



17.10.25

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|  | Hawthorn Community Primary School <i>The Hawthorn Herald</i> |  |
| Website: hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk | |  |
| Head Teacher: Emma Jacox Email: head@hawthorn.pfschools.org.uk | | @hawthornpri |
| | | Tel: 01536 512204 |

Dear Parents and Carers,

Celebration Assemblies

It was fantastic to welcome parents into school this week as part of our Celebration Assemblies. The assemblies were held to mark this term's value of Community. A Hawthorn Hero was chosen from each class - a child who has promoted the value of Community both in school and beyond - and these children were awarded a certificate in assembly. They then took their parents to a lovely celebratory afternoon tea held in The Palm. Well done to all of this term's Hawthorn Heroes. Next term's value is Teamwork, so we will again be looking for Heroes who have actively promoted this value.

Secondary School Places

*Year 6 parents: a reminder that you have until **Fri 31st Oct** to apply for your child's secondary school place. You can do this by following the link: [Apply for a Secondary School Place - North Northants](#)*

Early Years

After half term, we will be welcoming Mrs Kimberley Reynolds to Hawthorn. Mrs Reynolds will be teaching in Cherries class alongside Mrs Syree, following the departure of Mrs Dickens.

We wish Mrs Dickens the best of luck as she takes up her new role as an outdoor nursery teacher. A warm welcome to Mrs Reynolds who can't wait to get to know you all.

Little Hawthorns

We are excited to announce that after half term, Miss Larkin will be hosting a new Parent and Under-5s group. Little Hawthorns will run on Monday 10 November and Monday 8th December from 2-3pm in The Palm. Come along for refreshments and meet other parents with little ones. A link to book a session will be sent to you nearer the time.

We are also accepting donations of good quality early years toys for use with our Little Hawthorns group. Please contact Miss Larkin if you have any you are able to offer.

The Wonderdome Planetarium

This week, Y5 & 6 welcomed the Wonderdome Planetarium into school to bring science to life! During the visit, the children learnt about space, including the features of planets and the history of space travel.

School Photos

Last week, Tempest Photography were in school to take individual and sibling photographs.

You should have received a link to order your photographs online or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk. You have until Monday 27th October to take advantage of free delivery back to school, after this you will be charged for delivery. If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

There is no obligation for you to buy a photograph.

15% Off School Uniform

*MyClothing are offering 15% off uniform between 16th-19th Oct. Use code **MIDTERM15%** at checkout. Browse the range on the following link:*

www.myclothing.com/collections/midterm15

*Have a lovely half term. We look forward to seeing you all back at school on **Monday 3rd November**.*

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher



1 - Mrs Tinto about to take off into space



2 - Inside the Wonderdome!



3 - Little Hawthorns

Sports Clubs

Next term, EcoCoach will be running the following after-school clubs:

Key Stage 2 Cricket Club (Tuesday) and Key Stage 1 Multi-Sports (Wednesday).

EcoCoach are currently working on a new booking platform and aim to share all booking information by the end of next week.

*All parents who have booked with EcoCoach previously will receive this information directly via email. Updates will be posted on their social media channels; alternatively please email **Liudvina** at greenoffice@eco-coach.co.uk for more information.*

Jolly Jars

On Friday 14th November, the Friends of Hawthorn will be holding the much-loved annual Jam Jar Mufti Day!

- 1. Decorate the outside of an old (clean) jam jar with stickers, Christmas paper, tape, tinsel, paint or glitter.*
- 2. Fill it with treats, such as sweets (individually wrapped only please) toys, stationery, hair accessories, etc.*
- 3. Bring in your jar and come to school in non-uniform for the day.*

Make as many as you can!

The jars will then be used as prizes at the Christmas Fair!

FRIENDS OF
HAWTHORN



A Hawthorn Tradition!

JOLLY JAR NON-UNIFORM DAY

FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2025



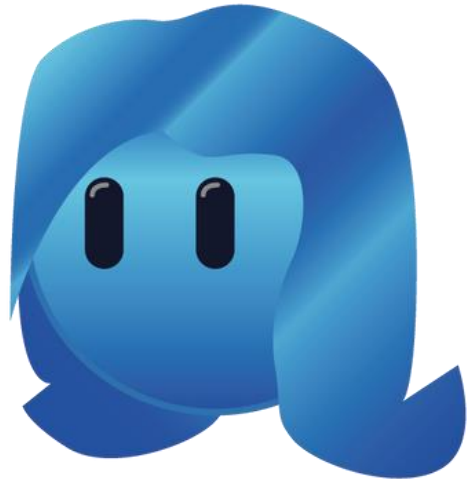
DECORATE WITH STICKERS,
CHRISTMAS PAPER, WASHI TAPE,
TINSEL, PAINT, GLITTER...
If you can make two, please do!

The jars will be
used as prizes at
the Christmas Fair!

ORGANISED BY THE FOH TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
FRIENDSOFHAWTHORNKETTERING@GMAIL.COM

House Points so far...



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

Air - 263 points

Earth - 265 points

Fire - 272 points

Water - 306 points

Cherries: 92%

Cedars: 91%

Bay: 90%

Online Safety: What Parents and Carers Need to Know About...Memes

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. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, *YPulse*), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- SPREADING MISINFORMATION**
While memes help to communicate complex issues, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts as historical viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.
- EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
Memes are easily circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.
- MASKED MESSAGES**
Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.
- HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY**
When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While it's funny when they seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.
- PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT**
Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misinterpreted, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, affecting how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS**
Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world. Discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.
- TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY**
Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing their literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Once their key devices are accessible, encourage them to explore digital literacy tools for health, and encourage them to check credible sources about internet safety to protect their health.
- MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES**
Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, using eye care, night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risk of device use. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.
- FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE**
Remind children and young people that memes should never target or someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Cristina Moreno-Almolda is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.

WakeUpWednesday The National College

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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](#)

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://hawthornprimary-kettering.co.uk)



A Message from Wicksteed Park...

There's lots to do at Wicksteed Park this October!

We are open for October Weekends on the 18th, and 19th of October, and for Halloween half-term daily from the 25th of October to the 2nd of November 2025. Come along from 10:30am to 4pm each day for frightfully good fun the whole family will enjoy!

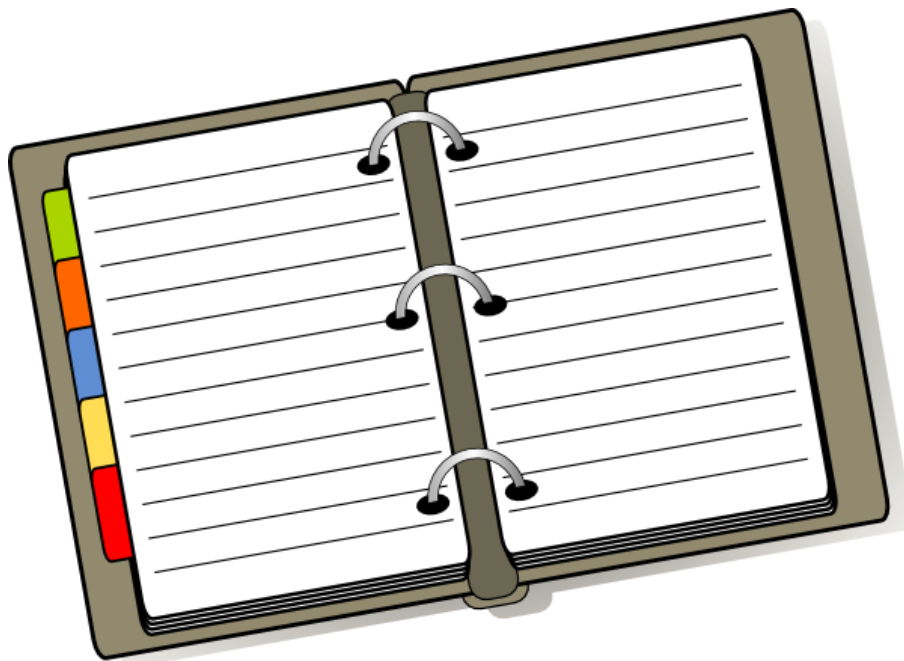
Halloween Haunt is returning to Wicksteed Park for October weekends and half-term with Halloween House creating a hauntingly exciting Chapter 2! There will be two fantastic family

friendly spooky walkthroughs to explore with brand new elements that will possess you with Halloween spirit.

**Attractions open are Halloween Haunt Chapter 2, Astroslide, Treetop Walk, Rockin' Tug, Clown Coaster, Meerkat Manor, Wicky's Farmyard, Pig 'N' Putt, Roundabout, Cups and Saucers, Lighthouse, Carousel, Sway Rider, and Wicksteed Park Railway.*

Book online today! <https://wicksteedpark.org/events/halloween-half-term-and-weekends/>

Dates For Your Diary...



Fri 17th Oct: Break Up

*******HALF TERM*******

Mon 3rd Nov: Back to School

Thurs 6th Nov: Redwoods first swimming session

w/c 10th November: Bikeability for Y6 children who have signed up

Mon 10th Nov: Little Hawthorns in The Palm (2-3pm)

Weds 19th Nov: Coffee Afternoon with Miss Larkin and School Nurse (2pm)

Fri 21st Nov: Children in Need

Fri 28th Nov: MHST Coffee Afternoon for parents - Talking to your child about mental health

Y5 Cake Sale

Tues 2nd Dec: KS1 & EYFS Celebration Assembly - invite only (2.15pm)

Thurs 4th Dec: KS2 Celebration Assembly - invite only (2.15pm)

Mon 8th Dec: Little Hawthorns in The Palm (2-3pm)

Tues 9th Dec: KS2 Christmas Musical Performance at **The Toller Church on Gold Street**.
Performance 1: 1.30-2.30pm, Performance 2: 5.30-6.30pm.

The events will be ticketed; further info will go out at the beginning of November.

Thurs 11th Dec & Fri 12th Dec: Coram Life Sciences Mental Health Workshops for children

Thurs 18th Dec: Kingswood Christmas Lunch

Fri 19th Dec: Santa's Grotto at Hawthorn

Carols Around the Tree

Break Up

**Dates for EYFS/KS1 Christmas events to be confirmed*



ANCHORED SCHOOLS



GOLD AWARD