



17.1.25

	Hawthorn Community Primary School <i>The Hawthorn Herald</i>	
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Teaching and Learning

We have had a great week focusing on teaching and learning at Hawthorn. At the beginning of the week, I spent some time in LKS2 looking at writing lessons. It was great to see the children taking part in 'speedy write' sessions and reciting their story maps. We have worked hard over the last year or so to refine our writing curriculum and the children are clearly benefiting from this - their enthusiasm to write is the strongest I have ever known and their storytelling techniques have developed considerably.

On Wednesday, Mr Dix and I spent time in UKS2 looking at Maths with an external expert. Again, we were very impressed with the maturity of our children, their excellent learning behaviours and work ethic. We saw children confidently articulating answers to complex questions, demonstrating stamina and supporting each other when challenged. It was a very promising picture which shows how far we have come as a school and puts us in a strong position to continue our journey to excellence.

Coffee Afternoon

On Weds (22nd) we will be hosting a coffee afternoon from 2pm. The school nurse will be joining us to answer any questions you may have about your children's health and wellbeing

and how to access support. Everyone is welcome so please come along and join us. Please complete the form on the link below if you would like to attend.

[*Coffee afternoon booking form*](#)

Break the Rules Day

On Friday (24th) it is Break the Rules Day, organised by the Friends of Hawthorn. Please see the poster below for details.

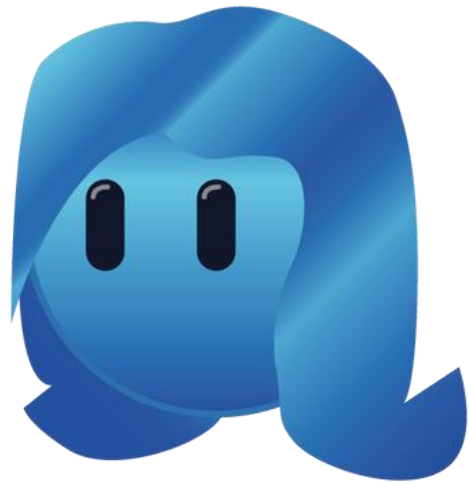
Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher

House Points so far...



Click on the cards below to see which house is in the lead so far!!

Fire - 52 points

Earth - 64 points

Water - 72 points

Air - 80 points!!!

Amazing performance Air to top the leader board this week with 80 house points!!! It's wonderful to see so many of you gaining house points for positive behaviours. In particular, we've seen lots of children displaying our value of Resilience this week, by trying hard at problems in their work and also during PE. Well done everyone!

Spring Term Sports Clubs

EcoCoach, our fabulous sports providers, are delighted to share the launch of two fantastic new clubs next term, based on parent feedback. These are:

KS1 Adventure Club



- ***When:*** Wednesdays, starting 8th January 2025
 - ***Time:*** 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
 - ***Year Groups:*** Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
 - ***Focus:*** Fun-filled adventure activities tailored to younger children, blending teamwork, creativity, and active play.
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KS2 Dance & Gymnastics Club

- ***When:*** Tuesdays, starting 7th January 2025
 - ***Time:*** 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
 - ***Year Groups:*** Years 3 - 6
 - ***Focus:*** A perfect mix of dance and gymnastics, helping children build confidence, coordination, and a love for movement.
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Key Information

 **Cost per session:** £5 (General Admission) or £3.50 for Pupil Premium.

 **Booking Link:** <https://bookwhen.com/ecocoach>  **Capacity:** Limited to 20 children per session, with 5 spaces reserved for FSM children. If these spots remain unfilled, they will be offered to those on the waiting list.

Parents can book individual sessions or the whole term, and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

We're excited to offer these engaging opportunities for your children to stay active, develop skills, and have lots of fun next term. Should you have any questions or require assistance, feel free to contact us at greenteam@eco-coach.co.uk.

We can't wait to see your children in the clubs and look forward to a term filled with sports, teamwork, and excitement!



AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS AT HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL



ECOCOACH PE SOLUTIONS are excited to announce the launch of our new after-school sports clubs for KS1 (including Reception class) and KS2 children, offering an engaging and fun-filled opportunity to develop new skills, stay active, and make new friends!

KS1 ADVENTURE CLUB: STARTS: 8TH JANUARY 2025 (WEDNESDAYS, 6 SESSIONS) YEAR GROUPS: RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

KS2 DANCE & GYMNASTICS CLUB: STARTS: 7TH JANUARY 2025 (TUESDAYS, 6 SESSIONS) YEAR GROUPS: YEARS 3 - 6

⌚ TIME: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM 📄 COST PER SESSION: £5 GENERAL ADMISSION £3.50 FOR FSM CHILDREN (MUST BE VERIFIED BY SCHOOL).

HOW TO BOOK: PARENTS CAN CHOOSE TO BOOK INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS OR THE WHOLE TERM.

THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 20 CHILDREN PER SESSION, AND 5 SPOTS ARE RESERVED FOR FSM CHILDREN.

IF THESE SPOTS ARE NOT FILLED, THOSE ON THE WAITING LIST WILL BE OFFERED PLACES. IF THERE'S HIGH DEMAND, WE WILL CONSIDER ADDING AN ADDITIONAL COACH TO ACCOMMODATE MORE CHILDREN. BOOKINGS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED, AND ONLINE PAYMENT ONLY.

BOOKING LINK: [HTTPS://BOOKWHEN.COM/ECOCOACH](https://bookwhen.com/ecocoach)

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC TERM OF SPORTS, TEAMWORK, AND FUN! HURRY AND SECURE YOUR SPOT NOW! FOR ANY INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT [GREENTEAM@ECO-COACH.CO.UK](mailto:greenteam@eco-coach.co.uk)



FSM DISCOUNT BOOKING STEPS:
CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY: CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL TO CONFIRM YOUR CHILD'S FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM) STATUS.
GET DISCOUNT CODE: FORWARD THE CONFIRMATION TO [GREENTEAM@ECO-UKCOACH.CO.UK](mailto:greenteam@eco-ukcoach.co.uk) TO RECEIVE YOUR FSM CODE.
BOOK WITH DISCOUNT: USE THE FSM CODE AT CHECKOUT TO PAY £3.50

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!



Well done to Silver Birches and Oaks who have both achieved 100% this week. Attendance is looking good and many classes are at our school target of 96% or above. Well done!!

Silver Birches: 100%

Oaks: 100%

Elm: 99%

Bay: 97%

Cedars: 96%

Cherries: 96%

Redwoods: 96%

Willows: 96%

Ash: 95%

Maples: 94%

Apples: 94%

Friends of Hawthorn - Upcoming Events



'BREAK THE RULES' DAY!


Friday 24th January 2025

Choose from the list below and pay 50p per rule you break!
Please pay on MCAS and wear your usual uniform besides your rule breaks.

SCHOOL RULES

- #1 NO NAIL POLISH OR MAKE UP 
- #2 NO JEANS OR TRAINERS
- #3 NO SPORTS KITS OR CAPS 
- #4 NO FACE PAINT, GLITTER OR TEMPORARY TATTOOS!
- #5 NO COLOURFUL TIGHTS OR ODD SOCKS 
- #6 NO CRAZY HAIRSTYLES OR COLOURFUL HAIR
- #7 NO SQUASH IN YOUR WATER BOTTLE AND ONLY FRUIT FOR SNACK TIME 


If you have any questions, find us on social media @friendsofhawthorn or email friendsofhawthorkettering@gmail.com



THURS 13TH FEB 2025

EYFS/KS1 3.30-4.30
KS2 4.45-5.45

SILENT DISCO




TICKETS £3
Pay on MCAS

YOU ARE THE DJ!

LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS, PLEASE BOOK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

[TO SUGGEST A SONG FOR THE PLAYLIST CLICK HERE!](#)

MUSIC IS PLAYED THROUGH INDIVIDUAL HEADSETS. THERE WILL BE A QUIET ZONE WITH OTHER ACTIVITIES & GAMES AVAILABLE. DRINKS PROVIDED. EYFS/KS1 CAN WEAR NON-UNIFORM TO SCHOOL AS THEY WILL GO STRAIGHT TO THE DISCO AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY



What Parents and Carers Need to Know About...TikTok

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

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 ARE THE RISKS?
Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT
While TikTok's algorithm feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable if children start engaging with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS
With more than 1.6 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially on accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES
According to Ofcom, most online harms we heard are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION
Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. One of the prime areas of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, and Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 18-year-olds use TikTok on a weekly basis – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

IN-APP SPENDING
TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. One bundle ranges from £5.99 to an eye-opening £99, while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £2.9 billion in sales in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a few extra steps.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN
With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young minds. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 137 minutes per day on the app, their usage as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING
Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING
If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can offer their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We're not recommending enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS
If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

READ THE SIGNS
If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of *Wired*, *Technologist*, *Tom's Guide*, *The Evening Standard* and *The New Statesman*.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2024>

@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

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For information on talking with child about social media, please click on the following link which will take you to the Internet Matters website: [Internet Matters: Talking with your child about social media](#)

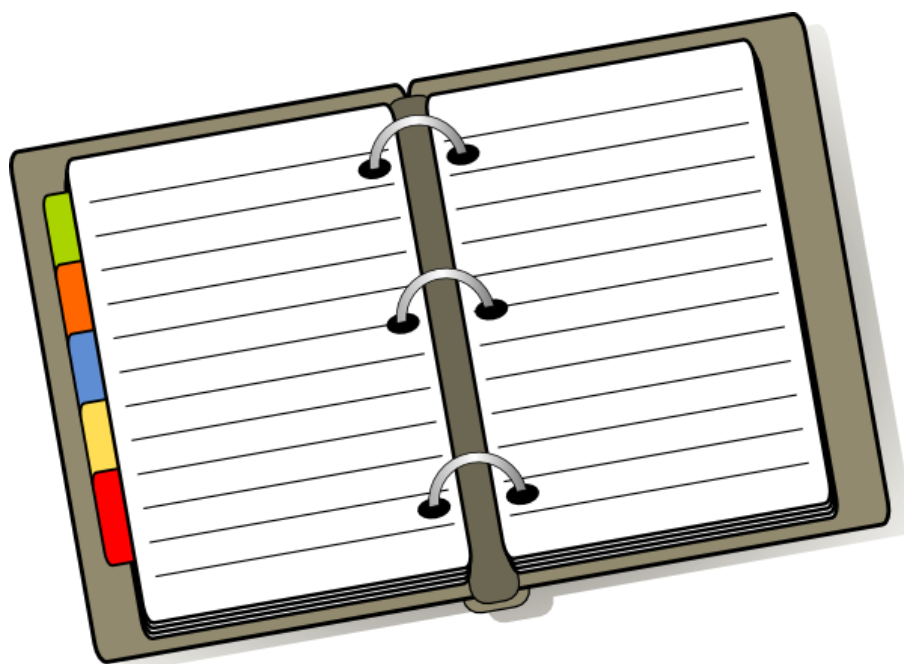
Internet Matters also offer *The Family Digital Toolkit* where parents can get personalised online safety advice based on a number of factors such as age, popular apps and platforms their children use, tackling online issues and more. [My Family's Digital Toolkit - tailored online safety advice | Internet Matters](#)

Community News & Events

Please follow the link below to the school website to find information on events happening in Kettering and surrounding areas:

[Hawthorn Primary - Community News and Events \(hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk\)](http://hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk)

Dates For Your Diary...



Weds 22nd Jan: Coffee Afternoon with the School Nurse (2pm)

Fri 24th Jan: Break the Rules Day (organised by the Friends of Hawthorn)

Weds 29th Jan: EYFS trip to West Lodge Farm

Thurs 6th Feb: KS1 trip to Sacrewell Farm

Weds 12th Feb: 2.15pm - EYFS and KS1 Celebration Assembly (invites to follow)

KS1 Cake Sale

Thurs 13th Feb: Coffee Afternoon: Storytime, all welcome (2pm)

2.15pm - KS2 Celebration Assembly (invites to follow)

Silent Discos (organised by the Friends of Hawthorn) for KS1 and KS2
