

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

13/06/2025



'Let your light shine'

St Barnabas Day

On 11th June we celebrated St Barnabas Day with a special service in church. Our history craft club have been busy making new banners for our school and vision – they revealed and blessed them during the service – they are fantastic pieces of art work and we are looking forward to using them in our procession on Walking Day. 11th June also marked 30 years' service of our vicar, Reverend Timmis. During the service our children presented a card and gift to our vicar to say thank you for her dedication and support of our school and community on behalf of pupils, staff and families past, present and future.

Walking Day

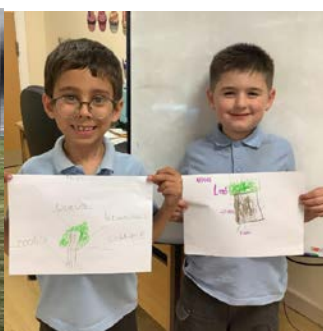
Warrington Walking Day will be taking place on Friday 27th June 2025. It is a special parade of local schools and community groups; The parade starts at school and walks through town on a special route through the Golden Gates – it is a special event for the whole town with music and spectators - something that makes Warrington unique. School is closed for the day so that we can take part and would love you to join us to celebrate this wonderful event which makes up part of Warrington's cultural heritage. These are the arrangements for the day:

- Meet on the playground at school at 10am
- Children should be dressed in school uniform
- Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer who need to stay with them throughout the event
- We will walk from school to the town hall where we will join the parade
- Parade will finish by 12pm

*We hope you can join us.
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%**.

| Class | Attendance |
|---------------------|--------------|
| YR | 95% |
| Y1 | 94% |
| Y2 | 98% |
| Y3 | 95% |
| Y4 | 94% |
| Y5 | 98% |
| Y6 | 94% |
| Whole School | 95.4% |

A fantastic week for Y2 and Y5 who have both achieved 98%.

Be on time!

Being on time to school every day is really important. Children who are late miss vital learning and are picking up bad habits that could affect their future employability. Being just a few minutes late each day builds up to large amounts of lost learning over a school year. If your child is late twice within a 2-week period, you will be contacted to discuss how we can support you to get to school on time.

| Minutes late per day | Days of lost learning in a year |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 5 minutes | 3 ½ days |
| 10 minutes | 7 days |
| 15 minutes | 10 days |

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.

Water Bottles

Children are asked to bring a bottle to school filled with water which they can drink through the day. Drinking water throughout the day keeps children's brains hydrated and helps them to learn well. Only water is allowed in these bottles, as drinking juice throughout the day causes tooth decay. Children can drink juice with their dinner. If any children persist in bringing juice in their water bottles, parents will be contacted.

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Truthfulness'

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

1 Chronicles 16 vs 34

This week we pray for those who are affected by the shootings in Austria and for all those affected by the air crash in India yesterday.

This week's big question is:
How do we show thanks?



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.



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Education & Skills
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**Fully Funded
School
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**Available
in Levels
1, 2 & 3**

*Please go to our website
for more detailed
information.



**6 Week
Course**

Mon - Fri

Daily sessions

1st session 9:30 - 11:30am

2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

www.studysmartuk.online

Staying Safe Online

Our guide this week focuses on the use of emojis. They aren't just digital decoration, but a coded language that many young people use to express themselves. Our guide this week explores some popular emojis and helps parents to be informed to have open conversations.

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 EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions — they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 🍷 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (👤) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥🍷🍷 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojipedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.

CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to — not just someone who's watching them.

EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples — please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around | 🙄 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping' |
| 😎 (Cool face) Cool, stylish or ruthless | 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold |
| 😘 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement | 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.) |
| 😐 (Moai) Stone-faced, unbothered | 💅 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference |
| 👑 (Crown) 'Slaying'; as in doing great | 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour |

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 🍌 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms) | 🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness |
| ❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine | 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced' |
| 🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use | 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm |
| 🍃 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis | ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil |
| 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse | 🍝 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles) |

Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojipedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



The National College

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>



This half term is the busiest ever, with so many trips, activities and special events taking place – please make sure you check the diary dates each week.

| Dates for your Diary | |
|---|--|
| Friday 20 th June | Non-uniform day – children to bring bottles to school for the Summer Fair |
| Friday 20 th June | 8:45am Parent coffee morning |
| Friday 27 th June | Warrington Walking Day – school closed If you are joining the Walking Day parade, meet at school at 10am. |
| Monday 30 th June – Friday 11 th July | Health and Lifestyle Fortnight |
| Tuesday 1 st July | Sports Day – Reception 9am Y1 and 2 10am Y3 and 4 11:20am Y5 and 6 2pm |
| 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 | Y3 trip to the Dewa Museum, Chester |
| Wednesday 9 th July | 4:45pm Children's University Graduation at St Elphin's Church |
| Wednesday 9 th July | 6pm Y6 Leavers' Party |
| Wednesday 16 th July | 2pm Y6 Leavers' Service |
| Friday 18 th July | Summer Fun Day |

