



St Robert Southwell School Newsletter

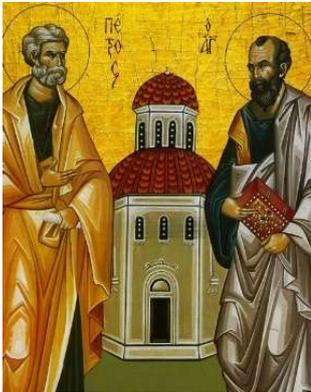


No. 35 – June 2025

Aiming for Excellence - Being the Best We Can Be

<p><u>Wellbeing & Mental Health Vision</u></p> <p>To support everyone’s wellbeing and mental health, so that they can be the ‘Best they can Be,’ are happy together, resilient, ready to learn and succeed.</p>	<p><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p>Following Jesus’ footsteps and inspired by St Robert Southwell, we work hard, aim high and treat everyone with honesty and gentleness.</p>	<p><u>Vision Statement</u></p> <p>Vision: Aiming for Excellence: Being The Best We Can Be.</p>
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Catholic Life of the School



On June 29th June the Church celebrates the feast day of SS. Peter & Paul. Together, the two saints are the founders of the See of Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, on this feast of Saints Peter and Paul, we thank You for their witness and intercession. Help us to follow their example of faith, courage, and love, dedicating our lives to Your Gospel. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jubilee



May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Well done the group that represented us at the Jubilee Pledge service at the Cathedral on Tuesday last week.

E-Safety Reminder

Please read the attached information about Roblox. It has come to our attention that an increasing number of children are accessing games with 12+, 15+ and 18+ guidance certificates.

Parents would not want their child exposed to the content of an 18+ film yet do not appear to apply the same boundaries to computer games and online platforms.

Please make sure you are aware of the material your child is being exposed to when they are online to keep them safe.

Message



We started the week with our EYFS and Y1 Sports Day and our Eco Council taking part in an Eco Summit at Brent Civic Centre.

On Thursday, we had Italian Day and an opportunity for the whole school to take part in traditional dance.

Yesterday we had four year groups out on different school trips and our Year 6 Production of Olivia.

Tomorrow, our Year 6 children will go on their residential trip to PGL.

The sun is shining, and it is the time to enjoy an ice lolly or two!

There is also a lot of end of term events still to be enjoyed. Please check the APP for updates.

Thank You

A big thank you to all the parents and staff who supported trips last week.

Thank you also to Mr Pascoe for his coaching of our Boys Football Team. They got to the final and although they did not win, they should be very proud of their season and their successes.

Special thanks to our 'Girls Active Group' who led the activities for the EYFS and Y1 sports day. Everyone was very impressed with their organisation and enthusiasm. Well done girls you were amazing!

Thanks also to Mr Thorogood who has organised the Sports Days and led the 'Girls Active' Team all year.

Friends' Association

This Tuesday, 1st July at 7pm is the final meeting of the year. We need to plan ahead for next year. Please come along if you have any ideas or would be willing to take on any of the committee roles at the AGM. We are particularly in need of a Chair and a Treasurer.

The children at St Robert Southwell really need your ideas and support!

I am hopeful we can get representatives for each year group so we can plan year group fundraisers as well as key events for the next school year.

Uniform

There has been an increase in uniform non-conformity which wastes staff time and leads to negative conversations with children. **Please note for PE days:** red shorts, white cotton sleeved t-shirt and black trainers – no logos. **Traditional uniform days:** red check summer dress or grey shorts and red polo shirt, black shoes only.

No jewellery: this includes necklaces, bracelets, anklets and rings. If your child must wear earrings, only small studs are permissible.

Next Week

Monday, 30 th June	Year 6 PGL
Tuesday, 1 st July	Year 6 PGL 10.30am First Holy communion Thanksgiving Mass 3.30pm Welcome stay and Play Reception 1 7.00pm Friends' Association meeting – last of the year
Wednesday, 2 nd July	Year 6 PGL 9.00am 1R Class Assembly 3.30pm Welcome stay and Play Reception 2
Friday, 4 th July	9.00am Celebration Assembly Nursery to Kew Gardens AM 3R to KHS for art lesson PM 5R & 5S PE lesson by KHS in school 2.00pm School Ready Coffee afternoon for parents/carers of children starting Nursery and Reception in September 2025

Planning Ahead Dates

Tuesday, 8 th July	Reception to Fryent Park – further details to follow. 3.30pm Eco film premiere - children can attend with their parents in the small hall. Further details to follow.
Friday, 11 th July	9.00am Celebration Assembly 2.15pm Music performance Assembly for children in Years 3-6
Tuesday, 15 th July	Reception Graduation Assembly – further details to follow
Wednesday, 16 th July	Year 6 Talent Show
Thursday, 17 th July	8.45am Year 6 Breakfast with family Year 6 shirt signing 9.00 am–12.00m Class swap morning, children will meet their new teacher 2.00pm Sports Finale assembly -Years 1-6 - all welcome
Friday, 18 th July	9.00am Celebration Assembly 10.30am Leavers Mass 2.00pm school finishes for the Summer Holiday – no ASC

Fund Raising for the all-Weather Surface

The total on the page includes **£8126** cash deposits and this week's tuck shop profits. This is 5% of our target. Well done and thank you to everyone for their support. Please do ask any companies you are linked with to consider making a one off or regular donations - every penny counts!

'The St Robert Southwell Charitable Foundation' launched a 'gofundme' page to try and raise £150,000 to create an all-weather play surface and multi-purpose games area to transform our outdoor space.

[SRSCF - GoFundMe - all weather sports surface](https://www.gofundme.com/u/6342afe1-710d-4cf9-92d1-0caf9c28b001)

<https://www.gofundme.com/u/6342afe1-710d-4cf9-92d1-0caf9c28b001>



Admissions

Due to families moving out of the area we have a small number of vacancies in classes across the school. We are keen to admit new pupils at the start of the school year. Please share with your friends and ask them to contact the school office to make an in-year application. Forms also available on our website.

Final Prayer

Give us the strength to be kind, and to respect everyone and everything. Give us the courage to make the right choices. Bless our whole school family, and our wider family across the world. Help us to spread peace and happiness to all we come into contact with this week. Amen.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
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Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College