

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

17/10/2025



'Let your light shine'

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



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



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

Diwali

Wishing our friends and families around the world a happy Diwali. May this Diwali light up new hopes in your life.

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 20 th October	2:15pm Nursery and Reception Stay and Play session
Tuesday 21 st October	Warrington Guardian taking photo of reception class
Thursday 23 rd October	Y5 trip to Liverpool World Museum
Thursday 23 rd October	Nursery Stay and Play session
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

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Creativity'

"Creativity is just connecting things."

Steve Jobs

This week we pray for those who are homeless.

This week's big question is:

What can stop us from being 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!



RECRUITING • RECRUITING • RECRUITING • RECRUITING • RECRUITING



LATCHFORD GIANTS UNDER 9'S / YEAR 5

RECRUITING • RECRUITING • RECRUITING • RECRUITING • RECRUITING

**FANCY GIVING RUGBY LEAGUE A GO?
COME DOWN TO GIANTS U9'S AND GIVE IT A TRY!
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY, ALL ABILITIES WELCOME.**

- YEAR 5 AGED CHILDREN
- TRAINING ON THURSDAYS, 6PM - 7PM @ VICTORIA PARK, WARRINGTON
- FRIENDLY & WELCOMING CHILDREN
- EXPERIENCED & DEDICATED COACHING STAFF
- FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB
#ONETEAM

**CONTACT OUR HEAD COACH FOR MORE DETAILS
TRISTAN KEDDIE : 07342186376**

Our guide this week focuses around memes. They can be witty and widely shareable and for young people can be a way for them to connect and express themselves. However, behind the humour there can be risks. Our guide discusses the pitfalls of memes, such as misinformation, insensitive jokes and permanent digital footprints.

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 MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control – digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world – discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable – developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College

WARRINGTON'S LOCAL
CULTURAL EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP

CULTURE WARRINGTON



LCEP NEWS

AUTUMN
EDITION

FOR FAMILIES

Warrington's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP) is delighted to share our third newsletter with families across Warrington, with a spotlight on Spooky Season!

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!

HALLOWEEN IN THE GARDENS

Queens Gardens, Palmyra Square

Wednesday 29 October

5:30pm - 7pm

Free | Family Friendly

A spectacular firelit concert suitable for all the family will be bringing wow factor to Queens Gardens this October half term.

Halloween in the Gardens will take place on the evening of Wednesday, 29 October, with a range of spooky musical performances under the glow of flickering flames.

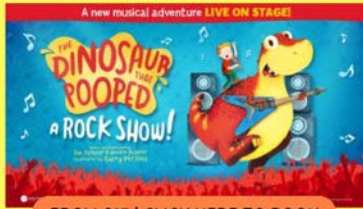
Wrap up warm and join us for powerful performances, bursts of colour in the sky, and an atmosphere filled with seasonal magic.



HALLOWEEN -IN THE GARDENS-

SPOOKY SEASON

MONDAY 27 OCTOBER
PARR HALL, PALMYRA SQUARE



FROM £15 | [CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN CARVING



TUESDAY 28 & THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER
LOUIS PIZZA, WARRINGTON MARKET

FREE | [CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

SPOOKYSAURUS

THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER, 11AM - 3PM
TIME SQUARE, WARRINGTON

FREE & DROP IN

WEDNESDAY 29 OCTOBER
QUEENS GARDENS, PALMYRA SQUARE



FREE, NO NEED TO BOOK

FREE FAMILY CRAFT MAGIC CAULDRONS

WEDNESDAY 29 OCTOBER, 10AM - 3PM
WARRINGTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

FREE & DROP IN

SPOOKY SEASON

EARLY YEARS

Following the 30-minute story, explore the museum and take part in autumn crafts.
FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER, 11AM AND 1:30PM
WARRINGTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

FREE & DROP IN

THE STORY OF

PENELOPE PUMPKIN



A story told for ages 0-5 and their grown-ups

FREE HALF TERM ACTIVITY

Friday 31 October
11am and 1:30pm

Warrington Museum & Art Gallery

FREE FAMILY CRAFT MOSAIC PUMPKINS

FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER, 10AM - 3PM
WARRINGTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

GO WILD

LEARN ALL ABOUT ANIMALS WITH ANIMAL TEACH
FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER, 10AM - 3PM
WARRINGTON MARKET

FREE & DROP IN

HALLOWEEN IN TIME SQUARE

FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER

MEET YOUR FAVOURITE SPOOKY FRIENDS
12PM - 3PM: PUMPKIN HEADS & WEDNESDAY ADDAMS
3PM - 6PM: SANDERSON SISTERS FROM HOCUS POCUS

FREE & DROP IN



BATIDA RIO ZOMBIE WALK

RAISING MONEY FOR WARRINGTON SPEAK UP
SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER, 6PM - 7PM
FROM SANKEY STREET TO TIME SQUARE

FREE, NO NEED TO BOOK

LCEP NEWS

WHAT'S COMING UP AT

WARRINGTON



AUTUMN HOLIDAY CLUB

Our Holiday Club is here to provide lots of fun activities for young people aged 7-12 years. Spaces are limited on our trip sessions, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

8am-6pm, with over 20 activities a day!

Monday 27 - Friday 31 October
£20 per day

Young people aged 7 - 12 need to have a current annual membership (£5) to book on.



£25 HOLIDAY CLUB TRIPS

Trip to Manchester MOSI
Monday 22 December

Trip to Gravity
Friday 2 January

Monday 5 January
Trip to Airbase 1



[CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

LCEP NEWS



CRAFTERNOONS

Free Family Crafts
Every Saturday
No need to book, just drop in.
Sessions run from 1pm - 3pm
Last entry 2:45pm



GREEN LIBRARIES WEEK Activities

- OCT 25** Saturday 25th October
Orford Library, 11am-1pm, Nature virtual reality
- OCT 27** Monday 27th October - Saturday 1st November
Culcheth Library, Art exhibition using recycled materials
- OCT 27** Monday 27th October
Padgate Library, 3-4pm, Environment coding session
- OCT 28** Tuesday 28th October
Culcheth Library, 2:30-4pm, Mosaic craft using recycled materials
- OCT 29** Wednesday 29th October
Living Well Hub, 10-11:30am, Environment coding session
Burtonwood Library, 2-3pm, Mosaic craft using recycled materials
Warrington Library, 2-3:30pm, Nature virtual reality
Padgate Library, 3-4pm, Mosaic craft using recycled materials
Lymm Library, 2-4pm, Craft activity
- OCT 30** Thursday 30th October
Stockton Heath Library, 10:30am-12noon, Craft activity
Penketh Library, 2:30-3:30pm, Spooky craft



Free!



Drop-in!

PARR HALL FOR FAMILIES

MONDAY 27 OCTOBER

SATURDAY 3 - 9 JANUARY

FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY

