

# St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

25/04/2025



*'Let your light shine'*

It's always a joy to welcome our children back to school after a break and as always, our children have returned with big smiles and got straight back into working hard and producing work of an excellent standard. During this week, all our classes have completed DT projects: the work completed includes fruit kebabs, machines powered with pneumatic systems and greenhouses - I have been inspired by our children's creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

We are having a whole school celebration to commemorate **VE Day**. Our children have been learning a beautiful song called "I'll Remember," which has been written specially to mark this historic event and they have also created some beautiful artwork which will be displayed outside church. Children will be learning about the impact of World War 2 on people in Britain and all over the world, the events of 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945 when the end of the war in Europe was declared and how people celebrated in 1945. We will also be remembering all those in the armed forces, civilians and the huge sacrifices made to enable us to live in peace.

On **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 9:15** we will be holding a special worship in St Barnabas Church – all families are invited to attend. On **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**, children can come to school wearing **red, white and blue**. We will be having a **special picnic and games** outside to celebrate.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

*Miss Hodgkinson*

*HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS OUR AMAZING CHILDREN HAVE 'LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE' THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL...*





## Attendance Matters

Attending school on time every day is the best way to ensure your children's future success. Children with good attendance achieve much better in school and go on to get better jobs than those with poor attendance. The government expects all children's attendance to be **at least 96%**.

This week we have given out our attendance awards of the Spring term. More children than ever achieved either their bronze, silver or 100% award. Let's see if we can even more award winners at for the summer term!

## Our Christian Value for this half term is:

### Peace

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

This week we pray for those who have lost ones.



This week's big question is:

What is peace? What does it look/sound like?

## Community Food Spaces in Warrington

In Warrington there are a range of affordable community food spaces that can help you save money on your food bills and stretch budgets further. These projects help tackle food waste, often using surplus food that would have gone into landfill. They are all welcoming, friendly spaces, run by local communities.

### The Bread and Butter Thing

The Bread and Butter Thing is a food club which is open to anyone. Members can access 3 bags of food for £8.50. This includes one bag of chilled items, one bag of cupboard items and one bag of fruit & veg.

#### Locations/ Opening times:

Monday: 1:30pm - 2pm The Old School, Fairfield Street, WA1 3GF  
Tuesday: 1:30pm - 2pm Warrington Disability Partnership, Evelyn Street, WA5 1BA (New Venue)  
Wednesday: 2:30pm - 3pm Dallam Primary School, Boulting Avenue, WA5 0JG  
Thursday: 1pm - 1:30pm Birchwood C of E Primary School, Admirals Road, WA3 6QG  
Friday: 1:30pm - 2pm Westy Community Centre, Bridgewater Avenue, WA4 1TA\*

\*Temporary venue change in place to St Augustine's Primary during community centre renovations

**Cost:** £5 - 1 bumper bag (perfect for a single person household)  
£8.50 - 3 x bags (perfect for a couple or family)

**How to access:** Text 07860063304 with your full name, postcode, and the name of the hub you will be collecting from. Once you are a member you will receive a text every week to ask you if you want an order, reply YES and your order will be available at your chosen hub at the time above.

### Community Shop

The Community Shop is a Social Supermarket where you can access deeply discounted food as well as their community kitchen, activities and support. Members can shop every day and buy as much as they wish.

**Location:** The Community Shop, 8 Bewsey Park Ct, Bewsey, Warrington WA5 0AN  
**Opening times:** 10am - 6pm Monday - Friday  
10am - 4pm Saturday

**Cost:** Membership is free and you can purchase any items you wish

**How to access:** You must be on a means-tested benefit to become a member. Turn up during the opening hours or go to [www.companyshopgroup.co.uk/community-shop-membership](http://www.companyshopgroup.co.uk/community-shop-membership) to sign up. You must bring proof of address and benefit on first visit.



The Community Grocery is a Food Pantry where anyone who is being impacted by the rising cost of living can become a member. Members can purchase 12 items for £5, 18 items for £7.50 or 24 items for £10. This includes fruit & veg/ fresh/ cupboard/ frozen items. They also sell 'little extras' which you can purchase in addition to your shop. Members can shop everyday and can access their cafe and courses run by life church.

**Location:** Life Church Warrington, Cotswold Road, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9SE  
**Opening times:** 9:30am - 2pm Monday - Friday

**Cost:** Membership fee - £5 per year, £5/£7.50 or £10 per shop

**How to access:** Turn up during the opening hours and you can sign up.



The Little Shops at Latchford & Fearnhead are affordable food pantries where anyone can become a member. Each shop stocks fresh fruit & veg/ chilled/ cupboard/ frozen items. Members typically save over £15 per shop.

**Location:** Latchford Baptist Church, Loushers Lane, Latchford, WA4 2RP  
**Opening times:** 5pm - 7pm Tuesday  
10:30am - 12:30pm Thursday  
1:30pm - 3:30pm Thursday

**Location:** Fearnhead Cross Community Centre, Insall Road, Fearnhead, WA2 0HD  
**Opening times:** 10am - 12pm Tuesday  
10am - 12pm Wednesday  
1pm - 3:30pm Wednesday  
10:30am - 12:30pm Thursday  
1:30pm - 3:30pm Thursday

**Cost:** £5 per shop (membership is free) - For £5 you get 10 items + fruit & veg

**How to access:** Just turn up during the opening hours and you can sign up with a team member.



The Vantry is a pop-up affordable food club, where anyone can become a member. They stock fresh fruit & veg and cupboard items. Members can access discounted food and buy as much or as little as they would like.

**Locations/ Opening times:**  
Monday 2pm - 4pm Lymm Sanctuary Hub, Davies Way, Lymm, WA13 0QW (next to the Library)  
Tuesday 1:30pm - 3:30pm Culcheth Community Centre, 2 Jackson Avenue, Culcheth, WA3 4EL  
Thursday 1pm - 3pm St. Mary Magdalene's Church, 87 Dingleway, Appleton Thorn, WA4 3AG

**Cost:** There is a points based system and most items cost the equivalent of 50p (membership is free). You choose how much or little you want to buy, there is no minimum spend.

**How to access:** Just turn up during the opening hours and you can sign up to become a member when you do your first shop

If you are struggling and need to access emergency food support, or if you are interested in attending a community meal, please visit our food provision map for local spaces and support:

[www.warringtonva.org.uk/warrington-food-network](http://www.warringtonva.org.uk/warrington-food-network)

For cost of living related support, please visit: [www.warrington.gov.uk/cost-living-support](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/cost-living-support)



Community Foundation

## EVERY BODY COUNTS

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN WARRINGTON

We provide help and advice for you and your family on...



### Every Body Counts

A free programme for children and young people aged 5-16 years\* (up to 25 years with special educational needs) and their families. Our programme will help family members make better informed lifestyle choices leading to positive health gains including physical activity, mental wellness and nutrition. Our approach is compassionate and inclusive where our families will feel supported, their needs understood and coached for long term behavioural change.

SCAN BELOW FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



**BE THE CHANGE**  
#BeTheChange

Twitter: @WWRLFoundation Facebook: wolvesfoundation  
Instagram: warringtonwolvesfoundation LinkedIn: warrington-wolves-community-foundation

T 01925 248894 E [community@warringtonwolvesfoundation.com](mailto:community@warringtonwolvesfoundation.com)  
[www.warringtonwolvesfoundation.com](http://www.warringtonwolvesfoundation.com)

**MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING 2025**

**APRIL 28 & 29**  
**16:00 - 18:00**

Mental Health and Wellbeing Event 2025 is for anyone who wants to learn more about mental health, what support is available in Warrington and how to look after their wellbeing.

There will be stalls with a variety of organisations including CAMHS, BabyZone, Creative Remedies, The Living Well Hub and so many more.

Mindfulness activities will be available to try out on both evenings.

We hope to see you there!

WARRINGTON

**YZ**

An OnSide Youth Zone





## Staying Safe Online

Technology is becoming increasingly embedded in our everyday lives and it is common for younger people to form friendships online. Whilst these connections can bring companionship and community, they also pose huge risks. Our guide this week, gives advice on how to support children to build safe and positive relationships online.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com). Trigger Warning: This guide contains mention of suicide, which may be distressing for some readers.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

### ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

### EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

### PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

### COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sextortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

### LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 26-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 16, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS  
ONLINE NOW

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

### KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

### ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

### Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



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### **Places in St Barnabas Nursery Available**

We have places available in our nursery for 2,3 and 4 year olds.

Please ask the school office for an application form or to make an appointment to look around.

We can also assist with 2 year old and 30 hours funding applications.

### **Meet and Greet**

Don't forget, if you have any issues in the morning or at the end of the day, a member of staff will be outside for you! We have staff available every morning and afternoon at each entrance gate – we can help you with any issues you may have, no matter how small. Please come for a chat if you need to.

| Dates for your Diary   |   |
|--|---|
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May                                     | 8:45am Parent coffee morning<br>Toys and gifts that have been donated to us will be available free of charge. |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May                                     | VE Day Celebration – children can come to school wearing red, white and blue.                                 |
| Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May                                     | Bank holiday: school closed   |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May                                  | Y2 trip to the Sky Garden   |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May                                   | VE Day Service at St Barnabas Church – families invited   |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> –<br>Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May     | KS2 SATs Week   |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday<br>16 <sup>th</sup> May       | Christian Aid Week  |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> –<br>Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May      | Y6 residential to Forest Camp   |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May                                    | School Closes for Whit Break  |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June                                    | School re-opens   |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June                                   | Whole school trip to Children's Adventure Farm Trust for a Summer Festival                                    |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June                                   | Warrington Walking Day – school closed  |
| Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June –<br>Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July | Health and Lifestyle Fortnight  |
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July                                   | Sports Day  |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July                                 | Moving Up Day – all classes   |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> &<br>Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July   | Y6 transition days (Y6 children visiting the high school they will be attending from September)               |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July                                    | 8:45am Parent Coffee Morning  |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July                                    | 1:30pm – 3pm Summer Fair  |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July                                 | 6pm Y6 Leavers' Party   |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July                                | 2pm Y6 Leavers' Service   |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July                                   | Summer Fun Day  |