

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

16/05/2025



'Let your light shine'

Our Super Sixes

This week I could not be prouder of our year 6 class, who have taken their SATs tests this week. Despite suffering 2 years of disruption due to COVID, our year 6 class have made exceptional progress. Every one of our pupils showed resilience and determination throughout the tests, which were EXTREMELY CHALLENGING and put in 100% effort – I could not have asked for more. Year 6 most definitely 'let their shine' this week and will be enjoying a camping trip to Forest Camp next week!

Our amazing linguists

We have achieved another award! On Friday our children were presented with the MFL (Modern Foreign Language) Quality Mark. This award is given to schools who demonstrate excellence in the teaching and learning of modern foreign languages, including the development of language skills and cultural understanding. Many of our children go on to study French at high school and we have a reputation for achieving extremely high standards of language learning at St Barnabas which support our children with high achievement at high school and beyond. A huge thank you to Mrs Bate who is our incredible French teacher and works extremely hard to ensure outstanding teaching and experiences for our children in their language learning.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and enjoy the sunshine!

Miss Hodgkinson



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



***WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP (RECEPTION TO YEAR 6) ***

On Friday 13th June 2025, we will be taking the whole school (not nursery) on an amazing trip to CAFT Fest, a summer festival themed day, at the Children's Adventure Farm Trust. During the trip, the children will get to explore the beautiful woodland, see the farm animals including donkeys, sheep, goats, birds and alpacas and complete arts and crafts. The CAFT charity are funding the cost of this trip, but we are asking for £8 per child to contribute towards the cost of the coaches.

Please can you make your payment as soon as possible via ParentPay or at the school office by card/cash.

Please follow this link <https://forms.office.com/e/TZzUryYm9S> to give permission for your child to attend the trip and to order a lunch should you wish to do so.

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY THURSDAY 22ND MAY.

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%**.

Class	Attendance
YR	95%
Y1	95%
Y2	97%
Y3	95%
Y4	92%
Y5	100%
Y6	100%
Whole School	95.3%

A fantastic week for Y5 and 6 who have both achieved 100%.

Healthy Packed Lunches

If you do opt to send your child to school with a packed lunch, we do encourage to make healthy choices when preparing this: A healthy packed lunch should consist of:

- Fruit and vegetables
- Unrefined starchy food - for example multigrain bread, pasta or rice
- Sources of protein - meat, fish, eggs, beans etc.
- Milk or other dairy foods - i.e., cheese
- A small amount of fat, sugar and salt
- Water, milk or juice



Please be aware that we are a nut free school. We have children at school who have very severe nut allergies and would require medical assistance if they came into contact with nuts. Therefore, please ensure that your child's packed lunch does not contain any nuts and check ingredients if you are not sure.

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Peace'

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God."

This week we pray for those who are ill and for those who care for them.



This week's big question is:

Do we have to be alone to feel peaceful?

School Uniform

Wearing the correct school uniform is really important. Sometimes people question why we are tough on uniform but we believe it teaches the children, at an early age, the importance of looking smart and the importance of wearing the correct clothes where required - all skills needed for high school and later, the workplace. Also, our school has a great reputation in the local area –visitors always comment on our children's excellent manners, behaviour and uniform. How our children dress and look on the streets contributes towards this positive image too. Unfortunately, the uniform standards of a number of children have dropped recently and they are coming to school wearing trainers. **Trainers** should only be worn on **PE days**. The correct PE uniform should be worn on PE days, not cycling shorts (see picture below.) If you are struggling to get the correct uniform, we are happy to help and have uniform supplies in school. Please contact Mrs Fisher at school via ClassDojo or by calling 01925 633606.



EVERY BODY COUNTS

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN WARRINGTON

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

Mental wellbeing

Nutrition

Physical activity

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

@WWRFoundation
 wolvesfoundation
 warringtonwolvesfoundation
 warrington-wolves-community-foundation

T 01925 248894 E community@warringtonwolvesfoundation.com
www.warringtonwolvesfoundation.com

Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

6 Week Course Mon - Fri

Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

www.studysmartuk.online

Staying Safe Online

Our guide this week focuses around the world of gaming with a focus on Minecraft again. Its huge popularity ensure Minecraft continues to be a global phenomenon. It can be a really fun platform, but can also carry dangers, such as being able to chat to strangers, or addiction which can impact mental wellbeing. Parents can choose age-appropriate game modes to support children and can set clear boundaries.

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 14.05.2025

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.

The Bread-and-Butter Thing help people on low incomes to eat more healthily. They have mobile food clubs that provide nutritious meals to help people feed their families. They have a location – in partnership with WA5 Good Neighbours, at Sankey Bridges Community Centre.

Open: 1:30 – 2pm on Tuesdays

Tel: 07860 063304

<https://breadandbutterthing.org>



Dates for your Diary

Monday 19 th – Tuesday 20 th May	Y6 residential to Forest Camp
Friday 23 rd May	School Closes for Whit Break
Monday 9 th June	School re-opens
Friday 13 th June	Whole school trip to Children's Adventure Farm Trust for a Summer Festival
Friday 20 th June	Non-uniform day – children to bring bottles to school for the Summer Fair
Friday 27 th June	Warrington Walking Day – school closed
Monday 30 th June – Friday 11 th July	Health and Lifestyle Fortnight
Tuesday 1 st July	Sports Day
Wednesday 2 nd July	Moving Up Day – all classes
Wednesday 2 nd & Thursday 3 rd July	Y6 transition days (Y6 children visiting the high school they will be attending from September)
Friday 4 th July	8:45am Parent Coffee Morning
Friday 4 th July	1:30pm – 3pm Summer Fair
Wednesday 9 th July	6pm Y6 Leavers' Party
Wednesday 16 th July	2pm Y6 Leavers' Service
Friday 18 th July	Summer Fun Day

