



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2024

ISSUE NO.11

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING




Ofsted
 Good
 Provider



EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

This week we have taken another step as a whole school on our 'Compass for Life' journey, as children and staff embarked on a motivating and thought provoking day of self discovery led by Mr Davis, where children focused on identifying their 'Super North Star'. Activities through the day reinforced our commitment to provide an inclusive and enriching curriculum that goes beyond the academic linked to our vision of *Excellence in Everything*.

The 'Super North Star' concept encourages children to explore their personal aspirations and values, helping them to understand their unique place in the world. Through character education at Warren Farm, our children are not only learning about themselves but also about how they can contribute positively to society - in its simplest terms being '*Good people*'. This aligns with our core values of *Courage, Honesty, Integrity, Respect and Self Discipline*, which are integral in shaping our children into active citizens ready to embrace the challenges of modern life and inspire them to *achieve greatness that lasts a lifetime*.

As our children navigate their journey towards achieving greatness, we are committed to providing them with the skills, knowledge and importantly character needed to open doors to a world of opportunities. At Warren Farm, we believe that with the right support and guidance on their educational and personal journey, every child can demonstrate *Excellence in Everything - Achieving greatness that lasts a lifetime*.

As you will no doubt be all be aware, Christmas and the holiday season is creeping up on us and is just around the corner! Over the final 3 weeks of term, we will have a range of festive activities. Please ensure that you are checking our diary of events along with Class Dojo (*Individual class pages and the whole school story*) to ensure that you don't miss any of the events of the coming weeks, starting with our Christmas Crafternoons and Christmas Rocksteady concert next week before moving onto our Christmas Fayre, Christmas Jumper day, Nursery and Reception Nativity and our schools Christmas Dinner. Fostering strong community links and working with parents is integral to everything we do at Warren Farm and as always we appreciate your contributions and support during this time.

Make it a great weekend

Mr Taylor

*DON'T ASK YOURSELF WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS.
 ASK YOURSELF WHAT MAKES YOU COME ALIVE
 AND GO DO IT, BECAUSE WHAT THE WORLD
 NEEDS IS PEOPLE WHO HAVE COME ALIVE*

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 2nd December	Year 1 trip to Lichfield Cathedral
Tue 3rd December	Year 2 Christmas 'Crafternoon' 1:30pm-3:00pm
Wed 4th December	Year 1 Christmas 'Crafternoon' 1:30pm-3:00pm
Fri 6th December	Rocksteady Christmas Concert
Fri 13th December	School Christmas Fayre Christmas Jumper Day
Tue 17th December	Nursery and Reception Nativity 9:30am and 2:15pm
Wed 18th December	School Christmas Dinner
Fri 20th December	Break up for Christmas School closes 1:00

COURAGE

HONESTY

INTEGRITY

RESPECT

**SELF
DISCIPLINE**



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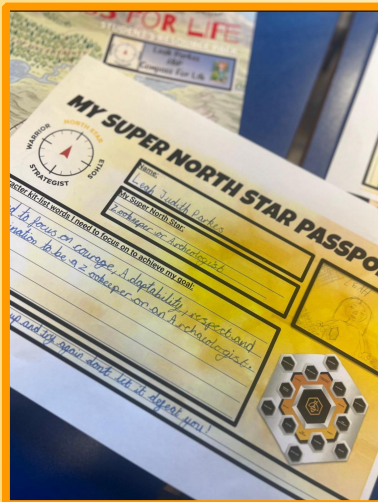


COMPASS FOR LIFE

‘Where the world sets its Super North Star’

This week has been truly significant for character education at Warren Farm, reinforcing our belief that **developing children’s character is the cornerstone of lifelong success.**

On Monday, we were privileged to welcome **Floyd Woodrow**, CEO of Compass for Life, who met with our **Student Navigators**. Floyd listened to their aspirations, shared invaluable advice, and discussed their exciting plans for the new House Groups. He also pledged his support for their community outreach projects, which are quietly taking shape—so keep an eye out for updates!

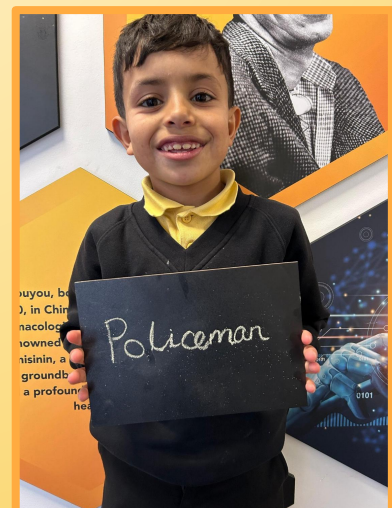


Yesterday, the entire school came together for our termly **Compass for Life Day**. Children across all year groups reflected on their **dreams, goals, and aspirations**, considering not only what they want to achieve but also the **values and characteristics** they’ll need to get there. The maturity and ambition they displayed were truly inspiring.

The day concluded with a powerful **sharing assembly**, where children presented their learning through poetry, song, dance, and even interviews. It was a creative and uplifting way to end an already inspiring day!

Our message remains clear: while we know that children’s **Super North Stars** may evolve as they grow, what’s most important is understanding that **success doesn’t just happen**. It requires key attributes like **ownership, work ethic, and a positive attitude.**

We’re so proud of our children and excited to see how their journeys unfold. Let’s continue striving for **Excellence in Everything!**





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EARLY YEARS



We've had a lovely week in Early Years of exploring light and dark through looking at Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, where the children have made beautiful pieces of artwork which are now in display in our classrooms. In Nursery, children have been reading *The Tiger Who Came To Tea*. We have also explored our dreams and ambitions for the future on *Compass For Life* day. Please can we remind parents that reading diaries should be signed and sent into every day so that children can earn their dojo points.



KEY STAGE 1

Thank you so much for the bottles donated last Friday! We're all excited for the fast-approaching holiday season. On No Pens Day Wednesday, KS1 got into the festive spirit by making Christmas cards, followed by creative activities like painting portraits and making collages. In Writing, Year 2 have been learning about persuasive language, preparing to write an email next week. In maths, Year 1 are focusing on their number bonds to 10. Finally, for *Compass For Life Day*, the children showed great courage, sharing their hopes and dreams for the future in front of the whole school!



ATTENDANCE

Since switching to tracking attendance in **days** rather than percentages, the impact of missed learning time has become much clearer. Recently, while showing prospective parents around the school, Mr. Taylor pointed out that our children have collectively missed **878 days** of education since the start of the academic year. One parent's surprise reflected what many of us are feeling—this is a powerful reality check.

While **94.2% attendance** may sound respectable in percentage terms, it highlights a significant loss of learning. At Warren Farm, our commitment is to **Excellence in Everything**, and we recognise that improving attendance is essential to achieving this.

We are determined to work together—staff, parents, and students—to ensure every child benefits from the full learning experience. Let's keep aiming high!



HEALTH FOR LIFE

The health for life project in school has helped us to ensure the children at Warren Farm lead healthy lives and understand the importance of physical activity as part of their lifestyle.

We have purchased new cooking equipment which will support us in teaching the food curriculum in Design and technology. We have also purchased a variety of play equipment for the playground- this has ensured that the children are able to participate in a range of games when outside. Next week we have our quality assurance visit and are excited to show the advisor all the work that has taken place as part of this project, but also in the future too. One of the main objectives for the project is to be sustainable once the project ceases. To ensure that the work done is embedded into the school curriculum and to inspire the children at Warren Farm to lead healthy lifestyles.





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SAFEGUARDING

This week's focus is Early help. Early help intervention can help families, individuals and is used when a problem first emerges. The main focus for early help services is to improve outcomes for children and ensure that they are safe. Early help can be used for a range of issues that can include poor attendance, risk of offending, difficulties at home and substance abuse. A range of professionals can work together to help the family and create a plan that ensures that the problem does not lead to further harm for the family and children. Early help can be given by the school or by trained professionals who can work with the families with a range of evidence-based interventions to help support them.

SEND

International Day of People with Disabilities - Tuesday 3rd December 2024

The International Day of People with Disabilities is a day dedicated to recognising and celebrating the accomplishments of individuals with disabilities, while also promoting understanding and acceptance of their identities.

This half term, the children have been exploring the theme of Valuing Differences as part of their PSHE lessons. We have discussed how each of us is unique, and that this uniqueness can include disabilities. It's important to remember that not all disabilities are visible, and those that are hidden are just as significant as the visible ones.

CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Om Chris Dey
RMH	Khalaf Sharif
RYG	David Khorrami
1CO	Phoebe Maddix
1/2HM	Oluwatofunmi Benson
2DN	Finley Maddix
3AB	Louie Priest
3/4LM	Esma Beljulji
4SM	Manteneh Marah
5AS	Alayna Butt
5/6NW	Hollie Treharne
6BP	Jacob Davies



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

This week, 6 boys and 6 girls from Year 3 and Year 4, represented our school at an athletics competition at St Edmund Campion. The children competed against other schools in running, jumping and throwing events. Warren Farm won 4 out of the 6 field events and all of the running races, crowning them the champions of the night! A huge congratulations to the children that competed for representing Warren Farm and being victorious!



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

This week, our Year 5 students have been busy with a range of exciting activities! In their Young Leaders session, they tested their health and fitness through engaging challenges. Wednesday was a "No Pens Day," where creativity took center stage as the children painted real-life flowers using acrylic paints and pens. In Maths, we explored equivalent fractions using fraction wheels, helping to deepen understanding through hands-on learning. Finally, our Compass for Life Day inspired students to showcase their hopes, dreams, and aspirations, reflecting on the bright futures they envision for themselves.





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NAH
2
DAYS OFF

RMH
NO
DAYS OFF



RYG
6
DAY OFF

1CO
7
DAYS OFF

1/2HM
12
DAYS OFF

2DN
8
DAYS OFF

6NOV
DAYS OFF

3AB
6
DAYS OFF

3/4LM
15
DAYS OFF

4SM
27
DAYS OFF

5AS
16
DAY OFF

5/6NW
10
DAYS OFF

6BP
4
DAYS OFF





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CHRISTMAS
NON-UNIFORM
DAYS

Children are invited to come in non-school uniform and in return we are asking for a donation for our Christmas Fayre.

22ND NOVEMBER - BOTTLES
29TH NOVEMBER - GIFT SETS
6TH DECEMBER - CHOCOLATES



WARREN FARM
PRIMARY SCHOOL



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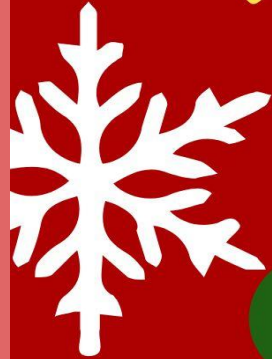


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WARREN FARM
PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 1

Christmas
CRAFTERNOON



We are excited to invite you to our Christmas Crafternoon! Join us for a fun and festive afternoon filled with creative activities, holiday music, and plenty of holiday cheer. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with your child as we make special holiday crafts together. No crafting experience needed—just bring your enthusiasm and holiday spirit! We look forward to celebrating the season with you and making memories that will last a lifetime.

What to expect:

- ✓ DIY craft stations for personalized holiday creations
- ✓ Christmas snacks and refreshments
- ✓ **LOTS OF FUN!!**

4
DECEMBER
1:30 - 3PM



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WARREN FARM
PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 2

Christmas

CRAFTERNOON



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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.

SNAP STREAK

97 DAYS

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2023>

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