and get to know us. We look forward to the seven years ahead! My thanks to Mrs Gill and Mr Henvey for their very informative presentations.

Year 6 are busy preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation which takes place on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July with Bishop David. We welcome the Year 6 parents at 2.15pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July for a brief overview of arrangements. Please keep the children in your prayers.

Please do check you received the letter emailed out earlier informing you of the 2023 / 2024 staffing arrangements. Your child's report will be sent out on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July. It has been a pleasure to read each report and to see the progress each child has made and to congratulate them on the year they have had. My favourite section is the personal comment - it shows just how unique your child is and how well the staff know them.

All clubs finish on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July for this academic year. Heartfelt thanks to the many staff and coaches who give freely of their time to plan and deliver such great opportunities for the children. This includes dance, kick boxing, Irish dancing, design technology, football, basketball, dodgeball, netball, multi sports, Soul Singers, and computer club.

We are hoping to have our preloved uniform sale before we break up, however, we can't do this without your donations. If you have any uniform you would like to donate, please bring it to the office by next Wednesday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs R A Girling (Headteacher)

School finishes on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 at 1:00pm for our summer break.

Year 1 to Year 6 return on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 8:30am.



## To bring good news, to shine for you.



## The Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our final group of Year 3 pupils and children from the parish who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Such a wonderful highlight of our school year as the children continue to walk in their journey of faith. We are privileged to bear witness to this and alongside our parish family, your families and friends we were so very proud of you all.

Thank you to everyone who assisted in preparing the children - Miss Trodden, our wonderful Year 3 staff, our superb musicians and choir, our parish stewards, altar servers, and Father Alex.

We look forward to seeing you at parish Mass and will keep you all in our prayers.





## SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

### What parents and carers need to know about Rumble

Big names, challenging opinions and comparatively lenient censorship.

Rumble is a video-sharing platform which has achieved stellar growth in recent years - as well as drawing a similarly eye-catching amount of criticism for the views of some of its best-known account holders.

Our guide this week explains, young users of the app (even ones who are over the recommended age limit) may encounter hazards including political bias, potentially harmful misinformation and inappropriate content if they stumble across Rumble.

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/rumble>

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about RUMBLE**

A video-sharing platform designed as an alternative to YouTube, Rumble is the epitome of a 'slow burner' in digital circles: it was initially launched in 2015, but it's only in the last two or three years that it's begun to gain serious traction. Much of Rumble's recent growth has stemmed from its association with Truth Social, the platform founded by former US President Donald Trump. Rumble's content frequently reflects some intense political viewpoints; this can often affect the way it approaches topics and has occasionally caused the platform to venture into controversial territory.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS**  
The company which developed Rumble is also responsible for hosting Truth Social, the often controversial news and social network founded by Donald Trump. Indeed, Rumble's content often reflects the ideas of one group of US voters, who have embraced it as an alternative to more mainstream social media. Many parents may feel that such an overtly political platform isn't suitable for young people.
- PROVOCATIVE CONTENT**  
Rumble prides itself on championing free speech, with its CEO declaring the platform 'immune to cancel culture'. Many of Rumble's highest-profile content creators, such as Andrew Tate and Rumble Brat, are well-known for their opinions which are often described as extreme. While Rumble might be equipped to treat this content objectively, much of it may not be appropriate for a young audience.
- INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL**  
In very simple terms, Rumble works a little like YouTube but with far fewer censors and restrictions being applied to its content. If age-inappropriate material or potentially harmful misinformation is trending on the platform and being shared among more mature users, there's a distinct possibility that Rumble's algorithm may also recommend that content to a child.
- CONTROVERSIAL FIGURES**  
Many of Rumble's best-known accounts are owned by individuals who have previously been banned from other social media platforms. There could, of course, be a variety of reasons behind this - but it almost certainly increases the chances of your child coming across content on Rumble which probably wouldn't be deemed acceptable on other similar platforms.
- SENSITIVE TOPICS**  
In recent months, some prominent Rumble influencers have expressed uncompromising views on sensitive subjects such as gun control, abortion, LGBTQ+ issues and more. With many Rumble accounts tending to display a nationwide political bias, the concern would be that young people using the platform may not always be presented with an impartial perspective on these important and complex topics.
- THE ALTERNATIVE VIEW**  
No video-sharing platform is totally free from potentially harmful content, of course - but the number of prominent account holders on Rumble whose output has previously been censored from similar services is certainly a cause for concern. If your child is becoming interested in influencer culture or politics specifically, you could perhaps research more family-friendly platforms together.

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

- TALK ABOUT POLITICS**  
Rumble does have a team of moderators, but the nature of the platform means that some permitted content is likely to be controversial and highly subjective. That possibility might make many parents uncomfortable - but if your child does view (or hear about) something provocative on Rumble, it can still provide a useful opportunity to discuss politics at home in a safe, relaxed environment.
- RESEARCH ALTERNATIVES**  
No video-sharing platform is totally free from potentially harmful content, of course - but the number of prominent account holders on Rumble whose output has previously been censored from similar services is certainly a cause for concern. If your child is becoming interested in influencer culture or politics specifically, you could perhaps research more family-friendly platforms together.
- CHECK UP REGULARLY**  
Like any video-sharing platform, there's a chance that Rumble might suggest inappropriate content for your child. There may be an algorithm issue - or it could be that the recommendations are based on videos they've previously viewed. If your child uses Rumble, you might consider a chat with them about which accounts they follow and what type of content is suitable for their age.
- DISCUSS IMPARTIALITY**  
Many prominent Rumble accounts wear their political leanings firmly on their sleeves. As a result, it can be tricky for impressionable young people to appreciate both sides of any given debate. If your child is old enough to use Rumble, you may feel that a discussion of some things they've seen might be justified - or it can be prepared from some complex (and possibly lengthy) conversational topics.

**Meet Our Expert**

David Goodwin is a former Chief of gaming and sports at the BBC and has worked in the gaming media for nearly a year. A major contributor to the app has not been made, but he is a parent who understands the value of impartiality, linking mostly about Rumble and others. He only has one word to describe Rumble: it's a bit like a mix of YouTube and Twitter.

**NOS National Online Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @nationalonline\_safety Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram: @nationalonline\_safety TikTok: @national\_online\_safety

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If you are worried about a child contact Birmingham Children's Information and Advice Service on 0121 303 1888 or directly to the Police. Outside office hours, call the emergency duty team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on: 0121 675 4806.

Neglect or abuse of a child is a criminal offence.

**SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY**