

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

20/03/2026



'Let your light shine'

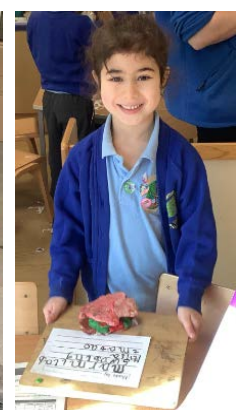
Our Y5/6 rugby team took part in the fire 7s competition yesterday. They played 4 back-to-back matches against really tough teams and demonstrated absolute resilience, courage and perseverance. Our very own rugby superstars – we are all extremely proud of you.

Our **Spring Concert** which will take place at **6pm** on **Wednesday 1st April**. All our children in KS2 will be performing in the show, which is a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their musical talents and the skills they have been learning in music lessons this year. There will be singing, dancing and music played on a range of instruments. It's going to be an amazing evening...tickets are **FREE** and available to collect from the school office. We have reserved 2 tickets for every family with children in KS2, then if there are any spares, we will allocate them to families who request extra tickets. Doors open at 5:30pm and refreshments and raffle tickets will be sold on the night. We look forward to seeing you there.

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...



Local Authority Attendance Update

The Local Authority will now be issuing fines (fixed term penalty notices) for parents who take children on holidays during term time. The link below will take you to the LA webpage containing information about penalty notices:

[School attendance | warrington.gov.uk](http://School%20attendance%20|%20warrington.gov.uk)

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>

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.

Fundraiser

Some of our pupils are members of Warrington Starlights Dance team. The team have made starlight history and won a bid to compete internationally for the first time ever! This is an amazing opportunity but also very expensive, so Lola's mum is busy fundraising for the trip.

She is making personalised sunglasses and shirts for signing, which are ideal for school leavers.

If you would like to buy any of the items, contact Clair Taylor on 07443987967.

Sunglasses	£3.50
Shirts	£7.50
Sunglasses & shirt	£10



Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Forgiveness

"Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other: as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive."

Colossians 3:13

This week we pray for peace across the world.

This week's big question is: Why should we be sorry?



Easter Eggstravaganza!

Our annual decorated egg competition is taking place soon. Children are invited to decorate a boiled egg at home and bring it into school. There will be a winner from each class and all entries will receive a chocolate prize!

Competition entries should be brought into school on Monday 30th March. Winners will be announced on Tuesday 31st March.



Eid Mubarak

Wishing all our Muslim friends and families a happy and joyful Eid.



Free Online Safety Parent Workshop – Thursday 30th April 7pm

Warrington Local Authority are totally committed to the digital safety and wellbeing of their students. As part of this, we are running a workshop dedicated to helping parents understand the risks their children face in their online lives and the practical things parents can do to help.

Please join us for this hour-long workshop in which Ruth Noble, Digital Safeguarding Education Specialist will provide you with lots of valuable insights and tools.

Including:

- Information on the latest apps and games your child may have access to.
- The harmful content your child may be exposed to.
- How you can help your child to safely navigate online risk.
- How to access our FREE [Online Safety Hub](#) with dedicated guidance for parents.
- An introduction to a parental app that allows you to control what your child sees online if they are at risk, plus other important features.

We hope to see you there, please use the link to register for your free place [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Our guide this week focuses on online safety. Violent clips, online 'wars', and shock-value challenges can spread rapidly across social media feeds and can appear in front of children when they are not looking for them. This guide explains how algorithms, messaging groups and viral trends can expose children to real-world violence online, sometimes normalising harmful behaviour or encouraging risky offline actions. It also offers advice for parents on discussing online safety, understanding the law, and helping young people respond positively and responsibly.

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 ONLINE TRENDS ENCOURAGING VIOLENCE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

7 out of 10 teens report seeing violent content on social media, with over half of that content featuring fights involving young people. Most don't 'seek' it but are shown it through social media feeds or messaging groups. 91% of young people involved in violence have seen violent social media content. Viral trends, challenges, or 'wars' that are spread online risk encouraging violence offline, while real-world incidents may also be recorded and promoted online.

ALGORITHMIC EXPOSURE

Social media platforms are designed to keep users engaged, meaning dramatic or extreme content can spread widely and quickly. Algorithms often recommend content that reflects users' past interactions. As a result, young people may see more violent material if they have viewed, commented on, or shared it before. Repeated exposure can make violent content appear frequently in their feeds without them fully understanding why.

WEAPONS AND CRIMINAL RISK

Teens exposed to high levels of real-world violence on social media sometimes report feeling an increased need to carry a weapon for 'self-protection'; however, carrying a weapon increases the risk of victimisation (harm and injury by others) for young people. In addition, carrying a weapon is a serious offence that can lead to police arrest and a criminal record.

SHARING VIOLENT CONTENT

Encouraging or assisting an offence is a crime in the UK, including via social media, and can lead to arrest. This means sharing, forwarding, or reposting violent content carries a risk for young people too. Showing examples of content to a trusted adult is appropriate, but young people should take care not to further spread violent material by posting it online or sharing it within large messaging groups.

FEAR, ANXIETY, AND MARGINALISATION

Research shows young people's emotional wellbeing can be negatively impacted by repeated exposure to violent online content, especially when it depicts 'real-world' violence (as opposed to fictional depictions in games or films). Posts featuring weapons, threats, attacks, and fights – or content that appears to glamorise gang activity – can increase feelings of anxiety or fear among young people. Material that encourages violence targeting people because of their identity, such as their nationality or religion, can also create disproportionate harm for children belonging to those groups.

AVOIDANCE AND ISOLATION

Real-world violence on social media can increase young people's belief that their local communities – or the 'outside world' more generally – are unsafe places. This can result in avoidant and isolating behaviours, which may negatively affect their wellbeing. As well as feeling fearful of others, teens also report feeling judged for spending time together in large groups, which may affect their social interactions and leisure time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

STAY INFORMED

Stay alert for updates from police, schools, or local authorities, and follow the advice provided. Be cautious about unofficial accounts, fake content, and misinformation, which can spread quickly online or in chat groups. Ensure you get accurate information from trusted sources and encourage young people to do the same. Remind them never to share violent content online and to speak to a trusted adult instead.

TALK CRIME AND SAFETY

In most of the UK, the age of criminal responsibility is 10 (12 in Scotland). This means there can be serious criminal consequences for carrying a weapon, taking part in violence, or filming or sharing violent content. Discuss the law with young people alongside practical safety strategies. Ask questions such as: "What could you do if you feel unsafe?" Work together on action plans and remind them they can contact a trusted adult or the police if they witness or experience violence.

DISCUSS SOCIAL MEDIA

Encourage young people to talk about the content they see online and the effect it can have. This can be an opportunity to discuss topics such as misinformation, AI-generated material, the attention economy, and algorithms, helping them understand how and why extreme content can spread online. Explore tools available to block, report, and remove harmful content, and signpost where to get support and advice, such as reportharmfulcontent.com.

ENCOURAGE POSITIVE ACTION

Focus on strengthening young people's positive experiences both online and within their local communities. Discuss strategies to reduce negative social media effects, such as time limits, unfollowing certain accounts, or taking breaks from apps. Encourage offline activities such as spending time with friends, visiting local places, and taking part in hobbies that bring them joy, purpose, and connection. Remind them they can seek support with any concerns at any time via childline.org.uk.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in media law, online safety, and young people. Her PhD investigates youth understandings of criminal and legal risks in a digital context. She works in schools to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations of rapidly advancing technologies.



See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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EASTER AT CAFT

FAMILY VISITS

WE WILL BE RUNNING 2 HOUR
OUTDOOR EASTER VISITS FOR
DISABLED AND SOCIALLY
DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND
THEIR FAMILIES

PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE
TO CHECK OUR ELIGIBILITY
CRITERIA AND TO BOOK A SLOT
WWW.CAFT.CO.UK/FAMILIES



St Barnabas CE Primary School

Easter Raffle

Date 26th March 2026

Tickets £1 each and are on sale now!

1 st Prize	Easter Hamper
2 nd Prize	Pokémon Bundle
3 rd Prize	Basketball Hoop and Ollyball

And many other prizes including...

- * Mini Metal Detector * Golf Game * Pokémon Battle Game *
- * Garden Lights and Tool Set * Games Bundle *
- * Bluey Game/ Tea set and Camera * 'Cars' Playset *
- * Headphones and Camera * Birthday Party Bundle *
- * Playdoh Set * Relaxation Bundle * Teddy and Carrier *
- * Portable mini printer * 3 x Kid's Cameras *
- * Bayliss & Harding Bundle * Busy book & Tiger card game *
- * Bubbly and Biscuits * 3 x Pokémon Cards *



Colour Run

Sunday 10th May 2026
Walton Hall & Gardens
From 1pm

Take part in a colourful 3k dash



Scan to sign up now or
contact our Fundraising
Team:
01925 575780
events@stroccos.org.uk

Sign up before 3rd April for
up to 40% off entry fees

What's Included?

All runners will receive a pair of coloured sunglasses and pouch of powdered paint on arrival and a medal and at the finish line.

What Should I Wear?

Start in white, end up bright! We suggest you wear a white t-shirt for maximum effect. You can purchase a St Rocco's t-shirt and a range of colourful accessories to add extra colour to your outfit! Buy in advance when you book or on the day.

Who Can Take Part?

It is a family event so adults and children are welcome to join in the fun! The colour powder is not recommended for under 5s, however if you choose for them to take part, please let us know on your registration. All under 16's must be registered alongside and accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Can I Volunteer?

We will need lots of volunteer marshals on the day so we are very grateful to anyone who can spare a few hours to lend a hand. Get in touch for more details on how to help with everything from marshalling to throwing paint!

How Much Should I Fundraise?

The registration fee only covers the cost of putting on the event. This means it is the money you raise from sponsorship which will go towards patient care. We are kindly asking all runners to raise £50 minimum sponsorship (or more!) to support St. Rocco's Hospice. Once registered an Enthuse fundraising page will automatically be generated for your group making it really easy to get started! The Fundraising team are here to support you and answer any questions you may have.

Schedule

- 1pm - Registration opens
- 3pm - Colour Run Starts

Scan to sign
up today!





RUGBY HOLIDAY CAMPS 2026

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 17th
Wednesday 18th

APRIL

Tuesday 7th
Wednesday 8th

MAY

Tuesday 26th
Wednesday 27th

JUNE

Tuesday 2nd
Wednesday 3rd

AUGUST

W/C 3rd
W/C 10th
W/C 17th
W/C 24th

Register here:

More details to be released
closer to dates via the link



April Rugby Camp

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
31 LOOKING FORWARD TO CAMP	01	02 GETTING EXCITED
07 HOLIDAY CAMP	08 HOLIDAY CAMP	09
14	15	16

- 8:15 - 15:30, DROP OFF 8:15 - 9:15
- ST ELPHINS PRIMARY SCHOOL
FARRELL STREET, WARRINGTON
WA1 2GN

WHAT TO EXPECT:
FOOD INCLUDED
OPTION OF CONTACT & TAG RUGBY
FUN RUGBY ACTIVITIES/GAMES
FREE PLAY
STAR OF THE DAY
VISITS FROM WOLFIE

REGISTER HERE:



SCHOOL YEARS 2-6

SPACES ARE LIMITED SO BE SURE TO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID MISSING OUT!

PRICE: £60 FOR BOTH DAYS



Dates for your Diary

Monday 23 rd March	6pm Y5 Primary Arts Network - Performance at the Parr Hall
Thursday 26 th March	Y3/4 tag rugby festival
Friday 27 th March	Y3/4 Warrington Wolves rugby session
Monday 30 th March	3:15 – 4:30pm Easter Starbooks Cafe – all families welcome
Monday 30 th March	Nursery Easter Stay & Play 2.15pm - 3pm (start of the week children)
Tuesday 31 st March	Reception trip to Chester Zoo
Wednesday 1 st April	10am Whole School Spring Service at St Barnabas Church – all families welcome
Wednesday 1 st April	Nursery Easter Stay & Play – 2.15pm – 3pm (end of the week children)
Wednesday 1 st April	Reception Easter Stay & Play – 2.15pm – 3pm
Wednesday 1 st April	6pm Spring Concert – tickets available for parents of children in KS2
Thursday 2 nd April	School closes for the Easter break
Monday 13 th April	School opens for the summer term

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.

Easter Holiday Club Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th April

10am to 2pm

Book on the eequ.org website

<https://eequ.org/book/st-barnabas-holiday-haf-camp-with-striker-academy-26717>

Striker Academy

Daily Warm Up

Games

Arts & crafts

Dodgeball



Football

Snacks & lunch





UK Health
Security
Agency

MENINGITIS + SEPTICAEMIA

Meningitis
now

Meningitis is a serious condition where the protective layers around the brain and spinal cord become inflamed. Septicaemia is when the bacteria enter the bloodstream to cause blood poisoning. They can happen to anyone, so it's important to know the symptoms and risks.

Early symptoms, such as fever, vomiting, aches, muscle pain, cold hands and feet and headaches, can look similar to common illnesses like colds or flu. But someone with meningitis or septicaemia will usually become seriously ill in a matter of hours. That's why it's crucial to keep checking on anyone who is unwell.

MENINGITIS SYMPTOMS?

- fever
- a very bad headache (this alone is not a reason to get medical help)
- vomiting
- stiff neck
- dislike of bright lights
- rash (DO NOT wait for a rash to appear before seeking medical advice)
- confusion, delirium
- severe sleepiness, losing consciousness
- fits

SEPTICAEMIA SYMPTOMS?

- fever and shivering
- severe pains and aches in limbs and joints
- vomiting
- very cold hands and feet
- pale or blotchy skin
- rapid breathing
- diarrhoea and stomach cramps
- red or purple 'bruised' or blotchy rash on skin that does not fade under pressure - do the glass test. On dark skin, check paler areas of the skin, such as the palms of the hands, soles of the feet, inside the mouth (roof), and the eyelids
- difficulty walking or standing
- severe sleepiness, losing consciousness

If you become worried about yourself, your child, or a friend, particularly if symptoms are getting worse, seek medical help urgently.

EARLY TREATMENT CAN BE LIFE-SAVING.