



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH

ISSUE NO.22

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

As always, the Warren Farm team showed what it truly means to belong during our World Book Day celebrations yesterday. Children and staff from across the school had a great day celebrating the power of books, sharing stories, talking about their favourite characters and enjoying reading together. Days like this are only possible thanks to the continued support of parents and carers and the unwavering dedication of our teachers and support staff who work tirelessly to create a culture where reading is valued and enjoyed by all.

As much fun as World Book Day was, our commitment to reading goes beyond a single day. Research from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) highlights just how important strong communication skills are for becoming confident readers. We know that successful reading depends on two key elements: the ability to decode words and the ability to understand language. Crucially, oral language - the ability to speak, listen and understand - forms the foundations of this development .

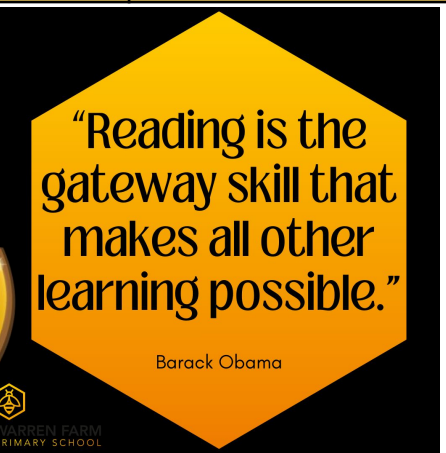
Evidence show that children who develop strong spoken language early in life are far more likely to become successful readers later on. While secure vocabulary and phonological skills at age five are strong predictors of reading success in later primary years. This is why developing Oracy is one of our key school improvement priorities this year. Through our work with 'Voice 21', we are continuing to develop opportunities for children to articulate their thinking, discuss ideas and build confidence when speaking in front of others. By explicitly teaching children how to listen carefully, explain their ideas clearly and engage in meaningful dialogue, we are strengthening the foundations that support both reading and learning across the curriculum.

World Book day reminds us that reading opens doors to imagination, knowledge and opportunity. By combining our love of books with a strong focus on talk, language and communication, we are helping every child at Warren Farm become a confident reader and learner.

Every conversation, every story and every book we share brings our children one step closer to **Excellence in Everything**.

Make it a great weekend

Mr Taylor



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR	
Wed 11th March	Year 4 Multiplication check meeting - 9:00
Wed 11th March	Year 1 Mothers day workshop 1:30-3:00
Thurs 12th March	Year 2 Mothers day workshop 1:30-3:00
Fri 13th March	Rocksteady Concert - 2:30
Fri 20th March	Red Nose Day - Wear Red
Tues 24th March	Easter Bonnet Parade for EYFS and KS1 - 9:00
Fri 27th March	End of term - finish at 1:00



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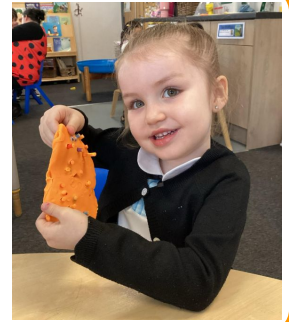
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EARLY YEARS

This week in Early Years we have been very busy exploring and sharing our favourite stories to celebrate World Book Day! We were so impressed with everyone's costumes and their enthusiasm for stories. In Reception, we made pancakes to support our reading of Mr Wolf's Pancakes. The children showed great teamwork and communication to mix the ingredients together. In Nursery, children have been decorating their own gingerbread man and expanding their vocabulary by using descriptive words. We've been really enjoying the sunshine in our outdoor environment, and we hope it continues! With this in mind, please keep sending coats into school in case of a sudden change in weather. Please also remember that teachers cannot reply to Class Dojo messages, but will post any information on the class page.



KEY STAGE 1



What a week! We had a visit from PCSO Duncan on Monday, to remind us all about stranger danger. On Tuesday we went bird watching as we learnt about birds' needs for survival in Science. For Geography on Wednesday, we used the VR headsets to explore Brazil. We did lots of exciting activities on Thursday to celebrate World Book Day! Then on Friday we enjoyed swimming or Aston Villa's football session with Alex. So, we hope you all have a restful weekend, ready for another busy week, with our Mother's Day Crafternoons on Wednesday (Year 1) and Thursday (Year 2)!



ATTENDANCE

Over the past few weeks we have been really pleased to see attendance improving across the school. Many classes have had excellent weeks with very few children absent, which shows what we can achieve when we all work together. However, on Friday we saw a significant dip, with **40 children absent**. This is a sharp contrast to the previous 5 weeks where we have typically had **between 8-15 children absent each day**. Our data shows a clear pattern: **Fridays are our weakest day**. This is something we must address together. Of course, there will always be genuine reasons why children cannot attend school. However, when numbers rise this sharply it does raise questions about avoidable absence. **Fridays matter. A strong finish to the week matters.** The habits children build now shape the adults they become. If children begin to see attendance as a choice, they can start to believe that showing up is optional. In reality, life does not work like that. Success in life comes from **showing up consistently and finishing what you start**, even on the days when it might feel easier not to. At Warren Farm we want our children to develop the character and work ethic that will help them succeed in life. That starts with something very simple: **Be in school. On time. Every day.**

MOTHERS DAY CRAFTERNOONS



YEAR 1 WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH AT 1.30-3.00

YEAR 2 THURSDAY 12TH MARCH AT 1.30-3.00

EASTER BONNET PARADE



EYFS and KS1 Bonnet Parade

Tuesday 24th March at 9.00am



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SAFEGUARDING

Operation Encompass is a police and education early information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. Information is shared by the police with a school's trained Key Adult (DSL) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident thus enabling appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child. Children experiencing domestic abuse are negatively impacted by this exposure; domestic abuse has been identified as an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE). Operation Encompass aims to mitigate this harm by enabling immediate support, making a child's day better and giving them a better tomorrow.

INCLUSION

Zones of Regulation - The Yellow Zone

The **Yellow Zone of Regulation** is when children experience heightened emotions and increased energy, such as frustration, anxiety, excitement, or nervousness, which can make it harder to focus or stay calm. Parents can support children in this zone by helping them name their feelings and use simple strategies such as deep breathing, taking a short break, stretching or moving their body, drawing, listening to music, or going for a short walk to help them calm down and return to a more balanced state. 😊



CHILD OF THE WEEK

NAH	Raya-Rose Turner
RMH	Jaxon Millership
RAY	Jannat Ihtisham
1CP	Clark Simmons
1/2DN	Melek Ahmed
2AB	Ghufran Sharif
3AS	Manya Karwan
3/4LM	Finley Priest
4SM	Lillie Raybould
5LM	Alfie Maddix
5/6NW	Lexi Barmer
6BP	Amelia Banks



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

As part of our Geography topic comparing South America and Europe, the children have used the VR headsets to explore famous landmarks and landscapes in Brazil and London. Through virtual visits to places such as Christ the Redeemer and a carnival in Rio de Janeiro, as well as Big Ben and the River Thames in London. This immersive experience helped to bring our learning to life and deepen the children's understanding of how South America and Europe contrast. On Thursday, we all had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day where we participated in a variety of activities to feed a love for reading. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers for the great costumes!

UPPER KEY STAGE 2

We've had a fantastic World Book Day this week, spending time immersing ourselves in a range of texts. One particular favourite was *Don't Trust Fish*, which led to lots of laughter and great discussion in class! Thank you to parents and carers for the wonderful costumes and for helping the children bring so much enthusiasm to the day. It was lovely to see everyone celebrating a shared love of reading. A reminder that reading regularly at home is incredibly important for developing fluency, vocabulary and confidence. Reading is a life skill and helps them to prepare for their journey into adulthood. We really encourage children to read as often as possible and to share books together at home.





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NAH
2
DAYS OFF

RMH
3
DAYS OFF

RAY
5
DAYS OFF

1CP
NO 
DAYS OFF

1/2DN
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DAYS OFF

2AB
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6NOV
DAYS OFF

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3/4LM
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DAYS OFF

4SM
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DAYS OFF

5LM
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5/6NW
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DAYS OFF

6BP
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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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authority and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyIno and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

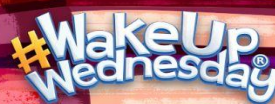
There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



See full reference list on our website

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