



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2025

ISSUE NO.2

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

We are well and truly back into the swing of things at Warren Farm as children have returned seamlessly into the routine of **Excellence in Everything** across the school. This week it's a 'Full house' as our Nursery children - the newest members of the Warren Farm team - started school. You may even have spotted them on ITV National News on Tuesday when reporters joined us to speak with parents and myself about the recently published Ofsted Report card which will be implemented later in the autumn term. Parents spoke with passion and confidence about why they chose Warren farm for their children. Their stories highlighted what truly makes our school special: the strong sense of community, the high-quality education and provision and most importantly the values which underpin every decision we make. Our vision of **Excellence in Everything** is brought to life daily through our school values of **Courage, Honesty, Integrity, Respect and Self Discipline**. These values are made tangible through our **Character Kit List Waypoints** - the skills and qualities that prepare our children for success both inside and beyond the classroom.

This week, children across the school began their journey on the next stage of our bespoke Character Education Curriculum, written by Mr Davis. For this half term, the Character Waypoints focus on **Communication** and **Leadership**. These are core, high-leverage skills that underpin all others. Early exposure helps children express themselves, listen well, and influence positively. Already, children are reflecting on how they express themselves, how they listen to others and how they take initiative in different settings and environments. Importantly, this focus is not confined to our school walls - parents and carers can support these conversations at home, reinforcing the skills and behaviours that will serve children well throughout their lives.

At Warren Farm, we know that what we build together will not be measured simply by numbers in boxes, instead it will be in the lifelong impact on our children far beyond their time at Warren Farm. As the proverb says "A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit it." At Warren Farm, we are planting seeds of knowledge, skills and Character which will enable our children to go on to become confident and courageous young people who will shape the world around them.

Make it a great weekend !

Mr Taylor



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 15th September	Reception and Nursery Parent welcome meeting 9:00am
Tues 16th September	Year 1 and 2 Parent welcome meeting 9:00am
Wed 17th September	Year 3 and 4 Parent welcome meeting 9:00am
Thur 25th September	Individual school photographs
Friday 26th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Wk Beg Mon 6th October	Harvest Week - donations of food to be brought into school
Tue/Wed 7/8th October	Parents Evening all year groups 3:30pm -6:00pm

"What starts here changes the world."

Admiral William H. McRaven



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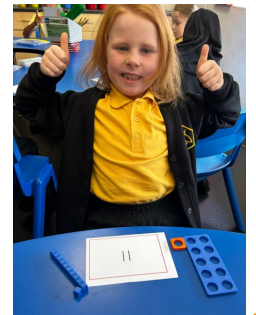
EARLY YEARS



The children have settled into wonderfully to both reception and nursery this week. We've spent lots of our time exploring ourselves through artwork and circle time. Please make sure a full P.E kit is in school next week with all items labelled. Please also ensure your child's reading bag is labelled - if you do not have a Warren Farm bookbag, speak to your class teacher. Additionally, snack pots and lunch boxes must also be labelled, and ensure grapes are always cut in half to avoid choking. Please remember we do not allow fruit shoots or sugary drinks in the classroom, only water in their school water bottles. Finally, we do not permit children to wear jewellery to school - earrings must be small studs that can be covered during P.E. Thank you for your cooperation.

KEY STAGE 1

Firstly, thank you for attending our first Stay and Read of the year! It was wonderful to see so many of you celebrating a love of reading. Year 1 and 2 began their first maths unit on place value. They enjoyed using a range of concrete resources to represent numbers. This helps them to build a secure understanding of place value, giving them a strong foundation for more complex maths later on. The children also conducted their first Science investigation of the year, exploring pattern seeking questions such as "Are the tallest children the oldest?" They used teamwork and communication skills to draw their conclusions. Lastly, we look forward to seeing many of you at our Parent welcome meeting on Tuesday 16th September at 9am.



ATTENDANCE

You may have noticed on ClassDojo recently that I've been sharing our daily attendance figures. The reason for this is to highlight the real impact of lost learning. By reporting attendance in days, it gives a clear and tangible picture of how much school time is being missed. I'm pleased to say that our attendance has improved over the past three years, and the number of children classed as 'Persistently Absent' has reduced significantly. This is something we should all feel proud of. However, we are still aiming for 'Excellence in Everything', and our message of *No Days Off* remains as important as ever. Since returning less than two weeks ago, **we have already lost 174 days of school** across the whole community. This stark figure is a reminder that attendance remains a key focus.

Our goal is simple: children should be in school, Monday to Friday, from 8:40 until 3:20. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please speak with their class teacher or with Mr Davis directly as Attendance Lead. Together, we can make sure every child benefits fully from the opportunities that school provides.

YEAR 6 SECONDARY APPLICATIONS

Online admissions opened on 1 September 2025 for Year 7 September 2026 places. Parent/carers resident in Birmingham should apply through the Birmingham City Council website <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> up until the **deadline of 31 October 2025**. If you require support with the admission arrangements and process please speak to the school office. Advice and support is also available from Children's Services on 0121 303 1888

PARENTS EVENING
TUESDAY 7TH
WEDNESDAY 8TH
OCTOBER
3:30PM - 6:00PM





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SAFEGUARDING

All staff working in an educational setting regularly update their safeguarding training. Annually, a document called Keeping children safe in education is released. Some of the updates on that document for this year include; Attendance is now treated as a safeguarding issue, with stronger links to school attendance guidance, online safety risks now include *misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories*, alongside content, contact, conduct and commerce, clearer guidance on filtering, monitoring, the safe use of generative AI in schools and updated expectations around alternative provision and support for children in kinship care and refreshed language and clarified processes in referrals, SEND, and safeguarding roles. These changes help us to strengthen our practice.

INCLUSION

This academic year, Miss Gosling will continue to run a SENCO parent Clinic every Wednesday Afternoon. We believe that a partnership between the parents and school help to ensure that the child's needs are met. This is your chance as a parent/carer to talk to Miss Gosling about any concerns or queries regarding your SEND child's support and education. It gives you an opportunity to share strategies that may be used to at home to support the child's needs. If you would like to book an appointment, please contact the school office and they will help you book a slot. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

SCHOOL P.E KIT

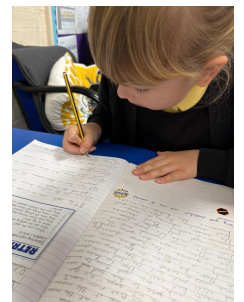
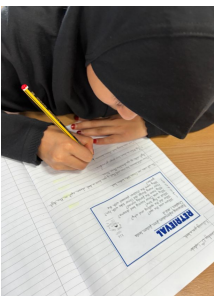
At Warren Farm, our vision is Excellence in Everything. This extends to the way children present themselves in school, including their P.E. kit. We believe that a consistent approach to uniform not only reflects high standards, but also builds a strong sense of belonging, pride, and teamwork across our school community.

Following recent government guidance, schools are now limited in the number of branded items they can require as part of uniform (The school Bill when introduced will reduce this to a maximum of 3 branded items for a primary school) At Warren Farm, we have carefully reviewed our [uniform policy](#) to reduce the burden on families. As a result, the ONLY branded item that children MUST have is the Warren Farm P.E. top in their relevant house colour.

We have spoken with our supplier - [Clive Marks](#) - regarding the low stock of some of these items and they are working hard to update stock and additional larger sizes as a priority. Thank you for your support in maintaining high standards and helping us live out our vision of *Excellence in Everything*

LOWER KEY STAGE 2

We have had a fantastic week and started our new class books in reading and writing. Year 3 have been working on their punctuation, where as Year 4 have started to write a recount based on Omar's first day of school, from the book Planet Omar. It has been great to see such a high level of work ethic this week to ensure that their presentation is of a high standard. In Maths, both Year 3 and 4 have started working on place value. Please encourage your child to access Bug Club and TTR online as part of their homework. It is essential for supporting their learning at home.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

This week, our Year 5 and 6 pupils have begun working in their new Maths and English groups. For some children, this means learning with a different teacher for these subjects. We are really pleased with how smoothly the transition has gone – pupils have settled in quickly, and their behaviour has been exemplary throughout. As we get used to our new routines and the high expectations in both subjects, there is a real sense of enthusiasm and determination across the year groups. We look forward to seeing the progress the children will make as they grow in confidence and rise to the challenges ahead.





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NAH
6
DAYS OFF

RMH
8
DAYS OFF

RAY
6
DAY OFF

1CP
11
DAYS OFF

1/2DN
4
DAYS OFF



2AB
5
DAYS OFF

6NOV
16
DAYS OFF

3AS
16
DAYS OFF

3/4LM
12
DAYS OFF

4SM
16
DAYS OFF

5LM
7
DAY OFF

5/6NW
5
DAYS OFF



6BP
7
DAYS OFF





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TERM DATES 2025/26

All term dates can be found on our school website on the [following link](#) including the letter sent to parents on 13th February 2025. A reminder that once again for academic year 2025/26, we will be extending our October half term break to 2 weeks. As with previous years, to facilitate the extended half term holiday in October, we will only hold one training day on our return to school in September 2025, with the remaining 5 non contact training days that all schools are entitled to take each year being taken during the additional half term week in October. This will ensure that there are no teacher training days spread throughout the year where sporadic child care will be needed for your children.

Autumn 2025

Monday 1st September 2025 – INSET Day
Tuesday 2nd September 2025 – School opens to Year 1 – Year 6
Thursday 4th September 2025 – School opens to Reception pupils (new to Warren Farm)
Friday 5th September 2025 – School opens to Reception pupils (previously attended Warren Farm Nursery)
Monday 8th September 2025 – School opens to Nursery pupils
Half-term: Monday 20th October 2025 – Friday 31st October 2025 **(2 Weeks)**
Monday 3rd November 2025 – School opens to all children
Friday 19th December 2025 at 1:00pm – School closes
Christmas Holiday – Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring 2026

Monday 5th January 2026 – School opens to all children
Half-term: Monday 16th February 2026 – Friday 20th February 2026
Monday 23rd February 2026 - School opens to all children
Friday 27th March 2026 at 1:00pm – School closes
Easter Holiday – Monday 30th March 2026 – Friday 10th April 2026

Summer 2026

Monday 13th April 2026 – School opens to all children
Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May 2026
Half-term: Monday 25th May 2026 – Friday 29th May 2026
Monday 1st June 2026 – School opens to all children
Friday 17th July 2026 at 1:00pm – School closes





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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 CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The DfE guidance document, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and British Values, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more vulnerable to extremist narratives by isolating them from reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media platforms can often recommend sensationalist content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to frightening conspiracy content, such as global plots, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of anxiety, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies. Narratives that blame specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or particular ethnic groups, can groom children in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and radicalisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can lead to isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become distrustful of others who disagree; sometimes, confrontation can even result in a strengthening of the belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracies may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their ability to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

I WANT TO BELIEVE

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children and young people ask about conspiracy theories. Instead, create open, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strengthens trust and makes it more likely they will confide in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask appropriate questions, such as: Who is telling me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Use real examples from current media to explain your answers and reasoning.

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

Be aware of the content children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Reddit. Use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and influencers.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information in a variety of formats tailored to the young person's age. Build habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keefe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



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

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