

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

10/10/2025



'Let your light shine'

Parents' Evening

On **Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th October**, we have our first parents' evenings of the school year. Parents' evening gives you the opportunity to speak to your child's new class teacher about how well they have settled into their new class in addition to discussing learning, wellbeing and looking at children's workbooks.

Our parents' evening also gives you the chance to connect with other families – our Starbooks Reading Cafe will be open, serving drinks and snacks, with a range of reading themed activities for the children to enjoy. There will also be a book fair, where you can buy a range of book and gifts; a pre-loved uniform stall and more.

Please join us for a cuppa at Starbooks Cafe before or after your appointment.

Fundraiser

As you know, our children love to help others and raise money for local, national and global causes. The first campaign they are supporting this year is a really important one that will benefit many local families. Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals Charity has launched an appeal to raise £200,000 to create the **Willow Tree Hub** – a dedicated space providing comfort, privacy and specialist support for families coping with the heart-breaking loss of a baby.

Each family's pregnancy journey is unique, but for those experiencing baby loss or recovering from a traumatic birth it can be overwhelming, particularly in a busy hospital setting.

The Willow Tree Hub will provide a calm and private space where families can grieve, reflect, and receive the help and guidance they need in a compassionate and supportive setting.

The hub will also be home to a specialist rainbow clinic to support families navigating a pregnancy after loss. Parents who have previously experienced stillbirth or neonatal loss often face heightened anxiety and fear. The clinic will provide specialist monitoring and emotional support, helping families feel reassured and cared for every step of the way.

We want to raise as much money as we can to support this worthwhile cause this year and our first fundraiser will be a **non-uniform** and **cake sale day** on **Friday 24th October**. Children can come to school wearing their own clothes for a donation of £1 (or more if you can manage it.) A range of cakes will also be on sale in school and at the end of the day. If you can provide any cakes for the sale, please send them to school on Thursday 23rd or Friday 24th October. Any help will be gratefully received.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Miss Hodgkinson



Willow Tree Hub Foundation

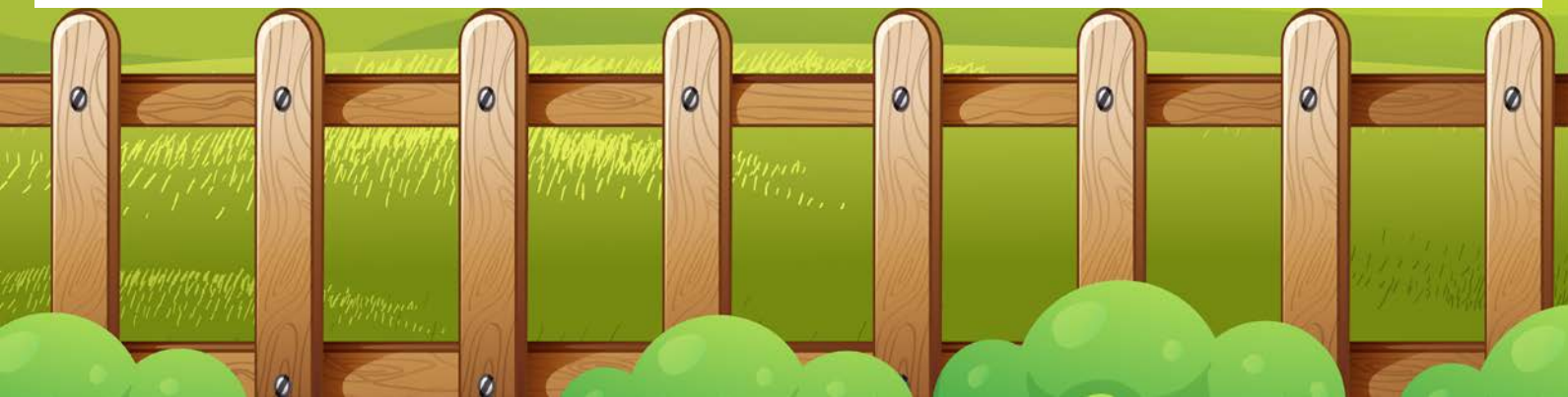


Friday 24th October 2025

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



Yesterday, the farm came to visit St Barnabas...



Holidays in term time

In line with national expectations and Warrington Borough Council's policy, schools are required to monitor attendance closely and take action where there are unauthorised absences.

Where a child has 10 or more unauthorised absences (equivalent to 5 full school days) in an academic year, this may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) being issued. Schools are advised not to authorise holidays in term time and parents should be aware that this may result in a FPN being issued if the above criteria are met.

Your child's school will monitor attendance, and where appropriate they will refer cases to Warrington Borough Council for consideration of an FPN. The local authority will review each referral and determine whether a FPN should be issued.

Fixed Penalty Notice Charges.

- £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
- £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days.
- Failure to pay may lead to prosecution in Magistrates Court.

A maximum of two Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued per parent for the same child within a three-year period. After this, any further unauthorised absence may result in a prosecution.

School Term Dates 2025 - 2026

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.

Packed Lunch ideas

A healthy packed lunch will give children the energy and nutrition they need to get the most from their school day – helping them to stay healthy, feel good and be ready and able to learn. Just like school meals, packed lunches should be made up of foods from the main food groups in the Eatwell Guide <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide/> and portions should be appropriate for a child's age and size. This will ensure every child has a healthy and nutritionally-balanced lunch.

5 top tips for your packed lunch

- Freezer packs can keep food cool. Freeze a (reusable) bottle of water which will be ready to drink by lunchtime.
- Get your child to help pack their lunch box – they are more likely to enjoy it.
- Love to dip? - cut up pitta bread or veg sticks to have with a dip.
- Use pastry cutters to cut funny shaped sandwiches.
- Protect your fruit by putting it in a small plastic container.

Some GREAT ideas for upping the veg content in your lunchboxes can be found via <https://simplyveg.org.uk/lunchboxes>

Dates for your Diary Autumn Half Term 1

Monday 13 th & Tuesday 14 th October	Parents' Evenings for all classes Starbooks Reading Cafe open in the hall from 3:30pm
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th October	Book Fair in the hall from 3:15pm
Friday 17 th October	2:30pm Y5 Space Museum – parents invited
Friday 24 th October	Non-uniform day and cake sale
Friday 24 th October	Golden ticket winners' trip to Waterstones
Friday 24 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 3 rd November	School opens

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Creativity'

"But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand."

Isaiah 64:8

This week we pray for peace in times of challenge.

This week's big question is:
Does everyone need to be creative?



Magnetic Safety (Child Accident Prevention Trust)

The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) warns that more than 300 children a year are rushed to A&E after swallowing magnets and one in ten needs life-saving surgery.

When strong magnets stick together inside the body, they can rip through a child's gut, cutting off blood supply and causing life-threatening injuries. Even toddlers have needed hours of emergency surgery, and some children are left with lasting internal damage.

Magnets don't just come in toys – they're also found in jewellery kits, fridge magnets, puzzles, dartboards, fidget toys and desk gadgets. Worryingly, some magnets sold online are 17 times stronger than the UK safety limit.

Remind parents to:

- Buy only from trusted brands and retailers.
- Be cautious with cheap copies and online marketplaces.
- Keep magnets and products containing them out of children's reach.

Daresbury Laboratory Family Science Day

Tuesday 28 October 2025

9:00am – 2:30pm | 12:30pm – 5:30pm

Science Fair

Family Show

Workshop

Tour

Limited tickets – Book at your local Family Hub now!

£5 per family, includes sandwich lunch and local coach transfer

Please note – with the exception of blue badge holders,
there will be no parking or drop off on site



<https://tinyurl.com/wkckkj3>



Looking for a fun and inspiring day out with the family? Come along to meet the staff and explore the amazing world of science and technology at the Daresbury Autumn Access Day 2025!

It is **£5 cash per family** which includes the coach fare & lunch for everyone. This event is for young people aged 8-14 years; however, we will have activities to keep siblings entertained also.

Booking is essential at <https://eequ.org/book/family-science-extravaganza-with-warrington-borough-council-20003>

Please note that under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and the coach transport must be used (apart from blue badge holders)

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>

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**

"Family Life Matters"

ST JOSEPH'S FAMILY CENTRE CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025

Can you support in raising funds or collecting food to provide local families with hampers and vouchers this Christmas?

We need donations of staple food items
tea bags - cereal - tinned food - cooking sauces
pasta - rice - sweet and savoury snacks
as well as Christmas treats
chocolates - puddings - crackers - biscuits

Donations for vouchers can be made using the QR code below or directly at the Centre.



9 Museum Street
Warrington WA1 1JA
01925 635448
contact@sjfc.org.uk

If you're a business wanting to support us, get in touch to see how you can help!



Our guide this week focuses on streaming. Streaming has become very popular in recent years because we can watch anything in real time without having to download anything. Examples include Netflix, Spotify, BBC and Youtube. Our guide support parents and carers in speaking to their children about the risks of streaming such as online scams and the addictive nature of streaming.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Part of our Copyright & Ownership Series



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www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about... STREAMING

What is it?

'Streaming'

Streaming is the latest step in a journey that's taken us all the way from records and cassettes to CDs and DVDs and, more recently, to downloads. It's a seamless way of watching or listening to all sorts of content such as TV shows, films, sports highlights and music, over an internet connection in 'real time', without having to download a file or store it on your device. You can either stream 'on-demand' or live. YouTube was one of the first video streaming services to go mainstream, but today many of the world's most popular websites are streaming platforms, including Netflix, Spotify, and BBC iPlayer.

Know the Risks

Open to scams

Children can usually Google a film or TV programme they want to watch online. Unfortunately, scammers have recognised this as an opportunity, and many unregulated and illegal websites try to persuade users to join their site with the promise of providing content for free.

Malware risk

Illegal streaming websites are usually loaded with annoying popups and inappropriate and potentially malicious ads. This can leave children vulnerable to viruses and the potential for sensitive personal information, such as login credentials and bank details, being exposed to fraudsters.

Addictive nature

Children who use legitimate streaming providers can find it easy to spend a lot of time on them. Streaming sites use an array of techniques to encourage you to watch or listen to as much content as possible, such as autoplay and related content recommendations, which can make it difficult for a child to know when to stop.

Inappropriate content

Most streaming sites host and produce content for all ages. They might have a huge library of content which can be searched, potentially opening children up to content which is adult themed and age-inappropriate.

Safety Tips

Use familiar platforms

Encourage children to stick to familiar platforms. If they're not sure which sites are legitimate and which aren't, tell them to research any platforms they're unfamiliar with before they start using them or come to you if they're unsure.

Implement parent controls

Set screen-time limits through the Settings menu of devices. Some streaming sites also offer child-friendly modes that limit what users are allowed to watch, and let you disable binge-watching features such as autoplay.

Use antivirus & update passwords

Always keep your antivirus software and computer security up to date. Perform regular scans and, if you suspect that a child has accessed a potentially dangerous streaming site, remove any malicious files that have been found. It's also good to practice to get into the habit of updating passwords on a regular basis.

Educate yourself

The best thing you can do is to familiarise yourself with the streaming landscape so that you have a good idea of which content is available where. Depending on which streaming services you subscribe to, in many cases you may instantly be able to work out if something a child has been watching is available to them.

Conversation Tips

Discuss the risks

If you believe children have been using potentially dangerous websites for streaming, talk to them about the dangers they could be exposing themselves to. Remind them to only use reputable streaming services and that streaming content from unofficial sites is against the law.

Encourage other activities

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time inside in front of a screen and finds it difficult to switch off from streaming, try to encourage them to take up other activities. This might be in the form of exercise outside, meeting friends or simply going for a walk to get some fresh air.

Our Expert Barry Collins



Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as The Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues over the years.