



# NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2025

### ISSUE NO.8

## EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



### EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

## Message from Mr Taylor

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term after our two week half term break. As always it's been no surprise to see children return with a positive attitude ready for their learning and extra curricular opportunities this half term. I've no doubt that Children, staff and parents alike are ready to continue our journey of **Excellence in Everything** together, as we encourage each other to demonstrate **Courage, Honesty, Integrity, Respect and Self Discipline** in all that we do.

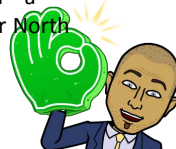
This week saw the publication of the national Curriculum and Assessment Review, which sets out a refreshed vision for a modern curriculum - one that places emphasis on areas such as financial education, citizenship, digital skills, curriculum enrichment and preparing children for life beyond school. We are pleased to share that much of the direction outlined in the review aligns closely with the work we have already been developing and implementing together over the last three years. Our focus on Character Education through weekly explicit teaching of our Character Waypoints and our commitment to broad enrichment opportunities for all children means that we are already ahead of the curve! I am proud to say that the dedication, skill and thoughtful planning of our leaders, teachers and support staff have ensured that our curriculum not only meets, but anticipates these national priorities. As the Secretary of State for Education wrote to schools this week:

*"Your commitment to helping every child achieve and thrive is what drives our education system forward...A modern curriculum must prepare our children for the future, enabling them to seize opportunities so they can achieve and thrive in the modern world"*

We are proud that our school community is already living this vision, ensuring that our children leave Warren Farm not only with strong academic foundations but with the knowledge, skills, confidence and character to succeed - opening the doors to a world of opportunities.

As we bring to a close the end of the first week of what is always an extremely busy time of year, we are already busy planning a mixture of focused learning, enrichment opportunities and events. Please keep an eye on communications through Class Dojo so that we can enjoy them all as a community. In doing so, we will continue to foster the strong sense of belonging that Warren Farm is becoming so well known for - a place where every child is known, valued and encouraged to follow their Super North Star. Make it a great weekend.

Mr Taylor



## DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Tue 11th November	Remembrance Assembly 11:00
Fri 14th November	Children in Need Non uniform day £1 Donation
Thurs 27th November	Mosque visit for year 6
Tue 2nd December	Year 2 Xmas Crafternoon
Wed 3rd December	Year 1 Xmas Crafternoon
Fri 5th December	Rocksteady Concert 2:15
Mon 8th December	Ukulele Concert for years 3 and 4 at 2:15
Fri 12th December	Christmas Fayre

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think."

Albert Einstein



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### EARLY YEARS

Welcome back! We've had such a packed week of learning all about fireworks and Diwali. The children have demonstrated adaptability and a good attitude as we bravely held sparklers in the playground. We really enjoyed watching the sparks, engaging our senses to listen and smell the sparklers. In Reception, we have also started learning our new text - 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy. In EYFS, we have really enjoyed exploring 'teamwork' which is our new character waypoint for this half term. Please continue to check Class Dojo regularly for any updates or key information.



### KEY STAGE 1

We've had a busy week in KS1 starting all of our new topics! For our Geography unit, 'We Are Britain', we began by using the VR Headsets to visit different locations around the UK. In Science, we grouped different materials and in DT, we looked at different toys, identifying ones with a wheel and axle mechanism. For more information about all of the topics we will be doing this half term, please see our Curriculum Maps posted on Class Dojo. Lastly, an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who has brought in recycling for our DT unit! Please continue to bring in tubes and milk bottle tops.



### ATTENDANCE

Attendance continues to be a significant area of concern this academic year. The number of children attending school is currently the lowest it has been in three years. This is incredibly disappointing, particularly given how hard we have worked to build resilience around attendance and to help children understand both the importance and the benefits of being in school every day. We now urgently need parents and carers to support us in ensuring that all children receive the excellent education they deserve and that begins with simply being in school. As stated on many occasions, we fully appreciate that genuine illness can occur. However, we continue to see clear patterns of absence that are not justified, for example, children missing single days sporadically without valid reason. Next week, parents of children who are at risk of becoming *persistently absent* (equivalent to missing 19 or more days across the school year) will be invited to meet with our Senior Attendance Champion, Mr Davis, who will offer support and guidance on how to ensure that children are in school, on time, every day.

### REMEMBRANCE POPPY APPEAL

This year we are once again supporting the British Legion Poppy appeal with various items that children can purchase. Poppies will be 50p each, small metal poppy badges £2 and all other items will be £1 each. Student Navigators will sell items daily from the yellow sofa



### CHILDREN IN NEED FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

This will be a non-school uniform day, the children can wear 'Pudsey' themed or their own clothes. A donation of £1 will help us to raise money for this charity. Children in Need helps many children in England and abroad to ensure that their basic needs are met and they are safe and happy.





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## SAFEGUARDING

This week's focus is around being safe outside as the weather gets dark. At this time of year, with reduced visibility for drivers your child is even more vulnerable near roads. It is important for them to wear reflective clothing and accessories. These are more effective in signalling pedestrians or cyclists to drivers. If you're a driver, remember it will be more difficult for you to see pedestrians and cyclists when it's dark. Not all the clothing, needs to be reflective, it could be an reflective accessory that is hung on your bike or scooter, or clipped onto your jumper or coat. The Be Bright, Be Seen website now has some online games which can be played with the children. These help to reinforce the message that reflective clothing help them to be seen in the dark, follow this link <https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/be-bright-be-seen-game/>

## INCLUSION

### School Health Support Service (School Nurse Team)

The School Nurse Team provides confidential advice, care, and support to children, young people, families, and schools. Their aim is to promote the physical and emotional health of pupils so they can achieve their best in education. This service is available to all children attending Birmingham mainstream schools and works closely with schools to support medical needs, provide staff training, and address health-related attendance issues. If you have any health concerns about your child, please speak to Miss Gosling to arrange an appointment.

## GIRLS FOOTBALL

Well done to our girls' football team on their second game of the season! Despite a narrow 1-0 loss to Highclare school the team demonstrated a wide variety of our character waypoints - Excellence in Everything at its very best! **Teamwork**, a positive **attitude**, strong **communication**, and admirable **adaptability** throughout the match. Their **motivation** and **work ethic** were clear to see, and we are incredibly proud of how they represented Warren Farm. Keep going, girls - you are growing in strength every game! In the words of many a great football manager "We go again!"



## LOWER KEY STAGE 2



Welcome Back! We have had a busy start to Autumn 2. Monday saw our Ukulele lesson resume. We have started our new topics with great enthusiasm. In Geography we are studying about weather, learning about different types of weather, the impact weather has on a region and how we measure weather. In Design and Technology, we are investigating mechanical levers. So we can design our own Christmas Cards. We have finished the week off having a fantastic time in our House teams. We have shown skills and development around teamwork and empathy, two of the waypoints we are focussing on this term. Our Marshmallow towers have been really impressive.

## UPPER KEY STAGE 2



Year 5 and 6 have settled back into school brilliantly after the break and have made a great start to the new term. In Science, we have begun learning about electricity, exploring how circuits work. In Geography, we're studying Europe, learning about its countries, cultures and landmarks. In Design and Technology, we'll soon be designing and creating our own moving toys, combining creativity with mechanical design. Finally, today, we spent the day in our house groups, taking part in activities that helped us build teamwork, leadership and empathy. It was wonderful to see everyone working together and showing such enthusiasm and respect for one another.





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**NAH**  
**3**  
**DAY OFF**



**RMH**  
**17**  
**DAYS OFF**

**RAY**  
**16**  
**DAY OFF**

**1CP**  
**7**  
**DAYS OFF**

**1/2DN**  
**13**  
**DAYS OFF**

**2AB**  
**8**  
**DAYS OFF**



**3NOV**  
**DAYS OFF**

**3AS**  
**14**  
**DAYS OFF**

**3/4LM**  
**12**  
**DAYS OFF**

**4SM**  
**15**  
**DAYS OFF**

**5LM**  
**14**  
**DAY OFF**

**5/6NW**  
**11**  
**DAYS OFF**

**6BP**  
**15**  
**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](http://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators GUIDING YOUNG VOICES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Bullying impacts the lives of many young people. In the UK, one in five pupils aged 10 to 15 report being bullied. The effects can be long lasting, affecting mental health, school attendance and self-esteem, and can impact long-term development into adult life. Adults play a key role in building young people's confidence to speak out, support one another, and stand up to unkind behaviour. This guide offers ways to help youngsters make a positive difference.

### 1 CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES

Help young people value diversity by showing that what makes us different is also what makes us strong. Encourage them to learn about different cultures, identities, and abilities through books, films, and conversations. By appreciating uniqueness in themselves and others, children can grow into open-minded individuals who build inclusive and welcoming environments.

### 2 MODEL RESPECT

Children watch and learn from how adults behave. Use respectful language, show patience in disagreements, and treat others with fairness – especially in front of children. By modelling inclusive behaviour and challenging unkindness, adults set a lasting example that respect should be part of every interaction, whether online, at school, or at home. Be the change you want to make.

### 3 SPOT THE SIGNS

Adults and young people should learn how to recognise signs that someone may be experiencing bullying. This might include withdrawal from friends, hobbies or interests, changes in mood, reluctance to go to school, or unusual injuries. Helping young people recognise these clues ensures that support can be offered sooner and problems do not go unnoticed.

### 4 VALIDATE FEELINGS

When a child shares something that worries them, it's important to listen carefully and validate how they feel. Respond with empathy – not judgement – and let them know it's okay to feel upset or confused. Offering reassurance and understanding helps young people feel safe about opening up, and builds the trust needed to talk again in future.

### 5 TEACH ALLYSHIP

Show children how to stand up for others in safe, respectful ways. Allyship might look like sitting next to someone who's been excluded, reporting hurtful behaviour, or speaking up when they witness bullying. By practising these responses together, you're helping children develop the courage to be kind and to take action when it really counts.

### 6 PROMOTE REPORTING

Ensure young people know how to report bullying and feel confident that they'll be taken seriously. Talk to them about who they can speak to and what to expect when they do, such as reporting school incidents to teachers, and out-of-school bullying to parents or teachers. Reassure them that reporting is a brave and helpful choice – not tattling – and that it plays a vital role in keeping everyone safe.

### 7 ENCOURAGE KINDNESS

Everyday acts of kindness can make a big difference in creating safer, happier spaces. Encourage children to look out for one another by being helpful, saying kind words, or including someone who feels left out. These small actions set a strong example that kindness matters, and that it can be a powerful response to bullying.

### 8 USE YOUR VOICE

Encourage young people to speak up for themselves and others. Whether through storytelling, school campaigns, or peer-led projects, children can learn that their voice has power. Support them to express themselves confidently and safely, helping them understand that sharing experiences can challenge injustice and inspire real change in their communities.

### 9 BUILD COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

Children thrive when they feel supported. Help them build strong friendships, join clubs or teams, and connect with trusted adults who care. These networks offer comfort, encouragement, and protection – particularly during challenging times. Remind children that they don't have to face difficulties alone and that support is always within reach.

### 10 SUSTAIN THE CONVERSATION

Bullying awareness shouldn't be limited to one week each year. Create regular opportunities to talk about kindness, respect, and inclusion. Use books, news stories, and personal experiences as conversation starters. Embed anti-bullying initiatives into the school, and make tackling bullying a shared, ongoing commitment.

### Meet Our Expert

Robert Allsop is an experienced pastoral and safeguarding practitioner, specialising in tutorials, behaviour interventions, and attendance management. A recipient of the Diana Award for Anti-Bullying, he has helped raise standards and improve Ofsted outcomes in some of the country's most challenging schools and colleges.



See full reference list on our website.

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