

# St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

04/07/2025



*'Let your light shine'*

## Our Sporting Superstars

This week, all our children have taken part in sports day. From obstacle to egg and spoon to sprinting, every child participated and demonstrated the school games values including great sportsmanship, passion, determination, self-belief and teamwork. Thank you to all our families who came along to support...we definitely have some budding athletes at St Barnabas!



Our pupils have also represented our school in a wide range of inter school matches and Warrington competitions this year. We have had children participating in a gymnastics competitions, rugby matches, cricket, trigolf and lacrosse, with our children demonstrating outstanding athleticism, resilience and perseverance to win 1<sup>st</sup> place in cricket, 2<sup>nd</sup> in lacrosse and 3<sup>rd</sup> in trigolf. We mustn't forget our boys' and girls' football teams who have played a range of matches against many different schools. Our footballers train hard in after school sessions and EVERY lunchtime and as a result have made incredible progress. Well done to all our sporting superstars...you bright sporting futures ahead of you.

During Health and Lifestyle Fortnight, everyone will get to try out a range of new activities that are designed to promote good physical and mental health. Activities range from orienteering, tag wrestling, basketball with the Bridgewater Jets, archery and axe throwing...and we are all very excited about getting to play Quidditch!



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...**



## Attendance at the start of the Autumn Term

Attending school every day is important for your child's future success. Being in school from day 1 in the Autumn term ready to settle into a new year group and get to know a new teacher is CRUCIAL. Last year we had a few families who were still away on holiday at the start of the Autumn term and children missed out on those vital first few days. Learning and progress start from day 1. Please ensure your child is back at school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

### 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	92%
Y1	98%
Y2	95%
Y3	94%
<b>Y4</b>	<b>99%</b>
Y5	96%
Y6	96%
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>95.7%</b>

A fantastic week for Y4 who have achieved 99%. Overall attendance at 95.7% means more lost learning time – let's improve next week.

### 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

### 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'*

"Thank you is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding."

Alice Walker

This week we pray for those who have lost loved ones.

This week's big question is:

How can I be thankful for the challenges that I've experienced?  
What did I learn from them?



### 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.



**STUDY SMART**  
Free Online Courses

**aspire Education**

ncfe.

cache

**Education & Skills Funding Agency**

**Fully Funded School Support Course**

**Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3**

\*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

**www.studysmartuk.online**

**6 Week Course**

**Mon - Fri**

**Daily sessions**

**1st session 9:30 - 11:30am**

**2nd session 12:30 - 2pm**



## Staying Safe Online

Our guide this week focuses on Nintendo Switch 2. There are lots of familiar mascots, with many evolving online features, such as in-game purchases and possible exposure to more mature content. There is also the opportunity for a plug-in camera. Our guide this week, gives hints and tips on what to watch out for to keep children safe and having fun.

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).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18  
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hillman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

#### IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

#### UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Splatoon 3* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

#### GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

#### CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

#### POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *'The Super Mario Bros. Movie'* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

### REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

### REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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: 25.06.2025



### 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>



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

Dates for your Diary	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3 trip to the Dewa Museum, Chester
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	4:45pm Children's University Graduation at St Elphin's Church
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	6pm Y6 Leavers' Party
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2:45pm Children's University Presentation for Y6 pupils	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2:45pm Children's University Presentation for Y6 pupils
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm Y6 Leavers' Service
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fun Day





## Summer Holiday Football Camp

21st July - 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025

**Activities**  
Monday: Training day  
Tuesday: Mini league day  
Wednesday: Training day  
Thursday: Mini Champions League day  
Friday - Trophies day

**SCAN HERE TO JOIN**  


07778 222 972 Whitecross Community & Recreation Centre, Lexden Street, Warrington WA5 1PT

# BOOK SALE


Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
11am until 2pm

St Elphin's Church,  
WA1 2TL

Pre-loved CDs, DVDs and  
Jigsaws also for sale

Refreshments available

Raffle tickets for sale  
for assorted prizes







# Run For #TeamMiniRoccos

Warrington Running Festival  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2025



Join in the fun  
and run the 1.5K  
Junior race –  
You can do it!



Scan here to  
find out more!



Registered Charity No. 511592



www.stroccos.org.uk



# Run For #TeamMiniRoccos

Minimum age - 4 years

We have free Charity places in  
the Junior Race for our younger  
supporters. In return we ask  
that you raise a minimum  
sponsorship of £30.

A parent/guardian can  
run alongside for support.

Junior runner will  
receive a medal



Registered Charity No. 511592



www.stroccos.org.uk



## HAF Holiday Activities and Food

Are your children  
on benefit related  
free school meals?

Scan me



If yes, they can attend up to 16 funded  
sessions this summer. Bookings will go live on  
Wednesday 25 June at 9am.  
Email haf@warrington.gov.uk to find out more.

Not eligible?

Many clubs offer paid places at a reduced rate.



#HAF2025



St Joseph's Family Centre

## St Barnabas Summer Holiday Activity Club

10am to 2pm on the following dates:

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> July

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Tues 29<sup>th</sup> Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> July

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> August

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> August

Our Summer Holiday Club will be run  
by Dawn and Lauren from St  
Joseph's Family Centre.

Please scan the QR code to book  
your child's place.





WARRINGTON'S LOCAL  
CULTURAL EDUCATION  
PARTNERSHIP

CULTURE WARRINGTON



# LCEP NEWS

SUMMER  
EDITION

FOR FAMILIES

Warrington's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP) is delighted to share our second newsletter with families across Warrington, with a spotlight on Warrington Arts Festival taking place this July!

Warrington's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP) is a collaborative initiative that brings together schools, cultural organisations and community partners to enhance cultural education opportunities for children and young people. These partnerships aim to ensure that all young people, regardless of their background or location, can access high-quality arts and cultural experiences.

Each term we hope to connect with families across Warrington, letting them know about the cultural and creative activities happening across our wonderful town!

## WARRINGTON FULL PROGRAMME ARTS FESTIVAL

An alien invasion, a life-sized knitted house and a nostalgic nod to iconic nightclub Mr Smiths are among the eclectic highlights for the return of Warrington Arts Festival this July.

The vibrant annual event, hosted by arts charity Culture Warrington, has revealed its full programme for a summer town centre takeover with a series of performances and installations coming to a variety of venues and pop-up spaces over nine days.

## LCEP NEWS IS FOR YOU, SO LET US KNOW IF YOU'D LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE!

Got a story you want to shout about?

An opportunity you'd like to share?

A big win you need some help celebrating?

CONTACT US AT: [LMERCER@CULTUREWARRINGTON.ORG](mailto:LMERCER@CULTUREWARRINGTON.ORG)



WARRINGTON 18-26  
ARTS FESTIVAL JULY 2025

ART | DANCE | THEATRE | MUSIC

WARRINGTON  
ARTS FESTIVAL



SUNDAY 20 - SATURDAY 26 JULY  
**WAVES, GRANDMA'S HOUSE**

A full-scale, knitted sculptural installation by Associate Artist Marie Jones, depicting her grandmother Margaret's home in Great Sankey!

Floating down from the rigging at Parr Hall, Marie invites visitors to walk through the front door, between the walls and into the rooms used most by her grandma.

Parr Hall

SATURDAY 19 & SUNDAY 20 JULY, 12PM-5PM

## FAMILY GARDEN PARTY

Join us for a weekend bursting with creativity, performance and garden-themed fun.

Enjoy the spectacular Farmyard Circus, meet the Seedkeepers and Meadow Sprites, plant your own sunflower seedling and much more.

Queen's Gardens, outside Parr Hall



MONDAY 21 JULY, 10AM-12PM & 1PM-3PM

## EARLY YEARS TAKEOVER, MUSEUM ALIVE

A day of play for 0-5 years. Be wowed by Goofus Theatre Company as they present a magical, interactive performance for your little ones.

Come meet our baby dinosaurs, relax in our sensory space, take part in a fossil dig, dance the day away at our family disco and have a scribble on our giant doodle wall and floor!

Warrington Museum & Art Gallery



SATURDAY 26 JULY, 8:45PM

## STARSaucer

Don't panic but a flying saucer has been spotted in Warrington! Where do these intergalactic visitors come from, and what do they want? Like all the greatest paranormal mysteries, no one knows. But if you come to the landing site at Bank Park, we can promise you something strange and spectacular.

Bank Park, next to the Town Hall



CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE

**sky Garden Events**

Thu 19 Jun 10.30am - 12pm | Free, Drop-in  
**Adult botanical drawing**

Fri 25 Jul 10.30am - 2.30pm | Free, Drop-in  
**Eco Arts Day**  
Family theatre sessions at intervals throughout the day

Thu 31 Jul 10.30am - 11.30am | Free, Bookable  
**Yoga**  
By Soul Space Chester

Tue 12 Aug 2.30pm - 3.30pm | Free, Bookable  
**Sound bath**  
By Soul Space Chester

Tue 26 Aug 10.30am - 12.30pm |  
£5 donation per car  
**Clothes swap and luggage rummage**

Sat 27 Sep 10am - 1pm | Free, Drop-in  
**Harvest festival**

## PARR HALL FOR FAMILIES

THURSDAY 31 JULY

### MILKSHAKE! LIVE - ON HOLIDAY



SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

### DINOSAURS LIVE!

FROM THE HOME OF THE DINOSAURS



## WOLFPRINT AT THE MOVIES

On Saturday 17 May, Wolfprint took to the stage and performed in 'A Night At The Movies', the audience was dazzled, and talents were displayed with pride. This event kick started the Warrington Wolves Community Foundation's 20th Anniversary celebrations!

Wolfprint is the Warrington Wolves Community Foundation's arts and performance programme for individuals with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities. For more information about these sessions and what else the Foundation offers, please contact [amellatitchard@warringtonwolvesfoundation.com](mailto:amellatitchard@warringtonwolvesfoundation.com)



**Summer Reading Challenge**

# Story Garden

Story Garden illustrations by Dapo Adesola, Illustrations and logo © The Reading Agency 2025

THE READING AGENCY Summer Reading Challenge

## Help Your Child Discover the Joy of Reading This Summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme is **Story Garden**, where imagination blossoms and stories grow! Children will explore creativity, storytelling, and the magic of books through exciting activities and adventures.

### Why Join?

- It's **FREE!** Available at local libraries and online
- Inspires a **lifelong love of reading**
- Boosts **confidence, creativity, and imagination**
- Earn **rewards, certificates, and prizes**
- Fun for the whole **family**. Visit your **local library** together
- 95%** of children said they **read more** after joining!
- Children **choose their own books** to read over the summer, **collect rewards** for each milestone they reach, and **receive a certificate or medal** when they complete the challenge.



Visit your local library or go online at [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) to get started from 5 July 2025.

Help your child start their reading adventure today!

# VOLUNTEER CALLOUT

To help with children's events and activities for The Summer Reading Challenge

AGED 14-25

For more information contact [libteam@livewirewarrington.org](mailto:libteam@livewirewarrington.org)



CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE