

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

19/09/2025



'Let your light shine'

Children have settled into the new school year incredibly well and have already many achievements to be proud of. All the children look really smart in their uniforms and we will continue to monitor this throughout the year. Please ensure that children are wearing black school shoes with their uniform. Trainers should only be worn with PE uniform on PE days. Remember we have a large supply of pre-loved uniform and shoes in school which is available **FREE** for all families. Speak to me or Mrs Fisher if you would like any. If you are unsure on our school uniform requirements, please visit our website: <https://www.stbarnabasceprimary.co.uk/page/school-uniform/32026>

Our pupils have many opportunities to shine and develop their leadership skills – a great way to do this is to join one of our pupil ambassador teams. During the next 2 weeks, children in KS2 will find out about the different roles available and then be able to apply to become a pupil leader. It enables them to become involved in the local community and have their say as to what should be changed or improved – they also get to work with local MPs, police and other leaders.

Here are the roles:

- School Parliament
- Mini Police
- Well-Being Warriors
- SSOC (School Sports Organising Crew)
- Reading Ambassadors
- Team Spirit
- EAL Ambassadors
- Super Behaviour Team
- Attendance Ambassadors
- Science Ambassadors



Becoming an ambassador enables pupils to share their incredible ideas and become involved in the running of the school. It's great preparation for the next stage of their education and the world of work! All ambassadors receive a special pin badge which will be awarded in a special assembly when all the roles have been allocated. Please talk to your child about the roles and encourage them to apply – all our children are amazing and have a lot to offer.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Miss Hodgkinson

Starting Reception Class

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they are due to start reception class in September 2026. You will need to apply for a place here: <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/primary-school-admissions>

Start and Finish Times

School opens at **8:40am** and all children should be in school by **8:45am**. Gates are locked at 8:50am and anyone who arrives after this time will need to enter via the school office and be marked as late. At the end of the day, doors open at 3:10pm and all children should be collected by 3:15pm. Being just a few minutes late each day adds up to days of lost learning over a year - **BE ON TIME!**



School Term Dates 2025 - 2026

Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	School opens for Autumn term
Friday 24 th October 2025	School closes for half term
Monday 3 rd November 2025	School opens
Friday 19 th December 2025	School closes for Christmas break at 1:30pm
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	School opens for Spring term
Friday 13 th February 2026	School closes for half term
Monday 23 rd February 2026	School opens
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	School closes for Easter break
Monday 13 th April	School opens for Summer term
Monday 4 th May	Bank holiday – school closed
Friday 22 nd May	School closes for half term
Monday 8 th June	School opens
Friday 3 rd July 2026	Warrington Walking Day – school closed
Friday 18 th July 2026	School closes for Summer break
Summer Holiday	
Wednesday 2 nd September 2026	School opens for new school year

Nut Allergy

Our school is a **nut free zone** as we have children in school with severe allergies. Please do not send any food in packed lunches containing nuts or traces of nuts, including chocolate spread. Thank you.

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Creativity'

"An essential aspect of creativity is not being afraid to fail."

This week we pray to say thank you for our amazing world.
Please help us to nurture and protect it.

This week's big question is:
Is everyone and everything creative?



Dates for your Diary Autumn Half Term 1

Monday 22 nd September	School Photos If you would like younger/older children who do not attend our school to be on a family photo, bring children to school for 8:30am
Wednesday 24 th September	Y5 Swimming
Thursday 25 th September	9am Harvest Worship led by Y5 Parents of Y5 invited
Tuesday 30 th September	Film Night for children after school 3:15 - 5pm
Wednesday 1 st October	Y5 Swimming
Friday 3 rd October	8:45am Parent Coffee Morning
Tuesday 7 th October	1:30 - 3pm Open afternoon for families of children starting school in September 2026
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th October	Book Fair in the hall from 3:15pm
Monday 13 th & Tuesday 14 th October	Parents' Evenings for all classes Starbooks Reading Cafe open in the hall from 3:30pm
Friday 24 th October	School closes for half term

FAMILY & COMMUNITY EVENING



☀ You're Invited! ☀

An Evening of Fun, Activities & Community Support
Discover what support is available in Warrington while
enjoying a night of engaging activities and friendly faces.

Everyone is welcome — come and be part of it

02 OCTOBER 2025 3:30 PM - 7:30 PM

For more information: 01925 977277 or info@wyz.org.uk

FAMILY & COMMUNITY EVENING

Organisations from across Warrington are coming
together to host a fantastic event at
Warrington Youth Zone
packed with fun activities and valuable information
about the support services available to YOU and your
family. Discover this all while having a great time!

**FREE TO ATTEND
COME AND JOIN US!**

☀ WHAT'S ON? ☀

SPORTS & GAMES - ARTS & CRAFTS - SPIN THE WHEEL -
FIDGET TOY MAKING - FACE PAINTING - AND SO MUCH MORE!



Join us for coffee morning

9-10.30 term time only
Boulting Avenue Family Hub, Dallam
(formerly known as Little stars children's centre)

Professionals attending:

- 12th Sept - Families United
- 19th Sept - Blood Pressure Checks
- 26th Sept - Poverty Truth Commission
- 3rd Oct - Young Carers Hub
- 10th Oct - Warrington Disability
- 17th Oct - WARRPAC
- 24th Oct - United Utilities

Come and meet new people, explore further support and build confidence and social skills.

Free hot/cold drinks and toast for all.

Play and singing session for younger children

FAMILY HUB

Calling all Jigsaw enthusiasts

St Elphin's, St Barnabas & Holy Trinity Churches
invite you to join them at St Elphin's Church,
Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TL for their

Jigsaw Festival

18th - 20th September 2025

Thurs: 4.00 - 8.00pm
Fri: 12.00 - 5.00pm
Sat: 10.00 - 4.00pm

Other Stalls include:

- Refreshments
- Chocolate Tombola
- Knitted goods
- Stained Glass
- Cake Stall
- Jams Stall
- Candles

Admission £2.00 includes free raffle
(free re-admission with programme over the 3 days)

GIRLS RUGBY LEAGUE

WARRINGTON GIRLS RUGBY CLUB

WE ARE RECRUITING FOR THE 2026 SEASON
COME DOWN TO A TRAINING SESSION

ARE YOU IN YEARS 5 & 6 -
COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

WE TRAIN AT
CROSFIELDS RUGBY CLUB
MON & WEDNESDAY -
6PM TILL 7PM

Get in touch to find out more warringtongirlsrl@gmail.com

Our guide this week focuses around fact and fiction and how we can support our children to know when information they are reading online is fake. Some information presented can sound very convincing and can upset and alarm children. Our guide supports parents in being able to tackle tricky topics in a calm and positive manner.

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 CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/conspiracy-theories>