

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

09/10/2026



'Let your light shine'

On Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October, we have our first parents' evenings of the school year. Parents' evening gives you the opportunity to speak to your child's new class teacher about how well they have settled into their new class in addition to discussing learning, wellbeing and looking at children's workbooks.

Our parents' evening also gives you the chance to connect with other families – our Starbooks Reading Cafe will be open, serving drinks and snacks, with a range of reading themed activities for the children to enjoy. There will also be a book fair, where you can buy a range of book and gifts; a pre-loved uniform stall and more.

Come and join us for a cuppa at Starbooks Cafe before or after your appointment.

Goodbye and good luck Mrs Walsh

After 12 years of dedicated service, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to our School Business Manager, Mrs Walsh, as she leaves St Barnabas today.

While parents may not always see the work that happens behind the scenes, the impact of a great School Business Manager is felt by every child, every day. From ensuring the school runs smoothly and safely, to carefully managing budgets so that resources, equipment and opportunities are available for our pupils, Mrs Walsh's work has helped create the environment in which children can thrive.

Throughout her time with us, she has worked tirelessly to support staff, families and governors, always keeping the best interests of our children at the heart of every decision.

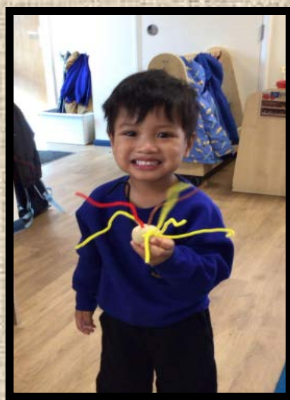
On behalf of the whole school community, we thank Mrs Walsh for her dedication, loyalty and service over the past 12 years. We wish Mrs Walsh every happiness and success in the next chapter of her journey. She will be greatly missed.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Miss Hodgkinson

Friday 2nd October	Wednesday 7th October	Wednesday 18th November	Friday 20th November
9am - 11am	1:30pm - 3:00pm	1:30pm - 3:00pm	9am - 11am

Our 2-year-old children enjoyed a wonderful week in nursery 😊 we enjoyed lots of outdoor activities.



Reception class have been enjoying the story The Friendship Bench. Through the book, the children have been introducing themselves to Shadow the dog, talking about what makes a good friend special, and working together to build their own friendship benches.

We have also been learning all about ourselves. The children have created self-portraits in a variety of ways.



In science we have been tasting foods and sorting them into the five basic taste categories - sweet, sour, savoury, bitter and salty.



Counting back from 20 using the bead strings.



Some more amazing work happening in year 2!



Year 4 have been learning about different measurement conversions and we used trundle metres to measure different distances around our playground.

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Friendship'

'A good friend is a blessing from God.'

Samuel 1 18.3



This week's big question:

If you're not a good friend to others, do you have any friends?

This week we pray for our lovely planet-please help us to look after and protect it.

Water Bottles

Children are asked to bring a bottle to school filled with water which they can drink throughout the day. Drinking water throughout the day keeps children's brains hydrated and helps them to learn well. Only water is allowed in these bottles, as drinking juice throughout the day causes tooth decay. Children can drink juice or with their lunch. If any children persist in bringing juice in their water bottles, parents will be contacted.

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB!



From September our Breakfast Club is changing as we move over to the National Breakfast Club Programme.

All school children are invited to come from 8.15am every day for free and receive a healthy breakfast. This will replace the bagels that are currently available to children on arrival in their classroom.

We will maintain our self-funded wrap around care from 7.30am at a reduced charge of £2.75 until 8.15am where children will then join the free session.

To enable us to properly plan and purchase food, please can you follow this link to register your interest [FREE BREAKFAST CLUB – Fill out form](#)

You do not need to book for the breakfast club, you can just turn up.

Starting reception class

If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, they are due to start reception class in September 2026. You will need to apply for a place here: <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/primary-school-admissions>

Start and Finish Times

School opens at **8:40am** and all children should be in school by **8:45am**. Gates are locked at 8:50am and anyone who arrives after this time will need to enter via the school office and be marked as late. At the end of the day, doors open at 3:10pm and all children should be collected by 3:15pm. Being just a few minutes late each day adds up to days of lost learning over a year - **BE ON TIME!**

Playtime Snacks

We are a healthy school and constantly reinforce with our children that healthy eating and regular exercise lead to positive mental and physical health. Part of this is to educate our children to eat as healthily as possible, as this contributes to future success. The only snacks we allow at playtimes are **toast or fruit**, these can be brought in from home or toast can be purchased via ParentPay. Thank you for your support.

Healthy packed lunches for children at St Barnabas CE Primary School

CARBOHYDRATES

- wholemeal bread
- pasta
- rice
- couscous
- potatoes



DAIRY (OR NON-DAIRY ALTERNATIVE)

- cheese
- yogurt
- milk
- fortified soy milk
- calcium-set tofu



FRUIT

- apples
- bananas
- berries
- oranges
- grapes



VEGETABLES OR SALAD

- carrot sticks
- cucumber
- cherry tomatoes
- peppers
- sweetcorn



PROTEIN

- chicken
- eggs
- beans
- lentils
- fish



WHAT SHOULD I NOT BRING TO SCHOOL

Sweets Fizzy drinks Nuts
Sesame Shellfish Donuts Pastries

Tough Mudder Manchester 2026 for TOFS

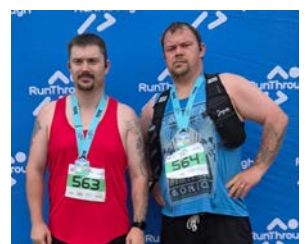
On 10 October 2026, I will be taking part in Tough Mudder Manchester to raise funds for TOFS, a charity that supports children and adults born with the rare conditions Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula (TOF) and Oesophageal Atresia (OA).

This cause is very close to my heart as my daughter was born with TOF/OA eight years ago. During a very frightening and uncertain time, TOFS provided invaluable support, information, and reassurance for our family.

I am hoping to raise £250 to help TOFS continue supporting families facing similar challenges. If you are able to donate, no matter how small the amount, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support. ❤ Michelle and Neil Bate

https://www.justgiving.com/page/michelle-bate-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=EM



Our guide this week looks at Discord, which is a hugely popular communication platform where young people can chat, play games and join communities built around shared interests. Our guide explores some of the risks that can come with using it, including contact with strangers, inappropriate content, harassment and the potential for gaming and socialising to become a distraction from everyday life. The guide also offers practical advice for parents and educators, from using Discord's Family Centre and checking privacy settings to talking openly about suspicious behaviour and reviewing spending controls.

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 DISCORD

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(with a 17+ app rating on app stores)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord 'Nitro', a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

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, and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.09.2026

CALLING ALL YEAR 1&2



Love netball or want to try something new?
Join **Penketh Panthers Netball Club!**

-  **FITNESS**
-  **FAMILY**
-  **FAIRPLAY**
-  **FUN**
-  **FRIENDSHIP**

**PLAY TOGETHER
GROW TOGETHER**

TRAINING
Wednesdays
5-6pm
Great Sankey Hub

MATCHES
Sunday Mornings

COME AND BE PART OF OUR PANTHER FAMILY!

Email: penkethpanthersmembers@gmail.com

ST BARNABAS COFE PRIMARY OCTOBER HOLIDAY CAMP

**10am-2pm
Each day
Lunch & Snacks Included!**

FREE
CHECK ONLINE TO QUALIFY

OCTOBER 26TH-29TH
ONLY 30 SPACES. BOOK NOW!

BOOK ONLINE: WWW.STRIKERACADEMY.CO.UK/HAF

FUN SPORTS ACTIVITIES
CRAFT ACTIVITIES
COOKING DEMO
YOUNG LEADERS AWARD
PLUS LOTS MORE!
PLUS CERTIFICATES
TROPHIES & PRIZES!



Warrington
Parents & Carers

SEND Market Stall Event

24th November 2026
9:30-13:30

Warrington Youth Zone

Free event with lunch included.

All are welcome!
Please register your attendance on our website
www.warrpac.org/send-market-stall-event-24th-november-2026

Discover . Connect . Empower!
Join us for our SEND Market Stall Event, bringing together local professionals and parent carers for a day of information, resources and community support.

- Meet & Talk**
Chat with local organisations, services and professionals who can support you and your family.
- Explore & Connect**
Browse a range of stalls with useful resources, products and services, all in one place.
- Support & Advice**
Get practical advice, ask questions and find out what's available in your local area.

Warrington SEND
Warrington, Advice & Support Service

Facebook: [Warpac](https://www.facebook.com/Warpac) Instagram: [@Warpac](https://www.instagram.com/Warpac)
Email: warrpac@gmail.com
Website: www.warpac.org



Warrington
Parents & Carers

Check-In & Chat

Warrington Parents & Carers SEND Forum

Warrington Parents and Carers is an independent, dedicated parent carer forum run by parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Who Can Join?
Parents and carers of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25.
No diagnosis necessary.

When & Where?
Friday 9th October
Sandy Lane Family Hub WA2 9HY
10:00-12:00

What to expect
We're excited to welcome SENDIASS new manager, Laura Stokes-Hughes. Laura will be leading the service and supporting families across Warrington.

Refreshments
Tea, coffee and a relaxed space to chat.

Your voice matters!
A friendly space to talk, share and get support.
Come along, meet other parents and carers, and be part of a supportive community.

Please book via our website
www.warrpac.org/events

Together We Can Make a Difference
Support • Share • Connect
warrpac@gmail.com

Dates for your Diary Autumn Half Term 1

Wednesday 7th October	Open afternoon for parents of children starting reception in September 2027
Monday 12th October	Mobile Farm visiting EYFS
Wednesday 14th October	Y5 Mini Police Ceremony at Stockton Heath Police Station
Friday 16th October	Y5 Space Museum. Parents invited from 2:30pm
Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th October	Parents' Evenings for all classes Starbooks Reading Café open in the hall from 3:30pm
Monday 19th – Friday 23rd October	Book Fair after school in the hall
Friday 23rd October	School closes for half term

Half Term

HAF Holiday Club at St Barnabas

Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

10am – 2pm

Monday 2nd November	School Opens
Tuesday 3rd November	Nursery and Reception Stay and Play 2:15pm – 3pm
Thursday 5th November	Nursery Stay and Play 2:15pm – 3pm



MENU AUTUMN 2026

Menu Cycle Week One: 1st Sept, 21st Sept, 12th Oct, 2nd Nov, 23rd Nov, 14th Dec

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
- Vegetarian Sausage roll with baked diced potatoes & beans - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Pork or Quorn sausage with Yorkshire pudding, creamed potatoes, carrots & peas - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Beef or vegetarian burger in a bun with baked diced potatoes & fresh salad - Vegetable fajitas with savoury rice & sweetcorn - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Barbecue chicken with baked wedged potatoes & sweetcorn - Vegetarian option served with baked wedged potatoes & sweetcorn - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Fish fingers - Crumb coated chicken - Served with chunky chipped potatoes & peas or baked beans - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans
Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit
Vanilla ice cream	Yoghurt	Orange jelly and fruit	Homemade blueberry cake/muffin	Homemade biscuit
Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water



MENU AUTUMN 2026

Menu Cycle Week Two: 7th Sept, 28th Sept, 19th Oct, 9th Nov, 30th Nov

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
- Margarita pizza with baked jacket wedges & sweetcorn - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Chicken or Quorn Tikka Masala - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Pasta bolognaise (beef or vegetable) served with garden peas - Garlic and herb chicken pitta with vegetable rice & broccoli - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Brunch lunch (sausage, beans, hash brown, omelette) - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Battered fish - Crumb coated chicken - Served with chunky chipped potatoes & peas or baked beans - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans
Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit
Doughnut	Yoghurt	Arctic or chocolate ice cream	Raspberry jelly and fruit	Homemade biscuit
Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water



MENU AUTUMN 2026

Menu Cycle Week Three: 14th Sept, 5th Oct, 16th Nov, 7th Dec

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
- Tomato & mascarpone pasta bake with seasonal vegetables - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Chicken or vegetable katsu curry served with rice - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Pizza (pepperoni/cheese) served with jacket wedges & salad - Sweet and sour chicken/quorn served with rice/noodle - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Pork or Quorn meatballs in tomato & basil sauce with pasta & peas - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans	- Oven baked fish stars - Oven baked chicken poppers - Served with chunky chipped potatoes & peas or baked beans - Jacket potato with cheese/tuna/beans
Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit	Fresh fruit
Strawberry ice cream	Yoghurt	Jelly and fruit	Vanilla and chocolate marble cake	Homemade biscuit
Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water	Milk/water

School Uniform

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Pale blue polo shirt
- Grey trousers or blue tartan skirt/pinafore
- Black shoes must be worn NOT boots please



PE Kit

St Barnabas CE Primary School and Nursery

School PE Uniform

- PE sports t-shirt with school logo, royal blue shorts or black/navy joggers/leggings & trainers.
- Children should come to school in full PE uniform on planned PE days.



Term Dates for the Academic Year 2026 – 2027

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
AUTUMN	Wednesday 2 nd September to Friday 23 rd October	Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October inclusive	Monday 2 nd November to Friday 18 th December

Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December 2026 to Tuesday 5th January 2027 inclusive

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
SPRING	Tuesday 5 th January to Friday 12 th February	Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February inclusive	Monday 22 nd February to Thursday 25 th March

Easter Holiday Friday 26th March to Friday 2nd April 2027 inclusive

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
SUMMER	Wednesday 7 th April to Friday 28 th May	Monday 31 st May to Friday 11 th June inclusive	Monday 14 th June to Wednesday 21 st July

Closure Days

BANK HOLIDAY Monday 3rd May 2027

WARRINGTON WALKING DAY Friday 25th June 2027