



NEWSLETTER

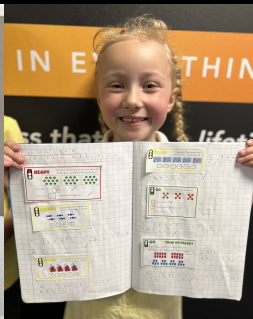
FRIDAY 10TH MAY 2024

ISSUE NO.30

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



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EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

This week, the focus of my message is towards the SATs assessments that children in Year 6 across the country will sit next week:

To the parents of children in Year 6 who will take their SATs tests next week. During SATs week, please remember that among our children there is an artist who struggles with maths...an entrepreneur who who has worked hard to improve their reading...a musician who sometimes makes spelling mistakes.... an athlete that finds it hard to focus sat at a desk. Whilst we all want our children to do their very best and demonstrate **'Excellence in Everything'**, if they don't get 'top marks', lets not take away their self-confidence and dignity that we have all worked together to build up during their time at Warren Farm. Tell them it's ok and they tried their best. We believe that children who attend Warren Farm are destined for big things in life and the character that they have developed alongside the progress that they have made academically throughout their journey will stand them in good stead to achieve greatness that lasts a lifetime!

While we want our children to achieve the best that they can, the outcomes of their SATs will not define who they are as an individual. The character of an individual says more about you than a single test result. These tests do not measure your child's character traits such as: **Courage, Honesty, Integrity, Respect or Self Discipline** - attributes that will undoubtedly set them on a path to achieve greatness into their adult lives.

A reminder that each day we will be holding an additional breakfast club for Year 6 children only. They will need to enter through the main hall door at the Year 5 and 6 gate at 08:00. The children will be provided with a range of breakfast items and refreshments to help them ensure they are prepared and ready for their assessments.

The school community wish Year 6 the very best of next week. You've got this Year 6! Believe you can and you're halfway there!

I'm sure you will join me in wishing Year 6 a great week next week.

Make it a great weekend

EVERYBODY IS A GENIUS BUT IF YOU JUDGE A FISH BY ITS ABILITY TO CLIMB A TREE IT WILL LIVE ITS WHOLE LIFE BELIEVING THAT IT IS STUPID

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Mr Taylor

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 13th May	SATs Week Year 6
Tue 21st May	Year 5 MPCT Young Leaders parent assemblies
Wed 22nd May	Reception Trip Warwickshire play village
Fri 24th May	World Bee day celebrations Wear Yellow and Black
Fri 24th May	Break up for Half Term
Mon 3rd June	All children return to school
Mon 24th June	Sports Day Wyndley Leisure Centre
Fri 28th June	School closed Staff training

COURAGE

HONESTY

INTEGRITY

RESPECT

SELF
DISCIPLINE



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EARLY YEARS



This week in Early Years we have been enjoying our outdoor environment in the glorious sunshine! We've practised directional language as well as focusing on maps in Reception - we've looked at treasure maps, google maps and road maps. In Maths, we are still working on numbers from 1-20, focusing particularly on the teen numbers. Please continue to practise this at home with your children. As the weather warms up, please send your child to school with appropriate sun protection such as sunglasses and sun hats. Please note, we are not allowed to put sunscreen on children however we can supervise them putting it on themselves. Finally, please ensure you are in school on time by 8:50 everyday.

KEY STAGE 1

This week in KS1 children have been composing their own piece of music similar to our class song 'friendship'. Children used the glockenspiel and their knowledge of rhythm and beat to help them. Additionally, Year 2 pupils have started their new maths unit 'Mass, Capacity and Temperature'. The children are learning about comparing mass and reading different standard of units on scales. The children who had excellent attendance this term particularly enjoyed the 'Attendance Bouncy Castle'. There will be another opportunity in the future for your child to participate so please ensure they are in school, on time, everyday.



ATTENDANCE

This week, the majority of children have reaped the reward of ensuring they are in school, on time, every day. In the period of time that we have been running this challenge, we have seen a significant upturn in our attendance. This demonstrates that we are capable of achieving 'Excellence in Everything' with a reward on the horizon. However, the challenge for us, as a school, is to continue with the same high standard throughout the year, knowing that the incentive is a full, rounded and excellent education. One parent this week approached me to say, "Mr Davis, my daughter has been a little under the weather but she wants to be in school and I know that this is where she needs to be." What a fantastic attitude from both child and parent!



NAH	94.1%
RMH	93%
RLM	91%
1CO	96%
1/2YG	87.5%
2HM	93.1%
3AB	96.1%
3/4SK	95.3%
4DN	97.1%
5AS	94%
5/6NW	94.7%
6BP	98%

HEALTH FOR LIFE

Sweetcorn fritters with an egg and black bean salsa

To celebrate the sun coming out this week, this week's recipe can be made for as a light brunch or take to a picnic on a sunny day.

Ingredients: 1 small onion and red pepper, 100g of wholemeal self-raising flour, 1tsp of baking powder, a can of sweetcorn and 6 large eggs. For the salsa you need: 1 small onion, 4 tomatoes, 2 cans of black beans and 1 lime zested.

Method

Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and line a large baking tray with baking parchment.

Heat the oil in a small pan and fry the onion and pepper for 5 mins until softened. Meanwhile, mix the flour, spices and baking powder in a bowl. Add the onions, pepper, corn and 2 of the eggs, then mix together well.

Spoon eight mounds of the mixture onto the baking tray, well spaced apart, then flatten slightly with the back of the spoon. Bake for 20 mins until set and golden.

Meanwhile, mix together the salsa ingredients and poach 2 of the remaining eggs to your liking. Serve four fritters on the day you make them, topped with half the salsa and the poached eggs. The remaining fritters can be frozen and reheated another day.





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SAFEGUARDING

This week's safeguarding focus is around sun safety. As the weather starts to warm up and the sun is shining it's important that we protect our skin.

Below are some top tips for being safe in the sun

- Use a sunscreen with a minimum SPF 50 and at least 4 stars for UVA protection.
- Reapply sunscreen if you have been in the water
- Wear sunglasses with UV protection
- Wear a sunhat and loose clothing made of breathable fabrics
- Seek shade between 11:00 and 3:00, this is when the sun is the strongest.
- Drink lots of water to stay hydrated.

SEND

Deaf Awareness Week - 6th - 12th May

Around 2 million people in the UK have hearing aids - about 800,000 are severely or profoundly deaf. Adults and children who are deaf or have hearing impairment can face communication barriers which can make people feel isolated and have a lack of confidence. If you have to interact with someone who is deaf, make sure you gain their attention before communicating with them, use your normal voice, shouting does not make anything clearer. In school, we use a range of resources to support children including visual props and Makaton. For further information and top tips for supporting friends and family with hearing loss visit the [National Deaf Children's Society](https://www.nationaldeafchildrensociety.org/).

CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Whole Class
RMH	Dante Carty
RLM	Caden Scott
1CO	Alicia-Mae Firkin
1/2YG	Camelia Sheau
2HM	Esma Beljulji
3AB	Hassan Ali
3/4SK	Manteneh Marah
4DN	Lola Simmons
5AS	Holly Taylor
5/6NW	Crystal Foster
6BP	Wenbo Li



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

We have been very busy in Year 3 and 4 this week. In Music we have continued to produce our own Grime music using YuStudio. In art we have used wax crayons to create background patterns and used tools to scratch out marks. On Friday afternoon, 3/4SK and 4DN participated in a Tri-Golf festival and had the opportunity to try a new sport and take part in a variety of golfing activities.

Just a reminder that as the warm weather approaches, please ensure that your child has their school water bottles in school with them.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

During Young Leaders this week, Year 5 have been practising 'parade' in preparation for their assembly in a couple of weeks time. The children have worked exceptionally hard to perfect their self discipline and timing. We look forward to seeing you celebrate with the children when they graduate!

Next week, Year 6 will be sitting their SATs tests. They have been so dedicated to their studies and I am sure you will join me in wishing them every success. Please ensure **all Year 6 children** are in school at 8:00am every morning for their pre SATs breakfast.





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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 HELLDIVERS 2



Within weeks of release, Helldivers 2 had become one of 2024's biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PEGI 18 RATING



Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, Helldivers 2 carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like giant bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It's certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In Helldivers 2, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

Helldivers 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a roll of the dice, as the game can't control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game's 'Social' tab.

FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to Helldivers 2's appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

LACK OF ACCESS

The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can't get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as Helldivers 2.



Advice for Parents & Educators

GIVE IT A GO FIRST



Helldivers 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for young players.

SET EXPECTATIONS



At the time of writing, Helldivers 2 costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it's worth considering whether Helldivers 2 is really the game for them.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES



If playing on Xbox – where Helldivers 2 isn't available – consider something like Halo: The Master Chief Collection as an alternative. One of its game modes – Firefight – replicates Helldivers' mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted Deep Rock Galactic, which sees them play as fantasy dwarves in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS



Many titles offer in-game purchases, but Helldivers 2's are comparatively cheap. You'll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk; on the whole, however, the game's selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS



Thanks to an in-game "Ping" system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn't as integral to Helldivers 2 as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5's own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won't be speaking to people they don't know.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of @GRcon, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.



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