

OLD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

It has been another positive week in school, with pupils continuing to work hard and demonstrate great attitudes to their learning. We have recently introduced a new approach to interventions, with dedicated afternoon sessions supporting pupils across a range of areas including literacy, mathematics, SEMH, speech and language, specialist interventions, EAL, and physical development. These sessions are led by our skilled teaching assistants, and we look forward to seeing the progress and confidence our pupils develop over the remainder of the year.

As a reminder, there are now only two weeks until half term. Whilst the break is in sight, it remains important that pupils maintain the high standards of behaviour, effort and learning that we expect, alongside strong attendance. Every day counts, and we appreciate your continued support in helping your child make the most of the learning opportunities available. I hope that you all have a great week.



THINGS HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday 12th October: Start of In Harmony week 3

Monday 12th October: Local authority PPG review

Wednesday 14th October: New Reception cohort open day (15:30-16:00)

Sports competitions this way (not all pupils involved)

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school target for attendance is **96%**. The following classes achieved the target this week:

RW, 123V, 12B, 1L, 2H, 3F, 4S, 4W, 5C, 5F and 6HW

A special well done to **4S** who had the highest attendance across the school this week. The attendance trophy is on its way to you!

Just a reminder...



Punctuality:

The classroom doors open each day at 8:40am and all pupils need to be in class and sat down ready for learning by 8:55am. Any pupils arriving after 8:55am will be marked as late and anyone arriving after 9:25am is coded as U (absent for the morning session). **It is vital that pupils are in school and on time every day as being late has a big impact on settling in to the school day and learning.**

School uniform

If possible can you please name all items of school uniform, especially jumpers and fleeces. We have a large amount of lost property and we are unable to return it as it is not named.

We will be placing the items on the key stage 2 playground this week at the start and end of the day, so please come and have a look if your child has lost anything.

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AUTUMN DATES

* More dates may be added below as the term progresses

Monday 12th October: Local authority PPG review

Thursday 22nd October: Last day of half term

Friday 23rd October: PD Day 2

Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October: Half term holidays

Thursday 19th November: Open Orchestra day (parents/carers invited)

09:15-09:45 Year 2

10:15-10:45 Year 3

11:30-12:00 Year 4

13:30-14:00 Year 5

14:30-15:00 Year 6

TERM DATES FOR 2026/2027

September '26						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October '26						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November '26						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December '26						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August '27						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

 Holidays
 Staff PD Day (school is closed to pupils)



Belonging Respect Responsibility

OLD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



BREAKFAST CLUB

Starting from 2nd September 2026

1 **Traditional Breakfast Club**
7.40am to 8.10am
£2
Book via our online system

2 **Soft Start Option**
Arrive at 8.10am
through main school office
wake up and shake up at 8.30am
No booking required!

3 **Grab and Go**
Arrive at 8.40am
ready to register
at 8.55am
No booking required!

Make friends, have fun, start your day the right way!



Old Park Primary School VALUES



Belonging	Respect	Responsibility
1. I am proud to be part of the Old Park family. 2. I am a special and important part of our school. 3. I feel happy and valued. 4. I feel safe in school. 5. I help others through my support and friendship.	1. I treat everyone the same. 2. 'Everyone is awesome'. 3. We are all allowed different views and opinions. 4. I do not disturb the learning of others, and I help others to learn the best they can. 5. I care for myself, the school, the community and the wider world.	1. I always try my best with my learning. 2. I make good choices. 3. I am honest. 4. I know that my actions will have consequences. 5. I am a good role model to others.





Old Park Primary School BEHAVIOUR RULES



1. Follow instructions
2. To have kind words, kind hands and kind feet.
3. To show respect for everyone within the school community.



WEEK BEGINNING 12.10.26 WEEK 1

[illegible]

Belonging Respect Responsibility

OLD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



**Old Park
Primary School
and Nursery**

Belonging ♥ Respect ♥ Responsibility



A great
start to a
brighter
future!



New Reception Intake 2027

OPEN EVENING

Come and see what makes our school special!



Starting primary school is a significant milestone for your child's learning and development. Children usually start the reception year at primary school at the start of September following their fourth birthday.



Children born between
**1 September 2022 and
31 August 2023** will start primary
school from **September 2027**.



Parents need to apply for a
reception place by
15 January 2027.



You are strongly advised to
apply to four local schools
including your nearest or catchment
area school. You can use our [Catchment Area
School Finder Tool](#) to check which school
are your nearest or catchment area schools.



If a child has an Education,
Health and Care Plan (EHCP) the
application closing date is
31 October 2026.



Please read the [Guide to Primary
School Admissions](#) booklet for more
information on the process of applying
for a primary school place and to understand
how places are offered.

Our Open Evening Dates



Wednesday
16th September
at 3:30pm



Wednesday
14th October
at 3:30pm



Wednesday
18th November
at 3:30pm



Wednesday
9th December
at 3:30pm



For further information, please contact
the school office on **01952 387250**

We look forward
to meeting you!



Belonging



Respect



Responsibility

OLD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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 ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the Internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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