



# Barty Bugle

1ST MAY 2026

## MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

Dear St Bartholomew's community,

Another week has whizzed by, and we've been blessed with some glorious sunshine, giving us a great opportunity to enjoy lots of outdoor learning. During Forest School, the children planted carrots and beetroot, created beautiful flowers using yarn, practised some careful whittling and enjoyed lots of imaginative den-building and play. Please could you ensure your child brings a clearly labelled water bottle to school every day, so they can stay hydrated throughout the day, especially during lessons, playtimes, and physical activities.



### Little Acorn Class

We have loved sharing our story Oliver's Vegetables and enjoyed talking about our favourite vegetables. The children have been using mathematical language to describe position and follow instructions such as climb over and crawl under. We were also very lucky to receive lots of seeds from Mrs Storer, which we have planted in our Little Acorns veg patch – fingers crossed for some yummy vegetables later in the year! Nursery 2 have also started their phonics lessons this week, and we have been so impressed with their super enthusiasm.

### Acorn Class

In English, we have been writing compound sentences and using the suffix -er in words linked to our story "Lost and Found". In maths, we have continued to explore the relationship between addition and subtraction and finding missing parts in number problems. In RE, the children designed their own stained-glass windows inspired by a Bible story.

### Oak Class

Oak Class have continued their excellent work on multiples and have now begun learning about multiples of 8. They explored the relationship between multiples of 2, 4 and 8, recognising how they are double and half of each other, and really enjoyed playing our new game, "Fizz." In English, the children used their imagination and descriptive language to write first-person narratives based on images from The Mysteries of Harris Burdick.

### Acorn and Oak Classes

At the beginning of the week, we visited Hollinsclough Academy, where the children mixed into teams to design a new obstacle for the Tough Runner course and took part in team-building games. The children also took part in a French taster lesson, giving them a fun introduction to the language. They have also continued their learning in ICT on desktop publishing and have been practising the names for pets in Spanish. What a fun week!

Finally, a reminder that school will be closed on Monday for the bank holiday. We hope you all have a wonderful long weekend and look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday.



Team Barty

## ATTENDANCE

National Target: 95%  
School Attendance: 93.75%

## NOTICES

### Shoes

We kindly ask that children do not wear Crocs (or similar open-backed/open toed shoes) to nursery and school. For safety and comfort, we encourage sturdy, closed-toe footwear that supports children during play, outdoor activities, and movement throughout the day.

### Wear It Green Day

On **Thursday 14th May**, children and staff are invited to Wear It Green to help recognise Mental Health Awareness Week and show our support for mental wellbeing.

Thank you for your support. ❤️

### Sun Safety

As the weather becomes sunnier, we kindly ask that children come to school prepared for the sunshine. Please ensure they bring a sun hat on sunny days and that sun cream is applied before school.

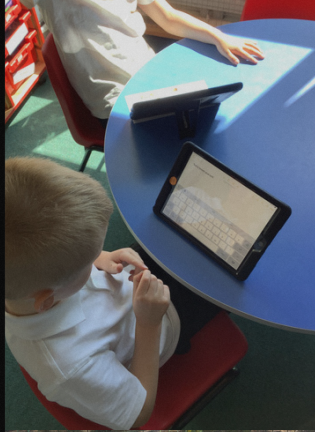
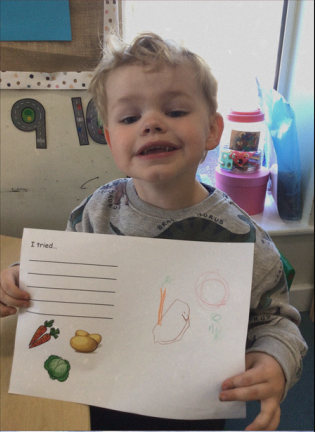
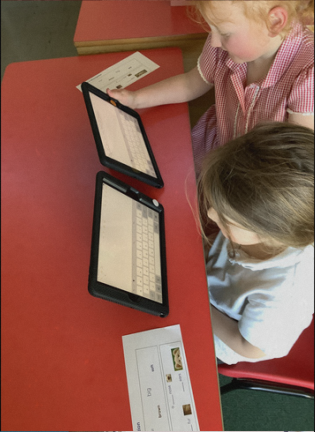


## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

These are the dates that we have planned in at the moment - please keep an eye out each week for new dates and any changes. Items in **bold** have been added since the last news letter.

- 4<sup>th</sup> May - Early May Bank holiday
- **11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> May - Mental Health Awareness Week**
- **14<sup>th</sup> May - Wear It Green Day**
- **20<sup>th</sup> May - PTA AGM (3:30pm) - Everyone welcome!**
- 25<sup>th</sup> May to 29<sup>th</sup> May - Half term break
- 1<sup>st</sup> June - Inset day (school closed to children)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June - School re-opens to pupils
- **2<sup>nd</sup> June - Y4/5 pupils to Inspire event at Lichfield Cathedral**
- **14<sup>th</sup> June - Summer Fair & Longnor Open**
- 17<sup>th</sup> July - School finishes for summer holidays





# SAFEGUARDING

#WakeUpWednesday from The National College aims to equip every trusted adult with the knowledge and skills they need to keep up with the latest information, implement best practice and heighten their awareness of issues around three core topics; online safety, mental health & wellbeing; and climate change & sustainability.

This week's topic is focused on online app and play stores

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 APP & PLAY STORES

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

### MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE

Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

### UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS

Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

### PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES

App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

### ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN

Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

### SIDeloaded BANNED APPS

'Sideloaded' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS

Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

### DO YOUR RESEARCH

If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

### LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS

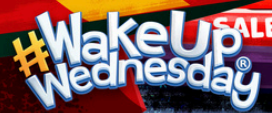
App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

### TALK TO YOUR CHILD

Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



# WEEKLY AWARDS

WELL DONE TO THIS WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!



# MENU



## Spring / Summer 2025-26



	WEEK ONE	WEEK TWO	WEEK THREE
MONDAY	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Chocolate & Vanilla Swirl Cookie (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Vanilla Snap (Ve)	Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V) Veg of the Day Lemon Biscuit (Ve)
TUESDAY	Classic Mac & Cheese (V) Veg of the Day Cinnamon Apple Cake (V)	Italian Sausage Pasta Bake Veg of the Day Flapjack (Ve)	Sausage with Mash & Gravy Veg of the Day Choco Krispie Bite (Ve)
WEDNESDAY	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Fruity Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Fruity Jelly (Ve)	Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy Veg of the Day Fruity Jelly (Ve)
THURSDAY	Homestyle Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy Veg of the Day Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)	Chicken Stir-Fry Rice Veg of the Day Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)	Penne with Beef Bolognese Veg of the Day Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Chocolate Brownie (Ve)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Chocolate Brownie (Ve)	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Chocolate Brownie (Ve)
	23/2/26, 16/3/26, 6/4/26, 27/4/26, 18/5/26, 8/6/26, 29/6/26	2/3/26, 23/3/26, 13/4/26, 4/5/26, 25/5/26, 15/6/26, 6/7/26	9/3/26, 30/3/26, 20/4/26, 11/5/26, 1/6/26, 22/6/26, 13/7/26

Choice of Filled Jacket Potatoes and Sandwiches (including V/Ve options)  
are also available daily along with freshly baked bread, salad, fresh fruit, jelly (Ve), yoghurts (V) and fresh drinking water.

Next week we will be on week two of the menu

## COMMUNITY

The next Forest Friends session will take place on Monday 4th May 2026. Sessions are free but must be booked via the "Events" page of the **Staffordshire Wildlife Trust** website. Use the keyword search on the left of the page to search for sessions in Longnor.

# Forest Friends

*Outdoor stay and play*  
St Bartholomew's Primary School,  
Longnor, SK17 0NZ



**Staffordshire**  
Wildlife Trust

f @swtactivities

@StaffsWildlife

@staffswt

Following the Forest School ethos we'll use nature as our guide and see where our curiosity leads us as we play and explore outdoors!

*First Monday of the month*  
**10.30am - 12pm**

6 April

4 May

1 June

6 July

## Free but Booking Essential

For more info and to book visit  
[www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/events](http://www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/events)



Free thanks to funding from The Staffordshire Freemasons

For more details contact [getwild@staffs-wildlife.org.uk](mailto:getwild@staffs-wildlife.org.uk)

## COMMUNITY

The next session of Tea and Tots Too takes place on  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May.  
If you know anyone who would like to come along,  
please let them know!



# Tea & Tots Too

Stay and play,  
chat and  
make new friends

**When:** Second Monday of  
every month  
10:30am to 12pm

**Where:** St Bartholomew's Nursery,  
Longnor, SK17 0NZ  
(Please use the rear entrance at the back of the school)

**Who:** For families and  
children age 0-4 years

Join us for a brew, cake,  
squash and biscuits

Suggested  
donation £2  
per family

For more information please email:  
[office@st-bartholomews.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-bartholomews.staffs.sch.uk)

COMMUNITY



# PTA AGM

**20th May 2026**

**3:30pm**

**Everyone welcome!**