



Barty Bugle

8TH MAY 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

Dear St Bartholomew's community,

This week has been full of excitement and curiosity as the children across school have been learning about Sir David Attenborough, in recognition of his 100th birthday. There have been lots of wonderful moments of awe and surprise, it has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and growing appreciation for the natural world.

During our Celebration Worship on Friday, Luke proudly shared that he has achieved his Brown Belt in Ju Jitsu. This is a fantastic accomplishment that reflects years of dedication, regular training, and perseverance. Achieving a brown belt requires mastering advanced techniques, demonstrating respect and self-discipline, and successfully passing a series of structured gradings. Well done, Luke – we were inspired by your commitment and determination!

In **Little Acorn Class**, learning has been centred around animals and nature to link with the birthday celebrations. The children have enjoyed drawing and painting their favourite animals, with some very imaginative choices and bold colours. They explored patterns found in nature and created their own repeating designs, showing great attention to detail. Using construction materials, they worked together to build jungles and rainforests, thinking carefully about different habitats. The children also had fun creating animal footprints in playdough and spent time watching short clips from David Attenborough documentaries, which sparked curiosity, thoughtful comments and plenty of questions.

In **Acorn Class**, it has been another busy week. In maths, the children have been learning about addition and subtraction equations and how to record them clearly. In English, they used adjectives to write 'found labels' for a variety of animals, producing some lovely descriptive writing. During PE, the focus was on learning how to pass correctly, practising using the inside of the foot to pass towards a given target. In PSHE, the children learned some interesting facts about Sir David Attenborough, helping them understand why he is such a significant and inspiring figure.

In **Oak Class** this week, the children have continued to master their recall of multiples of 4 and 8 and have been looking into the relationship between these and multiples of 2. In English, Oak have been working together to generate some dialogue between characters in one of our mystery pictures from 'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick'. After imagining what the characters might be saying to each other, the children have been 'popping speech bubbles' to correctly punctuate their dialogue, followed by a reporting clause using synonyms for 'said' and adverbs.

In celebration of David Attenborough turning 100 years old today, the children have also been finding out about the life and work of Attenborough, which ties in brilliantly with our science lesson this week on animal food chains.

It has been a joyful and inspiring week across the school, filled with creativity, thoughtful discussion and a shared celebration of someone who has helped generations learn to care for our planet.

Team Barty

ATTENDANCE

National Target: 95%
School Attendance: 100%

NOTICES

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. ❤️

Forest School Update

Thank you to everyone who got in touch following our Facebook update about our Forest School area - we really appreciate your support.. Peak Venues, who manage the Crewe and Harpur, visited school and have offered to place signage by our Forest School area asking for the space to be respected.

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.

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.

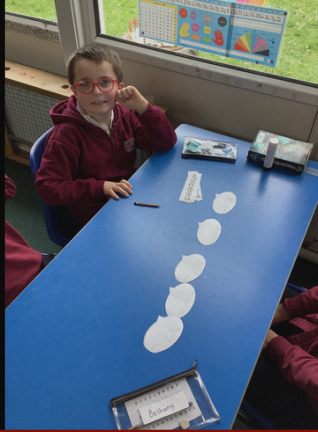
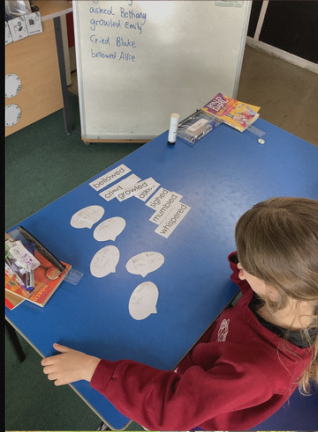
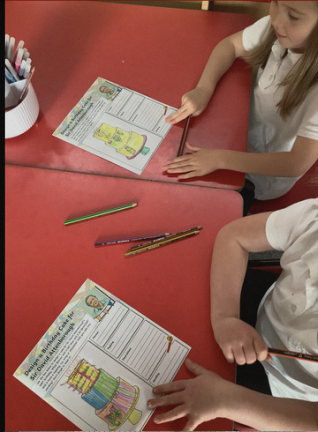
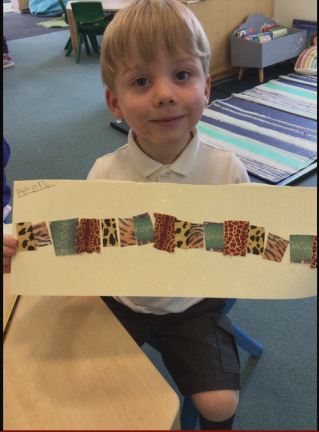
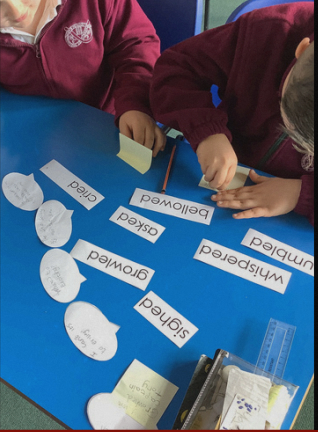
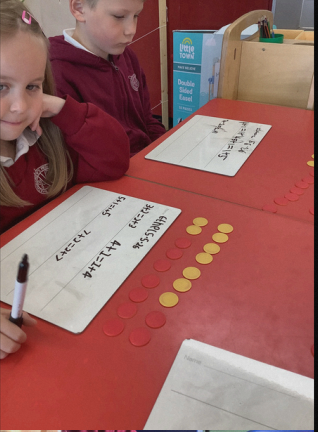
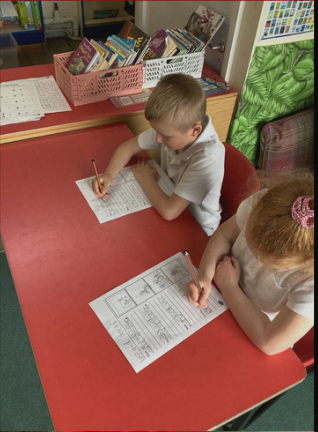


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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.

- 11th to 15th May - Mental Health Awareness Week
- 14th May - Wear It Green Day
- 20th May - PTA AGM (3:30pm) - Everyone welcome!
- 25th May to 29th May - Half term break
- 1st June - Inset day (school closed to children)
- 2nd June - School re-opens to pupils
- 2nd June - Y4/5 pupils to Inspire event at Lichfield Cathedral
- 14th June - Summer Fair & Longnor Open
- 24th to 26th June - Oak Class residential
- 17th 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 helping neurodivergent children navigate the online world

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

1 TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD

You wouldn't allow a child to cross a road without guidance – you'd hold their hand, use a pedestrian crossing, and model safe behaviour. In the same way, a neurodivergent child's first experiences online should be supported by an adult who can guide and explain safe and responsible digital behaviour to them from the outset.

2 MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE

Children learn from what they see. Show all children, regardless of neurotype, what responsible internet use looks like. Reflect on your own use of social media and AI. Consider how often you use them and your own understanding of these platforms. Talk openly about when and why you use these tools, helping all children develop a balanced and informed approach.

3 KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Current government guidance suggests no solo screen use below the age of two, with a maximum of one hour per day for two- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection when shared with an adult. However, passive watching can affect neurodivergent children's attention and language skills. Focus on the type of content they watch, encouraging slower-paced and meaningful material rather than fast-paced, overstimulating content.

4 CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES

For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be beneficial, but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may find online communication easier than real-world conversation, supporting their social interaction. However, it shouldn't be their only option. Encourage a range of activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for real-world connections.

5 KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may worry about getting things wrong or being misunderstood, meaning these kinds of conversations should feel open and fair, rather than like a lecture. If a child encounters a problem – such as a scam or inappropriate content – they need to feel able to speak to a trusted adult without fear of judgement or embarrassment.

6 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parental settings that can control access. Schools and families should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be used, based on trust and consistency. Involving children in discussions that affect them helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.

8 UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT

The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and stories. These can be difficult to identify. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check the information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may interpret content literally, meaning adult guidance is important in helping them recognise what's real and reliable – and what isn't.

9 EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS

AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on prompts and patterns, and its accuracy depends on how it's used. Sometimes, it produces incorrect or unrealistic information, known as 'hallucinations'. Both adults and children need to understand this and learn how to check information carefully using reliable and trusted sources.

10 CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS

AI can feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in user input rather than human understanding. Some neurodivergent children may experience a sense of connection with AI chatbots, particularly if they find social situations challenging. It's therefore important to explain that these are simulated conversations and aren't a substitute for real, human relationships.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lawri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with nurseries, schools, colleges, and businesses to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She is the Founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of "The Other 29 – How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class".



See full reference list on our website

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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) 23/2/26, 16/3/26, 6/4/26, 27/4/26, 18/5/26, 8/6/26, 29/6/26	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Chocolate Brownie (Ve) 2/3/26, 23/3/26, 13/4/26, 4/5/26, 25/5/26, 15/6/26, 6/7/26	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips Veg of the Day Chocolate Brownie (Ve) 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.

V - Vegetarian - Ve - Vegan

Next week we will be on week three of the menu

COMMUNITY

The next session of Tea and Tots Too takes place on Monday.
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

COMMUNITY

The next Forest Friends session will take place on Monday 1st June 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



Free thanks to funding from The Staffordshire Freemasons

For more details contact getwild@staffs-wildlife.org.uk

COMMUNITY



PTA AGM

20th May 2026

3:30pm

Everyone welcome!