



5.6.26

	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,

We've had a great start back this week with lots of events happening at Hawthorn and many more taking place over the coming weeks!

Year 1 Phonics Screening

Over the next couple of weeks we will be carrying out the Phonics Screening Check for our Year 1 children. This is a short assessment (5-10 mins) that confirms whether children have learned phonic decoding to an expected standard. During the check, your child will be asked to read 40 words - a mix of real and made-up words. You will receive your child's result in their end of year report. If they do not meet the expected standard, they will receive additional support and will have the opportunity to retake the check in Year 2.

You can help your child to be successful by reading regularly with them at home, focusing on sounding out and blending, and using phonics games and books with simple decodable words.

Hawthorn World Cup Project

Our Hawthorn World Cup Project kicks off next week. Please see the letter you were sent yesterday for full details. During the tournament, the children will be learning about the

different countries as well as taking part in our latest House Challenge - The Hawthorn Penalty Shoot-out, featuring some unlikely goal keepers!

We want you to get involved too! Please send in any ideas, photos or research you have done at home, talk to your child about their favourite teams and world cup moments!

And if any parent wishes to offer themselves up as a goalkeeper for our penalty shoot-out, please let me know! You would need to be available on any of the days between 6th July and 13th July for half an hour between 12-1pm! A big thank you to those parents who have already offered!

Your child is invited to come into school in football kit or PE kit on Friday (12th) to celebrate the launch of our world cup project.

Online Safety

On Tuesday we will be welcoming Simon Aston back to Hawthorn to talk to our Y5 and Y6 children about online safety. Simon is the Online Safety and Wellbeing Officer for West Northants Council and has a wealth of knowledge about staying safe online. He will also be carrying out a staff session too, so we are up to date with the sites that are currently popular among our children.

TTRs - Battle of the Houses!!

On Monday, we revealed the winners of our KS2 Times Tables Rockstars' Battle of the Houses! We were so impressed by how many children took part, showing enthusiasm, determination, and fantastic times tables skills.

*We're thrilled to announce that the winning house was... **WATER!***

Congratulations to Water —a brilliant achievement!

A big well done to all the children who participated. The top three point scorers from each house were recognised in our assembly and presented with certificates for their outstanding efforts.

Thank you also to everyone who dressed up as a Rockstar—children (and staff) looked amazing! It was wonderful to see so much fun and energy around learning times tables.

Y6 Residential

Year 6 have had an amazing few days at Longtown for their residential this week. They took part in stream scrambling, caving and orienteering, challenging themselves and building their confidence. A big thank you to Mr J, Miss Greener, Miss Drummond and Mrs King who accompanied the children on their residential.

ReachMoreParents - New Parent App

You will have received details of how to login to our new parent App ReachMoreParents. This is now in use alongside MCAS until Friday 12th June for messages from the school office. Please download and login to the App so that you don't miss any messages from school after this date. If you would like login details re-sent please email the school office on office@hawthorn.pfschools.com. MCAS will continue to be used for payments until September when we will switch over to ParentPay.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher

This Week's Playground Champions

The Lunchtime Supervisors have chosen these children as this week's Playground Champions:

- *Cora (Redwoods)*
 - *Ebanehita (Ash)*
 - *George H (Willows)*
-

Well done children - you have all shown brilliant behaviours on the playground, playing respectfully and supporting others...and have earned 5 House Points for your house!!! Keep up the good work!

Summer Term Sports Clubs

Please see below details of this term's Sports Clubs, run by EcoCoach. All clubs will run from 3.30-4.30pm and cost £5.50 per session (Pupil Premium discount available).

Reception and KS1: Obstacle Course

Starts: 3rd June 2026 (Wednesdays, 8 sessions)

KS2: Basketball Club

Starts: 2nd June 2026 (Tuesdays, 8 sessions)

Please see below for details of how to book.



ECOCOACH CIC PRESENTS

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS AT HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

STARTING 2 JUNE 2026

ECOCOACH CIC ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW AFTER-SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS FOR KS1 (INCLUDING RECEPTION) AND KS2 CHILDREN, OFFERING AN ENGAGING AND FUN-FILLED OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP NEW SKILLS, STAY ACTIVE, AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS!

**KS1 OBSTACLE COURSE CLUB: STARTS: 3RD JUNE 2026
(WEDNESDAYS, 8 SESSIONS)
YEAR GROUPS: RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2**

**KS2 BASKETBALL CLUB: STARTS: 2ND JUNE 2026
(TUESDAYS, 8 SESSIONS) YEAR GROUPS: YEARS 3 - 6**

**🕒 TIME: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
💷 COST PER SESSION: £5.50**

**DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE:
WE'RE COMMITTED TO MAKING CHILDCARE MORE AFFORDABLE:
15% OFF FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)
10% OFF FOR NHS, MILITARY, OR BLUE LIGHT CARD HOLDERS**

**TO CLAIM YOUR DISCOUNT:
EMAIL GREENOFFICE@ECO-COACH.CO.UK WITH A PHOTO OF YOUR EVIDENCE (FSM ELIGIBILITY OR VALID ID).
WE'LL SEND YOU A UNIQUE DISCOUNT CODE TO USE WHEN BOOKING.**

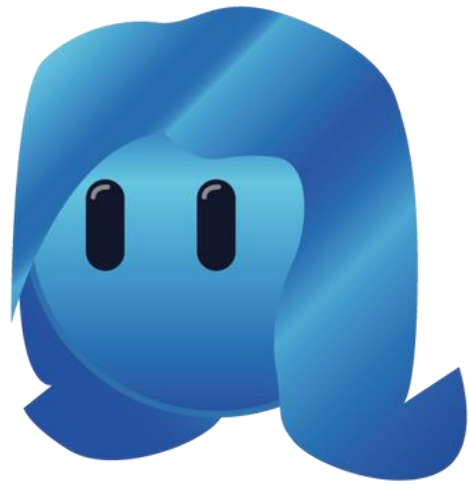
**HOW TO BOOK:
PARENTS CAN CHOOSE TO BOOK INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS OR THE WHOLE TERM.
THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 20 CHILDREN PER SESSION, AND 5 SPOTS ARE RESERVED FOR FSM CHILDREN.
IF THESE SPOTS ARE NOT FILLED, THOSE ON THE WAITING LIST WILL BE OFFERED PLACES. IF THERE'S HIGH DEMAND, WE WILL CONSIDER ADDING AN ADDITIONAL COACH TO ACCOMMODATE MORE CHILDREN. BOOKINGS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED, AND ONLINE PAYMENT ONLY.**

BOOKING LINK: [HTTPS://PBBL.UK/ECOCOACHCIC](https://pbbl.uk/ecocoachcic)

**WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC TERM OF SPORTS, TEAMWORK, AND FUN! HURRY AND SECURE YOUR SPOT NOW!
FOR ANY ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT GREENOFFICE@ECO-COACH.CO.UK**



House Points so far...



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

Air - 1641 points

Fire - 1706 points

Water - 1712 points

Earth - 1810 points

What Parents Need to Know about Allergies and Anaphylaxis

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

As the best-selling game in history, Minecraft has made a name for itself by empowering audiences of all ages to harness their creativity. Originally an indie hit, it's become a cultural phenomenon with merchandise, spin-off titles, and wider media adaptations. Even if you don't know your Creepers from your Endermen, this guide will explore the risks of Minecraft in 2026 and explain how to support a safe gaming experience for the children in your care.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVER COMMUNICATION

Many players enjoy Minecraft with others, including friends and unknown players online. In-game text chat is commonly used to coordinate building projects and gameplay, and this can extend to adding friends to voice chat. While often harmless, this creates risks around contact with strangers, and in some cases, server hosts may expose IP addresses (if hosting independently), which raises privacy and security concerns.

GRIEFING BEHAVIOUR

Some players deliberately damage or destroy other players' creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying that can undo hours of effort and cause frustration or distress to affected players. Although many servers treat griefing as a serious offence, enforcement varies. Children who prefer to build independently may feel safer working on private worlds or controlled servers.

ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY LOOPS

Minecraft's creative focus can make it easy for players to lose track of time. The cycle of gathering resources and building projects can be highly engaging, which may challenge agreed screen-time limits. If not managed effectively, this can impact children's sleep, schoolwork, and real-world social interaction.

SCARY GAME ELEMENTS

Although often compared to digital construction toys, some gameplay modes include hostile creatures with unsettling sounds and sudden encounters. While there is no graphic violence, younger players may still find zombies, spiders, or dark environments frightening. These experiences can lead to anxiety or reluctance to play, depending on the child's age and sensitivity.

IN-GAME SPENDING

Minecraft requires a one-off purchase after a free trial, usually around £15, but additional spending is possible. Players can buy cosmetic content or subscribe to Minecraft 'Realms' for private servers. Without supervision, children may make unintended purchases. Subscription services and add-ons can also increase overall costs over time if not monitored.

ONLINE INTERACTIONS

Playing with others can introduce broader online safety concerns, including exposure to inappropriate language or behaviour. Some players may attempt to move conversations beyond the game, which can increase risks to children's safety and welfare. Children may not always recognise these situations, meaning guidance and ongoing conversations about safe interactions are essential.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE SUITABLE GAME MODES

Creative or Peaceful modes remove hostile creatures and reduce the pressure during gameplay. These options allow children to focus on building and exploration without fear of attack. They are also ideal for shared play between adults and children, creating a calmer environment to learn the game and enjoy collaborative projects.

DISCUSS ONLINE STRANGERS

Children should understand that not everyone they meet online is who they claim to be. Clear guidance about not sharing personal information is essential. Encourage children to report any worrying or uncomfortable interactions and reassure them that they can seek help without fear of punishment. Open, ongoing conversations help build their confidence and awareness of these issues.

USE PRIVATE SERVERS

Setting up a private server helps control who can join a child's game. Access can be limited to trusted friends through passwords or invitations. This reduces the likelihood of unwanted interactions and gives adults greater oversight. While some options involve a subscription fee, they offer a safer and more controlled multiplayer experience.

SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Agree on clear rules around purchases before letting children play, and use device settings or platform controls to restrict spending within agreed limits. Explaining that in-game currency uses real-world money can help children make informed decisions. Regularly reviewing purchases together can also prevent unexpected costs and encourage responsible behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes spent 7 years in games media before moving into the games industry via PR and marketing. A parent himself to a Minecraft-loving son, he understands why it's so important to stay safe online.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

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

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Online Safety and Scams

Please see the link below for this month's Online Safety video from Knowsley Council:

[Online Safety and Scams](#)

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](#)

Join our School Lottery



- 1 JOIN OUR LOTTERY** 
- 2 BOOST SCHOOL FUNDS** 
- 3 WIN CASH PRIZES** 

It's As Easy As



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- The easy way to help us raise funds
- Local cash prizes every week
- Chance to win the £25k jackpot



Scan to play!

To start supporting, visit:
yourschoollottery.co.uk
and search for: Hawthorn Community

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

Community News & Events

REPAIR CAFE Kettering



BIN IT? NO WAY!

KETTERING'S GOT A REPAIR CAFÉ!

Got something broken? Bring your:

Kitchen knives
Textiles & clothing
Small appliances
Well-loved toys
Bicycles
Electronics
Jewellery
and more!



For a voluntary contribution, our volunteers will help fix your items while teaching you valuable repair skills. Let's reduce waste, save money and extend the life of our favourite things!

Refreshments and cakes available in our café while you wait.



WHEN?

2026 DATES

Feb 21 | May 16
Sep 19 | Nov 28

10am-1pm

WHERE?

ST MICHAEL'S
CHURCH
33 GARFIELD ST
KETTERING
NN15 6BU

Do I need to book?

No, just turn up with your item.



If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, contact repaircafekettering@gmail.com

COMMUNITY - CREATIVITY - CONNECTION

ANALOGUE AFTERNOONS

FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH 1-4PM

ST MICHAEL'S, GARFIELD ST, KETTERING, NN15 6BU

COME TOGETHER TO BUILD COMMUNITY
ENJOY TIME AWAY FROM SCREENS & SOCIAL MEDIA

BRING YOUR OWN CRAFTS,
BOOKS, GAMES & HOBBIES

SHARE SUPPLIES & SKILLS

TAKE PART IN CREATIVE
COMMUNITY PROJECTS

KIDS ZONE

LEGO, CRAFTS
& GAMES IN A
SAFE SPACE

MUST ATTEND WITH A
RESPONSIBLE ADULT

EVERYONE IS WELCOME - FREE OF CHARGE

Messy Mayhem Creative Play

Wednesday afternoons, 1-2pm

St Michael's Church, Garfield Street

£6 per child

Suitable for children from when they can sit!

Come and spend some time with your little one exploring different textures, sights, sounds and smells.

For more info contact Linda at MessyMayhemCP@outlook.com

Dates For Your Diary...



Tues 9th Jun: Online Safety workshops for Y5 and Y6

Fri 12th June: Launch of Hawthorn World Cup Project - chn to come in football / PE kit. Focus Country 1

Mon 15th Jun: Little Hawthorns (2-3pm)

Thurs 18th Jun: Y5 STEM Day at Southfields

EYFS Planting with Parents event (2.15-3.15pm)

Reception Sept 2026 Welcome Meeting (5pm)

Fri 19th Jun: FoH Father's Day Gift Stall

Rotary Stars Assemblies (invite only)

World Cup Focus: Country 2

Mon 22nd June: KS1 trip to Hamerton Zoo Park

Thurs 25th Jun: Y6 Junior Citizens (9.30-11.30am)

New Reception intake sessions (1pm)

Fri 26th Jun: EYFS Cake Sale

World Cup focus: Country 3

Mon 29th Jun: Transition Lunch Clubs in school

Tues 30th Jun: Y3 Ukelele concert to parents has been moved to 7th July

Thurs 2nd July: KS2 Midsummer Dancing (pm)

Reception 2026 Intake Sessions (pm)

Fri 3rd July: Y6 perform *The Tempest* (1.30-2.30pm and 3.30-4.30pm)

Mon 6th July: Transition Day

Hawthorn penalty shoot out starts

Tues 7th July: Year 3 Ukelele Concert to parents (2.30 pm)

Fri 10th July: End of Year Reports go out

World Cup focus: Country 4

Tues 14th July: *LKS2 trip to Holdenby House*

Weds 15th July: *Sports Day at St Peter's: AM-KS2, PM- EYFS/KS1*

5-year-old dental survey

Rocksteady Concert (time tbc)

3.40-5pm: Parent drop-ins

Thurs 16th July: *ISM Music Concert (1.30 pm)*

Grand final penalty shoot-out

Fri 17th July: *Rocksteady Concert (2 pm)*

Tues 21st July: *UKS2 trip to Twin Lakes*

EYFS/KS1 Celebration Assembly - invite only (2.15pm)

Weds 22nd July: *KS2 Celebration Assembly - invite only (9am)*

House Picnic & Winners' Ceremony - chn only (Kingswood packed lunches only)

Thurs 23rd July: *Y6 Graduation (pm - time TBC)*

Y6 Leavers' Party (5-7pm)

Fri 24th July: *Y6 Leaver's Arch (3pm)*

Break Up



ANCHORED SCHOOLS



GOLD AWARD