



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 28TH MARCH 2025

ISSUE NO.25

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

Welcome back to another week of Excellence in Everything at Warren Farm. This week, senior leaders from the Perry Barr consortium attended a conference with Hywel Roberts- author of the book 'Botheredness'. During the session, he shared a number of thought provoking and challenging ideas for leaders in education. He discussed how tapping into children's innate curiosity and willingness to suspend disbelief in the company of an engaging adult, enables teachers to breathe life into the curriculum in a way that has children learning and eager for more. This resonated with everything that we stand for at Warren Farm as we continue to deliver **Excellence in Everything** across the curriculum on daily basis. In recent weeks, Mr Davis has launched a weekly Friday 'Highlight Reel' which showcases life beyond the school gates - you can view these on Class Dojo, our social media channels and the Parent's section of our school website. We are extremely proud of all we continue to achieve together at Warren Farm and this is just another way of sharing the hard work of your children, staff and school community with the wider educational community .

Our community fundraising initiative entered it's third week on Tuesday as Staff Mike from MPCT Young Leaders helped South Student Navigators lead a Camo themed day. Children demonstrated many of our **Character Waypoints** such as **Teamwork, Adaptability, Motivation and Problem Solving** as they tackled the course together. Next week, we enter our final week of activities with the highly anticipated **Soak the Teacher** after school on Thursday which will take place on the EYFS playground. Look out for details on Dojo - it's sure to make a big Splash!

It was great to see so many of our parents/carers attend our Year 3 and 4 Mother's Day 'Crafternoon' events. As always, it was a case of standing room only as you once again demonstrated your commitment to **Excellence in Everything**. Parental engagement and community spirit is vital to our continued and shared success.

To make it extra special for our mothers and significant female role models, don't forget that the clocks go forward an hour on Saturday night as we enter British Summer time, hopefully our children get the memo and stay in bed for an hour!

Make it a great weekend and Happy Mother's Day *Mr Taylor*



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 31st March	Ukulele Concert - Year 3 and 4 parents only 2:00pm
Tue 1st April	Year 4 RE Trip Birmingham Buddhist Vihara
Tue 1st, Wed 2nd, Thur 3rd April Year 3 and 4 DT Workshops (See Class Dojo)	
Thur 3rd April	Soak the Teacher EYFS Playground 3:30-4:00pm
Fri 4th April	Rocksteady Concert 2:00pm
Mon 7th April	Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Easter Bonnet Parades
Tue 8th April	Whitmoor Lakes Parent Meeting Year 5 Parents 15:30
Tue 8th April	EYFS Trip Twycross Zoo

"Community is much more than belonging to something; it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter."

Brian Sells



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EARLY YEARS

We've really enjoyed the bursts of sunshine this week in EYFS! Both Nursery and Reception have spent lots of time learning and exploring in our outdoor environment, and getting as much physical exercise as we can. Thank you to everyone who supported our Camo day - check out your Class Dojo pages for pictures! This week Reception have continued to explore number bonds to 10, which is helping to build their mathematical fluency with number and number patterns. Please make sure you have returned both the consent and money for our trip to Twycross Zoo on **Tuesday 8th April**. Keep checking Class Dojo for further information.



KEY STAGE 1

The children have been exploring our science topic, 'Bulbs, Seeds, and Plants,' through a series of exciting experiments. They planted their own seeds and bulbs, learning about the growth process, and experimented with changing the colours of flower petals. They also dissected various fruits to discover the seeds or bulbs inside, gaining a hands-on understanding of how plants reproduce. In addition, a reminder that our Easter Bonnet Parade will take place on **Monday, 7th April**. Please help your child create a fun and creative bonnet at home, as there will be prizes for the most imaginative designs. We look forward to seeing all the fantastic bonnets!



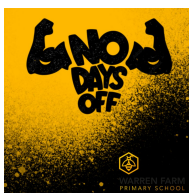
ATTENDANCE

The Department for Education has recently published research showing a clear link between school attendance and future outcomes — not just in terms of academic success, but also in long-term earnings and career opportunities.

Children with good attendance are more likely to achieve higher grades at GCSE and go on to have better chances in further education, employment, and future earnings. In fact, even small drops in attendance can have a noticeable impact on progress.

At Warren Farm, we want every child to have the very best start in life — and that begins with being in school, on time, every day. We understand that illness and exceptional circumstances do happen, but where possible, every day of learning makes a difference. Thank you for working with us to prioritise attendance — it truly is an investment in your child's future.

This week's House attendance winners are...EAST!



Thursday 3rd April

SOAK THE TEACHER

What: West House's fundraiser event- throw wet sponges at a teacher
 When: Thursday 3rd April after school
 Where: The middle playground outside Early Years
 Who: 10 'willing' volunteer teachers ready to be soaked

WHITEMOOR LAKES MEETING

Parent meeting Tuesday 8th April 3:30pm

Parents of **ALL** children currently in Year 5 are invited to join us for a Whitemoor Lakes information meeting in preparation for our Year 6 residential in September 2025. We are working hard to ensure that this trip is accessible to **ALL** children with no exceptions. A fantastic way to start Year 6!



Excellence in Everything
Belonging



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SAFEGUARDING

This week the staff received training about trauma and the effects it can have on a child. A traumatic event is a frightening, dangerous, or violent event that poses a threat to a child's life or bodily integrity. Witnessing a traumatic event that threatens life or physical security of a loved one can also be traumatic. This is particularly important for young children as their sense of safety depends on the perceived safety of their attachment figures. Every child is different and can also react in very different ways. The trauma can present itself through the child's behaviours and the way that they interact with the adults and other children. For more information about this topic visit; [Trauma UK](https://www.trauma-uk.org/).

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

It is easy to think about improving our health by being more active. It is also important for us to think about the health of our brain. Three things to try:

Limit social media use: while social media can be a tool for connection it can also contribute to stress. Set boundaries on screen time.

Talk about your feelings: if you're feeling overwhelmed talk to someone you trust. This can help with stress and provide support.

Set realistic goals: break tasks into manageable steps and be kind to yourself if things don't go perfectly. Celebrate small victories!

CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Emma Scheau
RMH	Clark Simmons
RAY	Skyla-Rose Haines
1CO	Hunter Mckeown
1/2HM	Lilly Evans
2DN	Lacey Sherwin
3AB	Kaiden Zaman
3/4LM	Araiya Johnson
4SM	Tamiah Simmonds
5AS	Desire Soyannwo
5/6NW	Tei'Chjana Kesto
6BP	Andre Harris



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

What a wonderful time we had celebrating Mother's Day with a special Crafternoon! The children joined their significant female role models for an afternoon full of creativity and joy. From making stained glass heart crafts to fuzzy art wreaths, the room was filled with laughter and colourful masterpieces. It was a perfect way to honour the amazing women who play such important roles in our lives, while also making lasting memories through art and togetherness. A reminder that next week we are hosting DT workshops in the mornings and a ukulele concert. Please see dojo for more information.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

In Science, we explored the fascinating question: *Is burning a reversible change?* Through hands-on investigations, pupils observed the effects of burning different materials and discussed why some changes, like melting, can be undone, while others—such as turning wood to ash—are permanent. It was an action-packed week filled with fitness! As part of the South House fundraiser, our pupils took on a challenging assault course, pushing themselves to climb, crawl, and conquer each obstacle with determination. As part of Young Leaders, Year 5 also participated in a special fitness session.





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CHARACTER CURRICULUM

'Character in Action: Fundraising with Purpose'

This week, it was South House in the spotlight with their fantastic camouflage-themed day and obstacle course challenge — and once again, the response from our Warren Farm community was nothing short of incredible!

The children looked amazing in their themed outfits, but even more impressive was their attitude and energy on the day. The obstacle course was expertly set up and run by our brilliant South Navigators, with support from Staff Mike from MPCT Young Leaders.

This was yet another opportunity for our pupils to showcase key Character Kit-List Waypoints in action — with Attitude, Communication, Motivation, and Teamwork all shining through.

As our fundraising events draw to a close next week, we're building up to a big finale with West House's brilliant idea: 'Soak the Teacher' — one last chance to have fun and raise money for a great cause!

We're edging closer to our £1000 target, and we're so proud of what we've achieved together so far. It's a true testament to the spirit and generosity of the wider Warren Farm family.

BRITISH VALUES

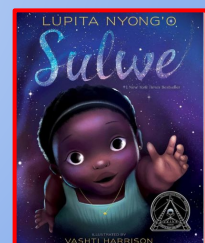
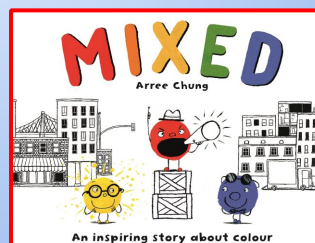
British Values and Our Character Kit List: Growing Stronger Together

British values are woven through the curriculum that we teach. This week we look at the value of **Tolerance**.

Tolerance is the understanding that we don't all share the same values and beliefs. We need to learn to respect the values, ideas and beliefs of others.

The more that children know about other cultures and religions, the more they are able to understand and appreciate the likenesses and differences leading to a harmonious culture.

Teaching tolerance of other cultures and religions is intrinsic within our curriculum at Warren Farm. We have a zero tolerance policy to racism and teach our children through RE, PSHE and different texts that everybody is different and this should be celebrated. Some of the books we have in our library that show this well are:





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NAH
4
DAYS OFF

RMH
9
DAYS OFF

RYG
3
DAYS OFF



1Co
12
DAYS OFF

1/2HM
7
DAY OFF

2DN
14
DAYS OFF

6NOV
DAYS OFF

3AB
6
DAYS OFF

3/4LM
15
DAYS OFF

4SM
12
DAYS OFF

5AS
7
DAY OFF

5/6NW
2
DAYS OFF

6BP
9
DAYS OFF





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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 BLUESKY



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'Advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.



LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.



ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.



KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



Meet Our Expert

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



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

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