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Issue: 09

St Agnes' Weekly News

The family of St Agnes loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus.

Head: Susan O'Reilly Deputy Head: Sophie Gale

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November 6th 2026

November

8th– 10:30 Family Mass at St Agnes (uniform to be worn)

9th—13th Book Fayre at school

10th—Flu jab, Reception to Year 6 (catch-up)

10th– Prospective parent tour for Sept 2027 9.:30am

10th– SATs Year 6 information evening 5pm remote

11th— 3AM Assembly 9:05am

11th— Rescheduled Year 1 Parent Phonics Workshop 9:05am

12th—EYFS 'Developing Independence' workshop for parents 9am

12th– Governors coffee morning 8:40-9:10am

13th—Mr Marvel Disco Reception to Year 3 1:30-3pm

16th– Panto "Dr Doolittle" Reception– Year 6

17th—Nursery Independence Workshop 9:05am

18th— Read-A-Thon CAFOD

19th—4I class assembly 9:05am

20th—5N class mass 2.30pm

24th—Rescheduled 'Chatty Children' workshop. Nursery and Reception 9:00am

26th—3D class assembly 9:05am

27th—Parent Forum 9:00am

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Autumn 2

I hope that you all had a great half term, a chance to have a different routine and hopefully relax and spend some family time together. The weather on the very first weekend was wet and windy but we were blessed to have some much brighter days towards the end of the week. It has been great to see the children return to school on Tuesday, refreshed and ready to start the second half of the Autumn term.

We started the week with an RE inset day for staff on Monday which began with attendance at St Agnes Church for mass, which celebrated the feast of All Souls. On this day we are encouraged to remember family and friends who have dies and gone before us. We remember them with love and pray for the purification of their souls. We are asked to pray for them as it through our prayers that our deceased loved ones are led into full communion with the Lord. We continue to encourage you to upload any prayer intentions that you would like remembered either on Google Classroom or in the book in the lobby area at the front office.

We continued the day with a session with our Westminster Diocese Advisor who is helping us to prepare for our forthcoming RE inspection which will take place at some point during this academic year. We will receive 2 days notice prior to being inspected and our team of visitors will be inspecting every aspect of our Catholic life, Religious Education and Collective Worship. Further staff sessions included input from Fr Chinedu on the Church view and use of AI which is very topical at present and there was also time for staff spiritual reflection. This was a really useful day in ensuring we as staff working in a Catholic School have time to respond and re-energize our vocation in teaching and replenish our own spiritual well in order to be present and can then do the same for the children in our care.

As previously advertised, there is a Governors Morning which all parents are invited to attend on **Thursday 12th November from 8.40-9.10am**. Please feel free to drop in for a coffee and an informal meet with a couple of the school governors - they would love to say hello, answer any questions and hear feedback you may wish to pass on. The governors will then remain in school for an RE focused morning.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of our families at our **School& Parish Mass on Sunday 8th November at 10.30am**. This coincides with Remembrance Sunday and the presentation of Poppy wreaths by the children is always a moving moment to remember those that have lost their lives in past conflicts and those who are still serving to provide our freedom and liberty. If your child is attending we would ask that they wear their school uniform jumper as an outward symbol of our school community.

Wishing you all a great weekend.

Regards,



Susan O'Reilly

On Friday 23rd October, children from Years 2–6 enjoyed a fantastic St Agnes Pathways Day, filled with fun, creativity and exciting new experiences!

The children had the opportunity to choose from a wonderful range of activities, including: Lego, chess, dance, origami, stop-go animation, puppet making, advertising, travel, pirates, a talent show, mandala art, Scripture art, St Francis clay creations, and health and wellbeing.

One of the highlights of Pathways is the opportunity for children from different year groups to work together, make new friends and learn from one another. It was lovely to see children of all ages sharing ideas, encouraging each other and discovering new talents.

The day was a wonderful celebration of our St Agnes family, putting our school values of Respect, Equality, Perseverance and Honesty into action. There were smiles, laughter and plenty of creativity throughout the school!

Manil - learning how Lego is made



Cairo -What I like in chess is that it gets you thinking and makes you create tactics



Clare- I like that we get to decorate are puppets so many shapes and sizes

Isabelle- I like how you can do so many designs and colours to choose from



Life as a pirate

Charlie-I liked that we got to make maps as we got to crunch it up and we get to draw a map!



Scripture Art

Solomia- I felt happy to I got to stay with God. I enjoyed doing craft about

Stop-Go Animation

Eloise- it's fun to make a movie like a producer it's cool to make characters with



CRAZY HAIR DAY

Thank you to everyone you took part in Crazy Hair Day on the 23rd October just before the half term break.

It was lovely to see so many different hair styles and everyone expressing their individuality. I also saw some very incredible hair styles which I appreciate the time and effort it took to create. Well done to all of you.

We raised and amazing £274.60

Thank you to everyone who donated or purchased a cake after school yesterday to celebrate Bonfire Night. This raised £251.50

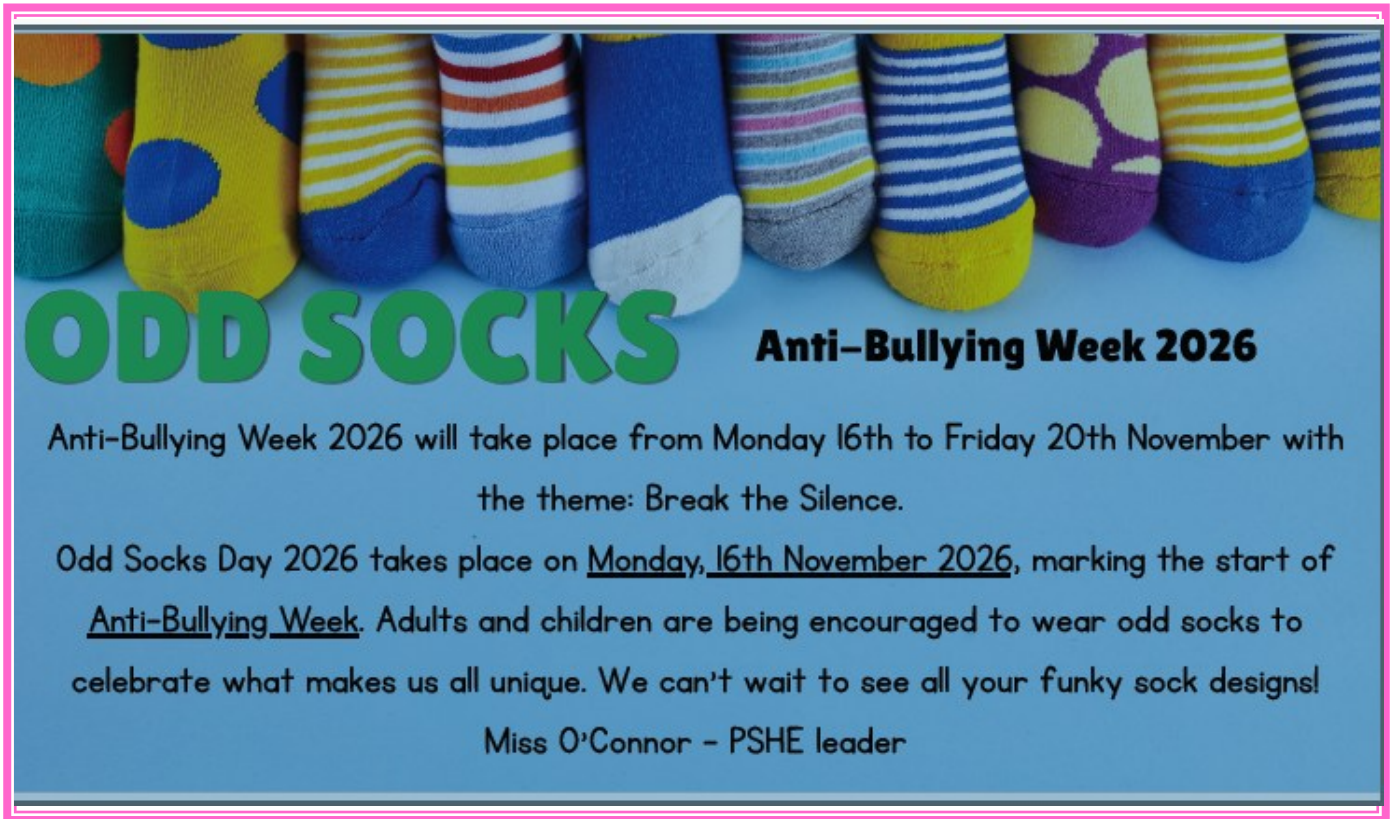


FOSA kindly purchased **12 new dining tables** for us which were delivered in half term - these cost a whopping **£10,500**!! The older tables had not passed their most recent annual inspection and it was not economical to keep repairing them as they were in excess of 30 years old! Thank you FOSA for the generous donation!



Contact Information

Could you ensure that the school office has all your up to date contact information ie mobile number and email address in case we need to speak to you or send emails/text messages to keep you updated on school life. It is essential we also have up to date emergency contact details should your child have an accident at school. **Please note that all payments must be made via Arbor.** If you have any issues accessing Arbor, please contact the school office. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.



Birthday Books



We are introducing a new system for each family to purchase a birthday book to celebrate their child's birthday. A payment of **£6** will show on every child's Arbor account and when it is your child's birthday, you can pay the amount. They will then go to the large basket of new books kept in Mrs Jones classroom that school has bought and select a brand new book for their class library. The book will have a dedication at the front to the child to celebrate their birthday and is dated - which will remain as a lasting gift for the class. This is a perfect way to remember their special day.



FOSA News and Fundraising

Hello, school community. FOSA has been keeping busy just before the half term and this first week of term too.

School Community Initiatives

Olio Food Waste Prevention (a free community-sharing and food-waste reduction app that connects neighbours and local businesses to redistribute surplus food and household items).

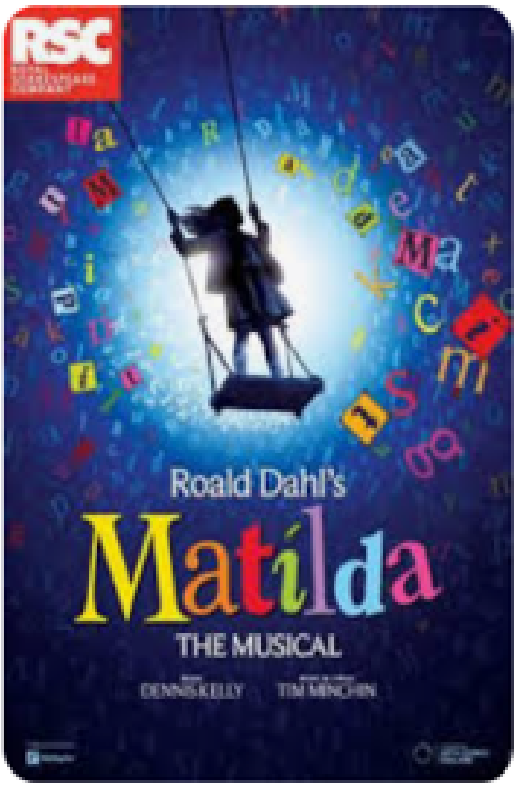
Please continue to check the school reception lobby every Monday and Friday for free donated items which you are all welcome to take home if you wish. This is still proving to be a very successful initiative.

Fundraising Opportunities

PTA Tickets (We're on a mission to help more families enjoy live entertainment while raising money and making a real difference to school communities)

PTA Tickets has partnered with us to help more families attend live events. It offers discounted tickets on selected dates for West End shows and grassroots sports. Each ticket purchased by our school community through our dedicated box office also raises money for FOSA.

A new event that has been offered to us is the following:



Mid Week Theatre Adventure to see Matilda the Musical.

Date: 2nd December 2026
Tickets in the dress circle starting from: £29.50

If you would like to book for this experience please use this link

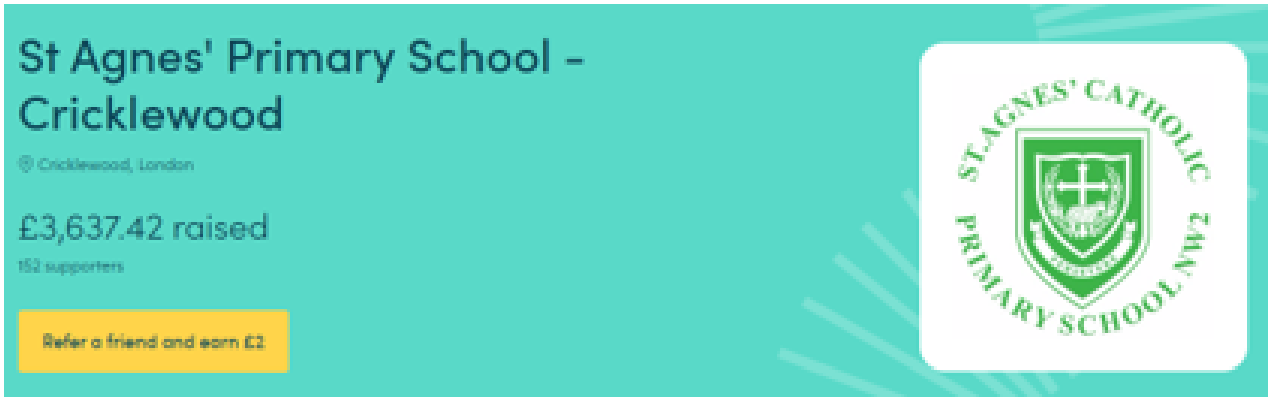
https://www.ptatickets.co.uk/events/matilda-the-musical-s6u54b3f

The box office for this offer will end on the 14th November so get your tickets now.

Easyfundraising (easyfundraising is a free way to raise money for a cause you care about while you shop online).

With Christmas approaching, everyday online shopping can help raise funds for our school. Shop through easyfundraising at more than 8,000 retailers, and the retailer will donate to the school at no extra cost to you. You pay the usual price while your purchases generate free donations.

This is how much we have raised so fa. Thank you for those of you that have joined up already and with greater participation from our school community, we can achieve even more.



Click the link to join and start earning donations

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=234fvv&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=web-referral&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=copy-link&char=182689



St Agnes' will be holding a Disco on

Friday 13th November 2026 From 1:30-3pm (during school time)

In the School Hall

For Reception –Year 3

The cost is £7.00 which covers the entertainment with Mr Marvel, a drink and a treat.

The children will be able to wear their own clothes on that day and will be taken from class straight to the disco. They will be collected at normal time on the day.

Payment can be made via Arbor under 'Trips'.

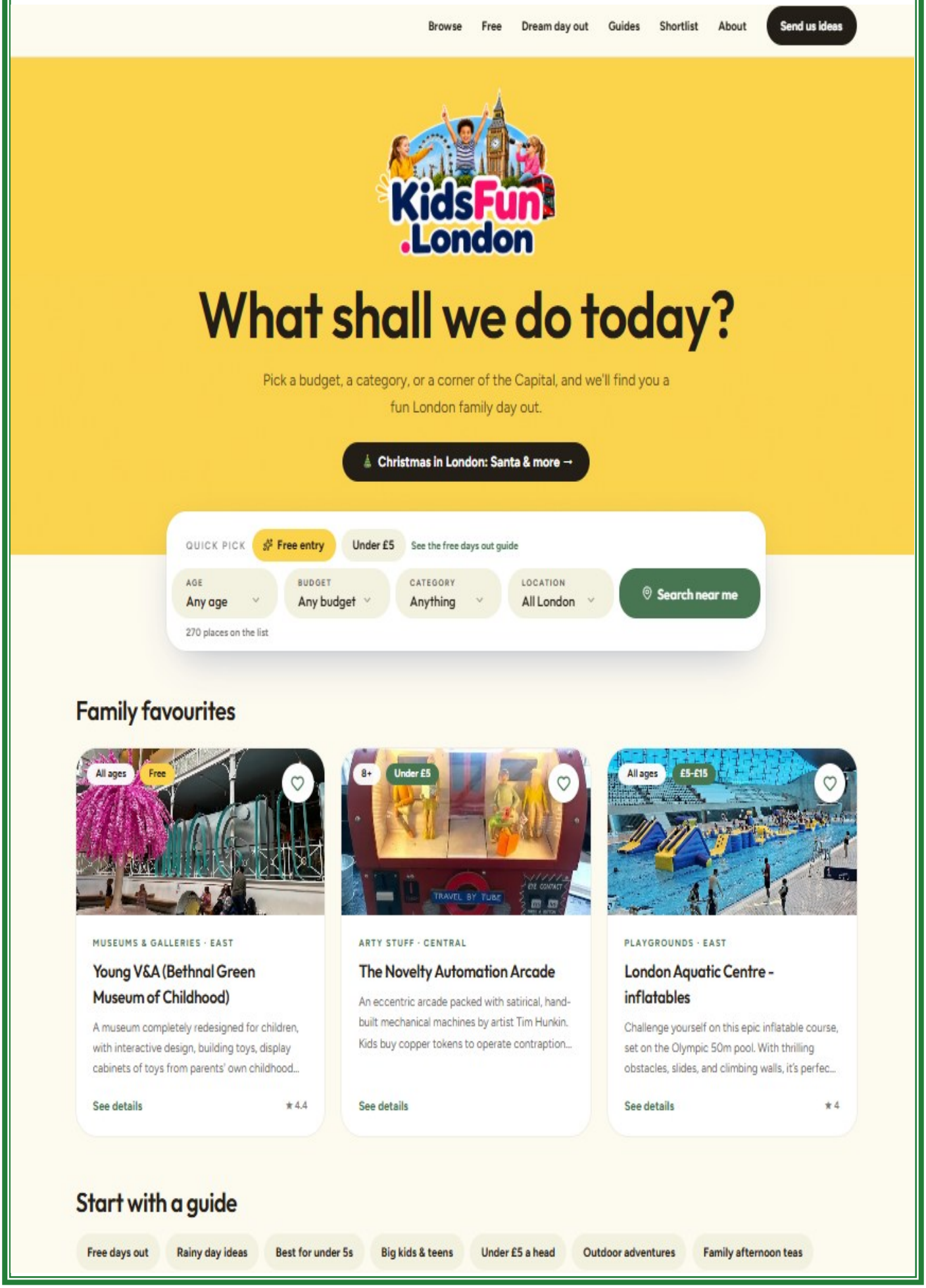
Many thanks

F.O.S.A.

We are always looking for fundraising ideas and support from our school community. If you have a suggestion or can help us connect with a local business, please get in touch with FOSA.

FOSA TEAM - Ana, Sandra, Annemarie

https://kidsfun.london/is a new directory of hundreds of family days out and activities in the Capital - including over 100 free event and activities. As it's been built by a Barnet parent, it has a strong North London emphasis



SAVE THE DATE - Governors Morning

Our termly Governors Morning will next be held on **Thursday 12th November**, where they will focus on the RE curriculum and Prayer and Liturgy at St Agnes. As always parents are welcome to pop in for the first part of that session - **8.40-9.05 am** and meet a few of the governors over a coffee. It is an opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions and celebrate strengths of the school.



Year 1 Phonics Meeting

Apologies that we had to cancel Wednesday's Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents. There was a car on fire on the M1 on Wednesday morning which caused serious delays for a number of staff and there was no option but to cancel it. This has been rescheduled to Wednesday 11th November at 9:00am.

Parent Tours - Reception September 2027

Should you know of any friends or neighbours considering St Agnes as a school for their Reception Child for next year, please can you let them know that our tours for prospective parents will be held on **Friday 6th November at 1.45pm and Tuesday 10th November at 9.30am**. A final tour will take place on **Friday 4th December at 9.15am.** Due to numbers attending we ask parents not to bring children with them. They do not need to book a place but can simply come along on any of the given dates.

E-Scooters

Following advice from a number of sources, and due to the potential risks that e-scooters pose to pupils and school buildings, we have taken the decision to not allow e-scooters on school premises . Therefore, children and adults are not permitted to bring or ride e-scooters onto school property. For further information please check:

https://www.barnet.gov.uk/roads-and-pavements/road-safety/road-safety-education/driving-safely/e-scooters
https://capt.org.uk/e-scooters-and-children/
https://www.rospa.com/health-and-safety-news/addressing-the-rising-concern-of-e-bike-and-e-scooter-battery-hazards

Please see the information below where you can celebrate the weekly gospel at home with your family.

https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/summer-holiday-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=146.2

PE Kit Days

Year Group	PE Kit Days
Reception	Wednesday
Year 1	Monday & Thursday
Year 2	Wednesday & Friday
Year 3	Monday & Tuesday
Year 4	Tuesday & Wednesday
Year 5	Wednesday & Tuesday
Year 6	Tuesday & Thursday

PE KIT DAYS

Assembly Dates

11/11/26	3M
19/11/26	4I
26/11/26	3D

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff.

Should any person (parent or staff) have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school safeguarding team (Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Gale, Mrs Breslin or our Chair of Governors Lisa Pate).

In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a duty to discuss the issue with Social Services to seek further advice.

This is the statutory obligation of all schools.

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.

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.

2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.

6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.

7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.

8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when; where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.

9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

Meet Our Expert

Bob Basley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/788040/survey_of_pupils_and_their_parents_or_carers-wave_1.pdf
https://www.oecd.org/education/ceri/internationalstudyonbullyingatschools.htm | https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/630178/Health_behaviour_in_school_age_children_a_focus_on_gender.pdf

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Class	Star of the Week
RC	Elisa
RZ	Lana
1M	Ajla
1AM	Florence
2D	Andrii
2HK	Elijah
3D	Kaia
3M	Adonai
4R	Mountaga
4I	Issa
5N	Emily
5J	Diellza
6M	School trip
6P	School trip
French	AJ (3D)
Reading Eggs	Sarah Iravani (1M)
TT Rockstars	Ryan Hoxha (6M)

Birthdays: up to 8th November 2026

2nd Nov—Anthony R (2HK)

3rd Nov—Khriston C (1AM)

4th Nov—Matilda V (2HK), Orvin D (6P)

5th Nov—Asser A (4R), Isaac S (2HK), KC C (1AM)

8th Nov—Azai B (NUR)

Weekly Attendance		
Class	**Attendance %**	**Number of Lates**
RC	86.1%	6
RZ	91.1%	3
1M	97.2%	1
1AM	89.2%	2
2D	97.8%	4
2HK	97.2%	4
3D	96.6%	0
3M	95.5%	0
4R	97.7%	0
4I	89.8%	4
5N	99.4%	0
5J	98.9%	0
6M	100%	1
6P	88.7%	2

Pupil Premium:

The school receives additional funding for some families. This funding is used to enhance your child's learning in many different ways e.g. additional support, learning experiences and may help with payments for school trips. This funding is a vital part of the school's budget so please read the criteria below to see if you qualify.

If either parent is on income support, job seekers allowance, is in receipt of child tax credit but not working tax credit and has an income less than £16,190 or is an asylum seeker supported by the NASS or the local council.

Thought of the Week

'The future starts today, not tomorrow'
Pope John Paul II