



St Mary's Priory Catholic Infant and Junior Schools'

School Newsletter

Where great lives begin

3rd October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Monday's assembly, Mrs Ronan revisited our school mission with the children, focusing on what it truly means to *love one another*—especially when it comes to helping each other feel safe.

She shared the story *The Invisible String*, which reminds us that we are always connected to the people we love, even when they're not physically with us. This invisible string helps us feel safe and supported, knowing we are never truly alone.

"Even though you can't see it with your eyes, you can feel it with your heart and know

that you are always connected to everyone you love."

The children reflected on who they are connected to by their own invisible strings—family, friends, God—and how they can turn to Him in prayer when they need comfort or reassurance. It was an assembly that reminded us all of the importance of love, connection and faith.

We kicked off Black History Month today by joining a live assembly. The assembly explored this year's BHM theme: "**Standing Firm in Power and Pride**". We are really looking forward to all of the activities that will take place this month. Reminder: we would like parent involvement! If you have something you think will add to our BHM celebrations, please let us know via the online form (see email).

We have begun to accept donations for our Harvest Festival collection! Please do donate non-perishable goods to the school, and they will be shared amongst local food banks (as well as our own one!).



This week, three of our house teams came to school wearing their house saint colours to mark the Feast Days of: St Francis, St Vincent and St Therese!

Year 6 enjoyed their Bikeability lessons with Cycle Confident! They learnt how to cycle safely on roads which is a key skill to have as they grow in independence.

Don't forget to join Tishya for an 'online safety' workshop next week- details for this, as well as many other events, can be found on the next page!

Have a lovely weekend!

**Ms Reynolds
Deputy Headteacher**

Attendance winners! 	
Infant School:	Junior School:
Robin 96.27%	5B 100%
Punctuality winners! 	
Robin 4 late	5B & 4D 4 late

School calendar:

When:	What:	Who:	Where:	Time:
All year	Clubs: Monday: Y1-6 Football (Top Sports Academy)/ Street Dance (Y4-6)/ Arts and Craft (ASC) Tuesday: Multi-sports (ASC) Wednesday: Performing Arts (ASC) Thursday: Y1-6 Multi-sports (Top Sports Academy) Friday: Homework (ASC)		Various	9am
October	Black History Month Harvest Festival - collecting donations for local foodbanks as well as the school's	All		
10th October	World Porridge Day - please donate £1 for an afternoon of fun in aid of Mary's Meals.			
10th October	Tishya Desai - Online Safety parent workshop /coffee drop in	All parents		2pm - 3pm
14th/15th October	Parent Teacher Consultations: Nursery-Year 6	All parents	Inf/Juni or Halls	3.40-6pm
17th October	Show racism the red card - wear a red top. £1 donation	All pupils		
17th October	Harvest Festival Liturgy Parents invited.	All pupils/parents	Halls	
22nd October	PSA's Mini Autumn Fair! Non-uniform Day- come to school in fancy dress or in autumn-colours!	All	Infant Hall	Fair: 3.30-4.3-
24th October	Black History Month celebration! Non-uniform day- come to school dressed up as a notable Black figure or wear bright, culturally inspired patterned clothing	All		

Book Fair next week!
Tuesday-Friday in the
Year 5 corridor (next to
the Junior Hall).





Stars of the Week



Class:	Stars:	
Owl Class	Carlos	Emilia
Robin Class	Joey	Emma C
Dove Class	Eliana	Yohane
3C	Victoria	Autumn Rose
4D	Gideon	Kamil
5W	Kevin	Jaida
5B	Erica	A'Zaria
6J	Joshua	Iris

Congratulations to our Stars of the week!
These pupils have worked exceptionally hard to stand out amongst their peers. Well done everyone!



2025 BLACK HISTORY MONTH

#BLACKHISTORYMONTH

Black History Month - Live Assembly


Remember who is on your team



Serena & Venus Williams are world famous tennis players and their Dad defended their confidence from a young age so they could stand firm in their power and pride to make history!

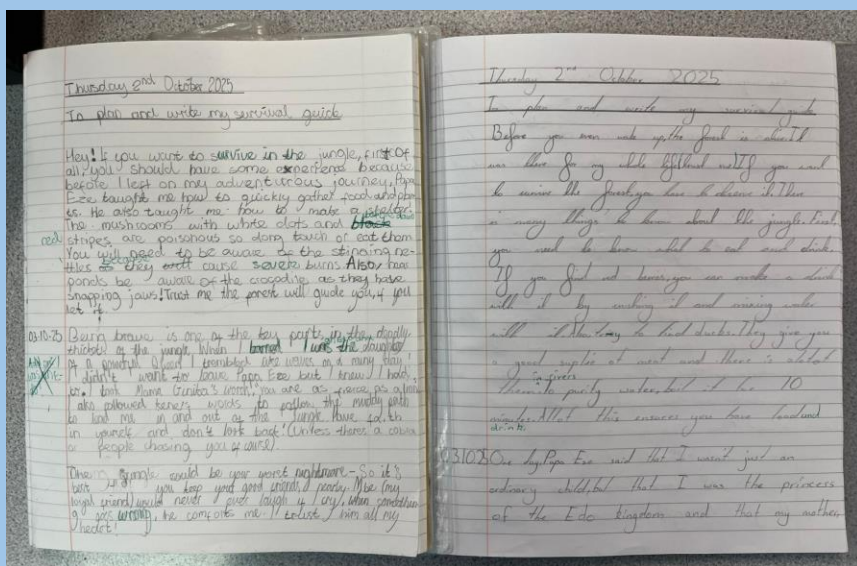
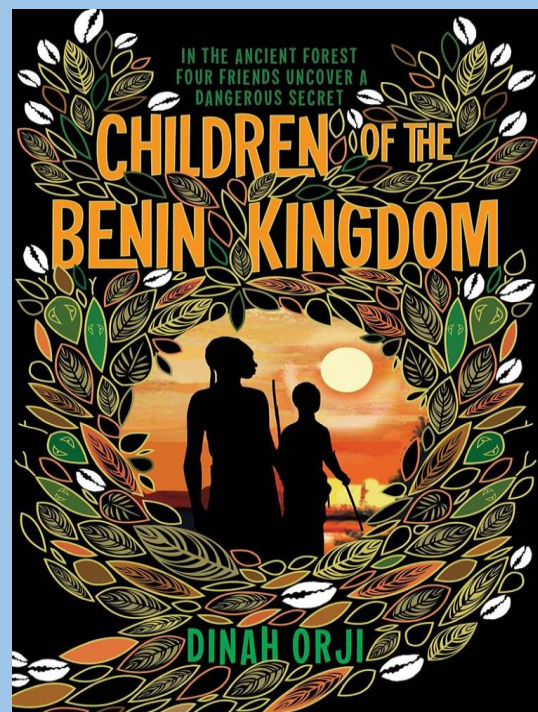
But do you know who was behind them all the way

Remember who do you see today



Hamza Yassin is a wildlife cameraman and TV presenter you may have seen on CBBC! He has Dyslexia but he calls it his superpower because it helps him see the world differently. Hamza won Strictly Come Dancing, and his Afrobeats dance was so powerful it inspired many people across the UK to listen to and discover Afrobeats for themselves. His superpower has opened doors, and it world and so many people to say, 'whoa, Afrobeats? I've never heard of it!'

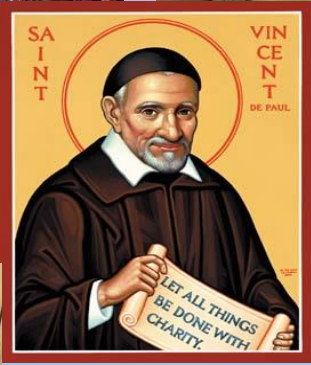
We all took part in a live assembly, with BBC presenter Swarzy, to kick start Black History Month. They explored this year's theme, 'standing firm in power and pride!'



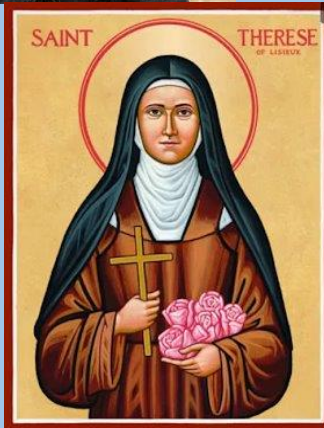
Year 5 created some writing this week, inspired by Ada's journey in Children of the Benin Kingdom.



Year 6 took part in 'bikeability' lessons this week! The children learnt all about how to stay safe on the roads.



Last week, we celebrated the feast day of St Vincent DePaul, one of our House Saints. On Wednesday, we celebrated the Feast Day of St Therese and Friday, St Francis! Children in these houses came to school wearing their house colours!





Last Friday we organised a coffee morning for the fantastic charity, Macmillan. This charity supports families going through a difficult time with cancer.

Well done to our school community for raising over £500 for CAFOD's Gaza Crisis Appeal in last week's bake sale! [Click here to donate more to this cause.](#)



Thank you for your donation to the Gaza Crisis Appeal

Dear St Mary's Priory Infant and Junior Schools,
Dear

Thank you for donating £510.85 to our Gaza Crisis Appeal.

We are actively responding through local experts. Your donation today is helping to provide essentials like emergency shelter, medicine, food and water.

Should you wish to contact us in relation to your donation please reply to this message, or call our Supporter Care team on 0303 303 3030.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Oakford'.

Yours sincerely,
Michelle Oakford
Head of Supporter Relations



RE Notices

We are in the month of October which is known as the month of Mary. Every Friday, at 8:45am, parents and carers are invited in to say a decade of the Rosary with the Prayer Leaders in the Junior Hall.



A big THANK YOU for all the cake donations and attended the cake sale and coffee money. As a school, we raised over £450 for CAFOD and over £30 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Next week, is National Porridge Day, as part of this day, we are holding a school raffle to raise funds for Mary's Meals. Tickets are priced at £1 each. Mrs Murphy and the Mini Vinnies will be collecting ticket money every day next week. Please can you bring in your child's £1 in an envelope with their name and class on. There are no limits to the number of tickets you can buy.
Good Luck!



Traditionally, as a school, we collect in non-perishable goods as part of our Harvest Celebration. We are raising money for Mary's Meals this year, however if you would still like to bring in food, you can do so and we will donate it to the local food bank and soup kitchen.

Please do join our Harvest Festival on **Friday 17th October at 9am.**

St Mary's Priory RE Newsletter



As the Autumn term begins, we return with fresh enthusiasm and a united dedication to supporting the spiritual and personal development of every child in our care. This term brings new opportunities for our pupils to deepen their faith and to embody the Gospel values that are at the heart of our school community.

We are reminded that God will guide us this year in *Proverbs 3:5-6*
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight"

May this term be filled with happiness and blessings for all our families,
Mrs Murphy



-Join us, every Wednesday, at St John Vianney's Church as Fr Jerome celebrates 9:15am Mass. **One class will attend each week, please check your emails so you know when your child's class will be attending.**
-October is the month of the Holy Rosary, we invite parents/carers to pray a decade of the Rosary every Friday at 8:45 in the Junior Hall with our prayer leaders.

RE in the classroom

Branch 1- Creation and Covenant	Branch 2- Prophecy and Promise
EYFS: Children learn that God made the world and loves each of us.	EYFS: They begin to recognise that the Bible helps us know God's promises.
Year 1: Pupils explore the beauty of creation and God's plan for us	Year 1: They learn about God's promises to Abraham.
Year 2: Through Noah, pupils learn about God's special promise in the rainbow.	Year 2: Pupils discover how people waited with hope for a saviour.
Year 3: Children reflect on stewardship and God's covenant with Moses.	Year 3: They explore waiting for the Messiah.
Year 4: Pupils focus on trust and faith through Abraham, Sarah and Moses.	Year 4: Children study prophets who spoke of hope and God's promises.
Year 5: They study the Ten Commandments and the Exodus, learning about freedom.	Year 5: Pupils reflect on Old Testament prophecies about Jesus
Year 6: Pupils explore Creation, the Fall and moral choices.	Year 6: They study prophetic voices challenging injustice, pointing to a new covenant.



Scan the QR code for the music we will be covering this term in class and in our Praise Assemblies.

House Saints Days this Autumn Term:

St Vincent de Paul- 27th September (Green)
Children from St Vincent's can wear their house colours on Friday 26th September
St Therese of Lisieux- 01st October (Blue)
St Francis- 03rd October (Yellow)



Catholic Life & Mission

25th September- Bake sale after school to raise funds for CAFODs emergency fund.

Food Bank Collection

During the month of October, we kindly ask for donations of non-perishable foods as well as essential toiletries to help out our local food bank.

10th October- World porridge Day, we ask the children to contribute £1 for an afternoon of fun in aid of Mary's Meals.

17th October- Harvest Festival
Parents are warmly invited to attend this special assembly that gives thanks to God for the plentiful harvest and food we eat.

Wrap Up London- throughout October and the beginning of November, we will be collecting old coats.

03rd December- KS2 classes to attend Westminster Cathedral for the Catholic Children's Society Advent Carol Service

Parish Links:

Mass Times at St John Vianney's Church, N15
<https://stjohnvianneywestgreen.co.uk/mass-times-2/>

Mass Times at St Thomas More's Church, N4
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/manorhouse/mass-times/>

ALL SAINTS & ALL SOULS HALLOWEEN PARTY



FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER

ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH HALL
6PM-8.30PM

FEATURING MR MARVEL'S MAGIC SHOW • DISCO • COSTUME PARADE
• PUMPKIN CARVINGS • GHOST STORIES
• HOT DOGS & NON-MEAT OPTIONS • SNACKS • DRINKS

TICKETS £4 PER PERSON OR £10 PER FAMILY (CASH ONLY)

(MAXIMUM 2 CHILDREN WITH PARENTS) PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TICKET ONLY EVENT
TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE AT THE IRISH ELDERLY ADVICE NETWORK OFFICE ON THURSDAYS 10AM - 3PM
TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM FR CLIVE, LIAN BRIAN-PREACHER, GERALDINE CASEY AND ELIZABETH NGOZI.

ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH, HENRY ROAD, N4 2LH | (CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER 6PM TILL 8.30PM)

THEIR SERVICE, OUR HISTORY

For generations, Black men and women have stood at Britain's frontlines – on land, at sea, and in the air – serving with skill, discipline, and pride. The six lives remembered here reflect a far greater story: one of courage, loyalty, and service that strengthened Britain and earned a lasting place in its history.



WALTER TULL



Professional footballer who became a commissioned officer in the British Army during the First World War. He led his men on the Western Front with courage until his death in 1918.



JOHNNY SMYTHE



RAF navigator in the Second World War who flew hazardous missions over Europe, survived being shot down and held prisoner, and later served Britain in distinguished public roles.



ULRIC CROSS



The most decorated West Indian serviceman of the Second World War, whose RAF missions preceded a diplomatic career that shaped newly independent African nations.



DAVID CLEMETSON



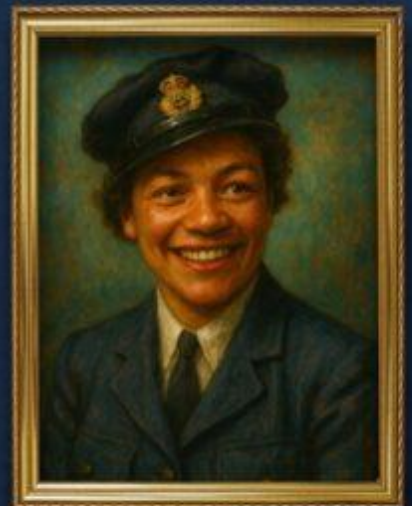
Cambridge-educated Jamaican who served as a commissioned officer in the First World War – a rare distinction at the time. He saw front-line service before his death in 1918.



RICHARD (DICKIE) BARR



Royal Navy veteran whose notable career reflects the long-standing tradition of Black sailors defending Britain at sea and proudly serving with skill across the world's oceans.



LILIAN BADER



Among the first Black women in Britain's armed forces, she trained as an instrument repairer in the WAAF during the Second World War, keeping aircraft ready for combat.

POWER IN PROTEST



ALTHERIA JONES-LECOINTE

Scientist and leader in the British Black Panthers whose organising and intellect built community programmes, defended Black Britons, and inspired a generation with the language of resistance



CLAUDIA JONES

Journalist, organiser, and visionary who founded the West Indian Gazette and launched Britain's first Caribbean Carnival, blending culture with protest to empower communities. e language of resistance



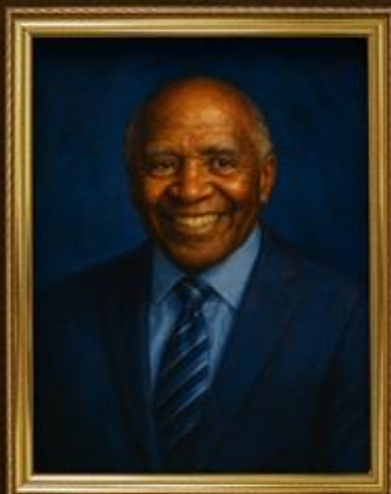
MAVIS BEST

Grassroots leader who spearheaded the Scrap the Sus campaign, uniting communities to end racist stop-and-search laws and proving ordinary people could force national change.



OLIVE MORRIS

Radical organiser and member of the British Black Panther Movement who fought tirelessly for housing rights, women's liberation, and racial equality.



PAUL STEPHENSON

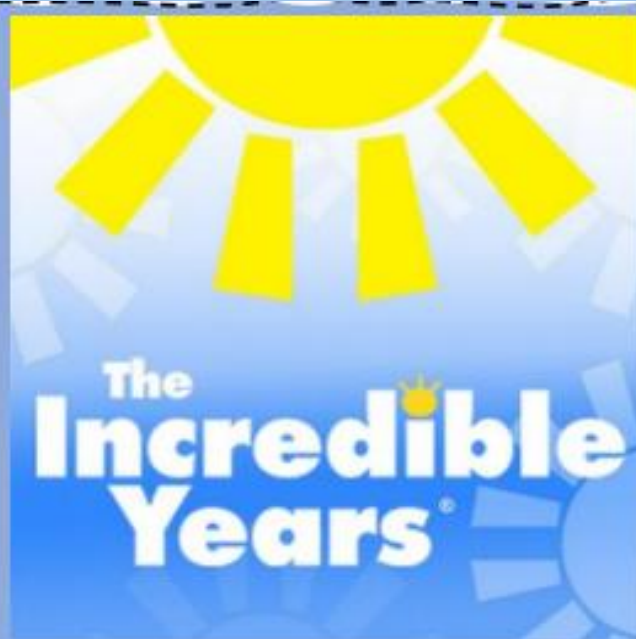
Leader of the 1963 Bristol Bus Boycott, a landmark protest that challenged colour bars and helped pave the way for race relations legislation.



ROY HACKETT

Civil rights leader whose direct action in Bristol transformed the city's transport policy and became a catalyst for national change.

Across Britain's modern history, Black activists have spoken out, stood firm, and demanded change. They organised boycotts, led campaigns, built networks, and challenged systems that denied justice. Their courage shifted opinion, reshaped laws, and inspired new generations to act. The six people remembered here are part of a longer tradition – one that shows protest is not only resistance, but power to remake the nation.



Webster-Stratton Parenting Group

- Are you a parent/carer of a child aged 3-11 years?
- Are you finding your child's behaviour challenging?
- **We welcome families with children with a neurodivergent profile**

What does the programme involve?

- A free 12-week programme led by Emily Brees, Educational Psychologist and Carolyn Graham, Senior Educational Psychologist
- 2-hour sessions on Thursday mornings (10am -12pm) in term time starting on 16th October 2025 at: Triangle Children's Centre and Family Hub, 91-93 St Ann's Rd, N15 6NU
- Tea, coffee & snacks will be provided!

How has the group helped other parents in Haringey?

It has helped me to identify the problems I have and how to deal with them

I feel that I am not on my own facing the challenges of parenting

I stay more focused and calmer when responding to my children's behaviour

I have more strategies and know what works for my child

What is the Incredible Years® Parenting Programme?

The Incredible Years® Parenting Programme was developed by Carolyn Webster-Stratton. It has helped thousands of parents to support their children's behavior and promote their children's social, emotional and academic development. The group will involve video clips, discussions and a wide range of different activities, encouraging parents to share ideas and strategies in a supportive environment. The aim of the programme is to help you enjoy being a parent!

What will the programme cover?

- Suggestions of ways to enjoy time with your child, such as how to play and interact effectively
- Explaining and practicing ways to promote positive behaviours and reduce inappropriate behaviours
- Rules, routines and effective limit setting
- Supporting your child's emotional well-being
- Help to regulate your own feelings

New series of free monthly workshops for parents

Do you think your child may have ADHD or are they on the waiting list for an assessment?

- Come along and hear about helpful information and strategies.
- Meet other parents and professionals



Led by
CAMHS and
the
Educational
Psychology
Service

Sign up here:

<https://sendpowerinharingey.eventbrite.com>



Upcoming sessions:

Tuesday 21st October 2025 - ADHD and executive functioning

Tuesday 18th November - ADHD and sleep

Tuesday 16th December - ADHD and support in school

Time: 10 - 11.30am

Place: Chestnuts Community Centre (N15 5BN)

New series of free monthly workshops for parents

Who can attend these workshops?

These workshops are for any parent/carer whose children:

- live and/or go to school in Haringey
- and/or have a GP in Haringey



What are these workshops about?

These are interactive workshops where you will have the chance to get accurate information around ADHD from practitioners, ask questions, and meet and chat with fellow parents/carers.

There will be individual sessions on a range of topics - attend when you can, sign up in advance if possible.

What topics will be discussed?

Future topics for workshops next term (Spring 2026) include:

- ADHD: pros and cons of diagnosis and medication
- ADHD over the lifespan
- ADHD and managing behaviour
- ADHD and emotion coaching
- ADHD and screen time
- ADHD and the development of attention

Sign up here:

<https://sendpowerinharingey.eventbrite.com>





**HARINGEY
MUSIC SERVICE**

PRESENTS



Junior Vox

A vocal group for ages 8 -11
All singers are welcome!

**Tuesday
4:15 - 5:00pm**

Chestnuts Community Centre
280 St Ann's Road, N15 5BN

An amazing opportunity!

If you are looking for a challenge and want to push yourself musically and get the chance for some exciting performance opportunities, then this choir is for you!

No audition required!

This group is for singers who are looking to explore their vocal harmony and voices in a variety of ways, to eventually work alongside other musicians, vocalists and other ensembles.

Haringey
LONDON

*This is **NOT** a standard choir. This is a vocal group with an edge.



Health Services in Haringey Coffee Morning

Does your child receive health services or services from Tynemouth Road?

- Dental Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech and Language
- Physiotherapy



Come along to an informal coffee morning to chat about health services for SEND children and meet other parents/carers

Wednesday 15th October 2025, 9:30 - 11.30am
Chestnuts Community Centre, N15 5BN

Where great lives begin



St. Mary's Priory Catholic Infant & Junior Schools

<https://www.stmaryspriory.co.uk>

Parent workshops

Strengthening child/parent relationships

Supportive and Reflective workshops for St. Mary's Priory Schools.



Aim of the workshops: To enhance the parent-child relationship by promoting the parent's reflective capacity, emotional regulation and understanding of parent-child communications.

Method: The programme takes place during 10 sessions, one hour and 15 minutes each. The themes for each session are related to attachment principles, child development, the impact of trauma and the importance of care-giving.

Within each session there will be power point presentations, the modelling of role play, reflective discussions and helpful handouts.

Number of parents for the program: 10 (sign up quickly!)
Please email the school office if you can commit to the 10 weeks - office@stmarysrcpriory.haringey.sch.uk

Starting Date: Friday 10th October 2025

Every Friday from 2:00pm to 3.15 pm at St Mary's School.

Facilitator: Gloria Jaramillo (School Counsellor).

Hermitage Road, London, N15 5RE

Telephone: 020 8800 9305

office@stmarysrcpriory.haringey.sch.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26



Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfil long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>

Class Prayer

A photograph of various classroom supplies including pens, pencils, and a notebook, with the text 'Class Prayer' overlaid in a glowing red font.

6J Class prayer

Dear heavenly father,

As the new academic year begins, please help us to follow our dreams by showing resilience, ambition and courage to grow. Help us to focus on all the challenges that appear in our lives. Guide us to follow a righteous path full of kindness and compassion for everyone. Please give us patience and strength to have a successful final year of primary school. Continue to give us the gift of knowledge and skills in order to succeed in all we do.

In Jesus' name

Amen

A photograph of a person's hands holding several wooden blocks that spell out the word 'PRAYER' in capital letters.

PRAYER