SCHOOL NEWS

TIME TO ASSEMBLE!

This week has seen a number of visitors joining us for assemblies in school, sharing their skills, knowledge and passion for their roles.

Tuesday's assembly marked 'Holocaust Memorial Day' where I discussed with the children what the Holocaust was and how discrimination is still an aspect of human life that as the future of our society, children need to stand up against.

Also on Tuesday, James from 'Create Music' joined us to talk about learning to play the guitar and ukulele. Some of the children got to play the instruments, and all the children were given a leaflet for a free lesson.

Assemblies are an important opportunity for the school to come together. They are a chance to sing, celebrate, think and talk about current issues affecting us.

FOXES CLASS ASSEMBLY

This week also saw the introduction of our class assemblies, where staff and children are able to share in their learning, not only with their peers, but also with their parents and relatives.

Foxes class shared their history and topic learning about the Stone Age and iron Age, through to famous kings of England. The children showed how this learning linked to their English, Art and DT lessons, fully immersing themselves in learning about key periods of history.

PUPILS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

As a school, we have a duty of care to you and your children to ensure they attend school every day if possible.

We are noticing some children are regularly arriving late to school. This can not only affect your child's attendance but also their attainment and ability to learn. Being late also disrupts the rest of the class' learning.

If you need support from school to get your child in on time, please do speak to Mr Champs or a member of staff.

Every minute counts

Lateness = lost learning

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

Don't let your child miss out!

What you can do:
- Have a regular routine for the start of each day.
- Help your child get their clothes and equipment ready before they go to bed.
- Set a reasonable bed time to make sure they get enough sleep.

Get your child to school on time. If they are late they have a bad start to the day.

If your child arrives late for class:
- They miss out on important learning, which could effect their achievement.
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
- It can be embarrassing for them.
- They may disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

As of September 2013, no school is allowed to grant holiday requests under new legislation.

Therefore, any request for term time absence will need to be put in writing, in advance, to the Headteacher. Each case will be considered individually and the absence will only be authorised in specific circumstances.

Schools are required to notify the Local Authority of all unauthorised absences and a penalty notice may be given by the LA.

DID YOU KNOW that if a child is taken away for a two week holiday every year during term time and has an average number of days off for sickness and appointments, then by the time they leave at sixteen they will have missed a year of school?

PARKING

I am very grateful to those parents who choose to park away from the school entrance and off the zig zag yellow lines. We have , however, had a recent issue with one of our neighbours where a parent had parked their car over a neighbour's driveway who needed to get out.

Please consider our neighbours when parking. I have asked North Somerset Council to send an enforcement officer to the school at pick-up times to talk to parents who cannot park respectfully or correctly.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our 'Stars of the Week' are...
Hedgehogs - Otis
Badgers - Noorah
Foxes - Reuben

Our 'Values Ambassadors'
this week are...
Hedgehogs - Rebel
Badgers - Max
Foxes - Elodie

Attendance:
The classes with the best
attendance this week was...
Hedgehogs - 98.4%

Our year to Date attendance
as a school is...
92.4%

KEY DATES

5th February
Badgers Class Assembly

6th February
Hedgehogs beach morning

6th February
NSPCC Number Day

12th February
Hedgehogs Class Assembly

12th February
PTFA Valentines Crafts Event

13th February
INSET DAY (School closed)

14th February - 22nd February
Half term Holiday

WESSEX PODCAST

In this episode of The Only Way is Wessex, we chat with Libby Fidock (Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Primary Education) and David Wiltshire (Director of Secondary Education), who lead our School Improvement Team.
They share how they support learners every day, drive improvements across schools, and explore how new policies are shaping education for the better. Tune in for insights from our education leaders and discover the passion behind the Trust's approach to learning

The Only Way is Wessex   Eps.001
The official podcast of Wessex Learning Trust.
Sharing support, celebrating success, strengthening our community.
▸ Podcast Host: ▸ Produced by:
Eden Simpson   **Liam Cavill**

LISTEN ON

Valentine's Day
CRAFT'S

THURSDAY 12ᵀᴴ FEBRUARY

15:15 - 16:15

CHILDREN WILL GET THE CHANCE TO PAINT, COLOUR AND DECORATE A BISCUIT.

TICKETS £4

LIMITED TICKETS. BOOK YOUR PLACE AT RECEPTION

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators
SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS
Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION
AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY
Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reviewing app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI
Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS
Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

6 USE AI TOGETHER
Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE
Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE
Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY
Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED
AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

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.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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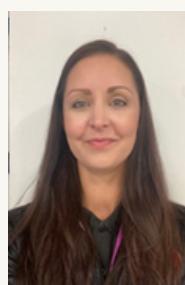
USE OF AI

Artificial intelligence is becoming a familiar part of young people's online experiences, with a myriad of school tools and entertainment platforms in use. This #WakeUpWednesday guide breaks down what AI really is, helping adults explain it clearly and realistically so children don't overestimate its abilities or trust it unquestioningly. It explores how AI systems work, where they appear online, and why understanding them matters.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have a concern about any child in our school, then it is your responsibility to say something to us. Remember, 'Safeguarding' is everybody's responsibility! You can speak to any member of staff in school. We also have a team of designated safeguarding leads - Mr Champs (DSL), Mrs Mann (DDSL), Miss Speller (DDSL) and our School Safeguarding governor, Mrs Phippen.

They can be contacted on 01934 623430 or
office@kewstokeprimaryschool.co.uk
As parents, you can contact support agencies directly on:-
NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
Care Connect: 01275 888 808