



18.09.26



Hawthorn Community Primary School

The Hawthorn Herald

Website: hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk

Head Teacher: Emma Jacox
Email: head@hawthorn-slt.co.uk

Instagram & Facebook: [hawthornpri](https://www.instagram.com/hawthornpri)



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another fantastic week at Hawthorn! It's always lovely to see how enthusiastic the children are towards their learning and when I have walked around the classes this week, there has been a busy buzz of children trying hard and challenging themselves!

I continue to be very impressed with how our new Reception children have settled into Hawthorn. Already, the classroom routines have become established and the children are learning how to manage themselves in the busy environment.

Reception Houses

On Monday, we will hold a Sorting Ceremony for our new Reception children, where they will find out which House they are going into.

Our Hawthorn House System aims to support:

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- Positive pupil relationships: A chance to develop a sense of healthy competition, team-working and supporting house-mates.*

- *Pupil and staff collaboration: Children will get to know children and staff in different phases of the school and will work together to support their house.*
 - *Experiences for all: A wide range of inter-house events will take place across the year. There'll be something for everyone!*
-

Toast & Tales

Toast and Tales will be held next week for Year 4 (Tues) and Year 3 (Weds). Please come along and enjoy a book and light breakfast with your children, 8.20am in the hall. Booking has now closed for these events.

Maths Workshop

Thank you to all the Reception parents who joined us this week for our phonics workshop. It was great to see so many of you and share how we teach our children to read. Next Friday (25th) we will be holding a Maths workshop for Reception parents, at 2.45pm in The Palm. Please enter via the Hawthorn Road gate. Please let us know that you will be coming by filling in the form on Reach More Parents this can be found in the Forms section.

Sponsored Bounce!

*Our whole school Sponsored Bounce has been a great success this week. Thank you to everyone who supported this by raising money for school funds, it is greatly appreciated. All the monies raised will go towards the celebration events held at Hawthorn: Toast and Tales, Celebration Assembly Afternoon Teas and book prizes for the reading raffle, etc. Please send in your sponsorship money on **Monday 21st September**.*

Harvest Festival

On Friday 2nd October we will be holding our school Harvest Festival. Parents are welcome to join us on the playground for the celebration. The Broadway gates will open at 2.25pm ready for a 2.30pm start.

We will be collecting donations for Home Start Kettering. More than 30 Home Start volunteers visit families across Kettering at home each week, supporting parents in situations as diverse as isolation, bereavement, multiple births, illness, disability or who are just finding parenting a struggle. The scheme also holds a Christmas party for the families they support, and each family is provided with a food hamper to take home with them.

Please bring donations into school on the morning of Friday 2nd October. Donations can include tins, packets, sweets, essentials such as toothpaste, shower gel or luxury items. Please do not send in fresh produce.

Parents Evenings – Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th October

*Our first parents evenings of this academic year will be held in October. We encourage all parents to attend as this is an opportunity to discuss how your child is progressing with their teacher. Appointments can be booked on the **Reach More Parents App**. Further details will be sent to you on Monday.*

Cake and a Chat

Thank you to everyone who attended our Cake and Chat sessions this week - it was great to see you all and offered a good opportunity for parents to get to know each other. We will be holding similar events moving forwards and would love to see you there.

Playground Champions

This week's Playground Champions are: Rosie, Freddie M and Henry.

Well done everyone - it's great to see you displaying our values of Teamwork and Respect whilst out on the playground!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher

Reception Intake 2027

Applications have now opened for children who will be of school age next September. You can apply for a primary school place on [Apply for a primary school place | North Northamptonshire Council \(northnorthants.gov.uk\)](#) We would be delighted if you consider

Hawthorn for the start of your child's education. We have several school tours taking place throughout this term. Please ring the office on 01536 512204 to book your place on one of our tours.

Autumn Term Clubs

Please see below for details of how to book onto our Autumn Term clubs with EcoCoach.

**ECO COACH**
CIC

STARTING 4TH SEPTEMBER 2026

**AFTER-SCHOOL
ACTIVITY CLUBS**

**AT HAWTHORN
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

 **DEVELOP
NEW SKILLS,
STAY ACTIVE &
MAKE NEW
FRIENDS!**



 **SAFE**
A safe and
welcoming
environment

 **ACTIVE**
Fun, engaging
activities every
week

 **SUPPORTIVE**
Caring staff
who know your
children

**FOR KS1 (INCLUDING RECEPTION)
AND KS2 CHILDREN**

FUN. FITNESS. FRIENDS. EVERY CHILD. EVERY TIME.

WEDNESDAYS

 **KS1 DANCE CLUB**
STARTS 9TH SEPTEMBER 2026
WEDNESDAYS, 6 SESSIONS

FRIDAYS

 **KS2 TAG CLUB**
STARTS 4TH SEPTEMBER 2026
FRIDAYS, 7 SESSIONS

YEAR GROUPS:
RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

YEAR GROUPS:
YEARS 3 – 6

 **TIME:**
3:30PM – 4:30PM

 **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.
- ✓ THERE ARE PLACES RESERVED FOR
FSM CHILDREN.
- ✓ IF THESE PLACES 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.

BOOK HERE



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

 **SECURE BOOKING**

 **ONLINE PAYMENT ONLY**

 **WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC TERM OF
SPORTS, TEAMWORK, AND FUN! HURRY AND SECURE YOUR PLACE NOW!**

October Holiday Club

Bookings for our October Holiday Club, run by EcoCoach, are now open.

The club will run from Mon 26th - Friday 30th October.

See the flyer below to make a booking.



ECOCOACH CIC

ACTIVE CHILDREN BRIGHTER FUTURES

OCTOBER HALF-TERM CAMP

HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

PLAY • EXPLORE • CREATE • BELONG

MOVE. MAKE. PLAY. REPEAT.

- MAKE FRIENDS
- BUILD CONFIDENCE
- STAY ACTIVE
- HAVE FUN!

Five days of sport, creativity, games and the freedom to choose what you enjoy.

- GAMES & SPORTS
- NERF BATTLES
- LASER TAG
- UV GAMES
- HALLOWEEN-THEMED ACTIVITIES
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- MOVEMENT & DANCE
- FREE PLAY & MORE

WHEN
MONDAY 26TH – FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

TIMES
9:00AM – 3:00PM
LATE COLLECTION UNTIL 4:00PM

WHERE
HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHO
AGES 4 – 11

OFSTED REGISTERED
Safe, high-quality childcare you can trust.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
Get 17% off all bookings made by 1st October 2026!
Use code: **EC017**

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Card payments accepted
- Child Tax Free Account (CTF)
- We support claims from Universal Credit
- We accept childcare vouchers

BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY
pbbl.uk/EcoCoach
Late collection can be added during booking.

LIMITED SPACES BOOK EARLY!

#EveryChildPlays

MORE THAN A CAMP.
A BRIGHTER HALF TERM.



House Points

Which house has made the strongest start this year?

Air: 55

Fire: 59

Earth: 65

Water: 69

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!



Ash & Cherries are again at the top of the list this week! Well done!

Ash: 99%

Cherries: 99%

Apples: 98%

Redwoods: 98%

Oaks: 97%

Silver Birches: 97%

Maples: 96%

Cedars: 95%

Bay: 92%

Elm: 91%

Willows: 90%



Travelling Safely To and From School

We want all of our children to be safe as they travel to and from school, whether walking, on a bike or scooter, by public transport or by car.

The road safety message of ABC is an important one to share with children along with the Green Cross Code for safely crossing the road.

A for awareness (traffic is dangerous and can hurt people)

B for behaviour (things you should do to stay safer)

C for choice and campaigning (how to make safer choices and to help others make these choices too).

To follow the Green Cross Code everyone should:

- find a safe place to cross*
- stand on the pavement near the kerb*
- look all round for traffic and listen*
- if traffic is coming - let it pass then look all round again*

- *when there is no traffic near, walk straight across the road*
 - *keep looking and listening for traffic while crossing.*
-

Bike and Scooter Safety

*As part of being a healthy school we encourage children to walk, scoot or cycle to school. Scooter and cycle racks are available for children to leave their scooters and bikes during the day. **For safety reasons we ask that when on the school site, scooters and bikes are pushed rather than ridden so that no one is accidentally bumped into.***

What Parents and Carers Need to Know About...Toxic Gaming

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 TOXIC GAMING

Gaming should be a way for children to have safe fun with their friends. But anonymity and a lack of consequences can mean that corners of online multiplayer gaming are riddled with toxicity that makes them unpleasant at best, and damaging to children at worst.

A 2019 study found 74% of players had experienced harassment in online games, and such behaviour has become increasingly normalised.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GAMING WITHOUT THE FUN

Toxic gaming takes many forms. In live, multiplayer games, players can be targeted by strangers bullying them over voice and text, or deliberately sabotaging their game. It can also be present in spaces outside of the game such as Discord and Reddit, with players gatekeeping their community and making it deliberately unwelcoming to newcomers. In extreme circumstances, it can lead to physical threats, stalking and doxing.

WIDESPREAD TOXICITY

The Anti-Defamation League's 2019 study numbers are stark. At that point, 74% of players had experienced some form of abuse, with 65% receiving physical threats, stalking or sustained harassment. Nearly a third of players surveyed found themselves doxed while playing online, which means private or personal information was shared against their will in an attempt to intimidate or silence.

BIGOTED TRASH TALK

Such toxic tactics are especially prevalent against girls, LGBTQ+ players and players from minority ethnic backgrounds. In all, 53% of respondents reported being targeted based on their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Another survey revealed that 88% of openly LGBTQ+ players have been harassed by their communities, while over half of women report using a non-gendered or male username while playing to avoid harassment.

EXTREMIST IDEOLOGIES

Extremist groups have been known to target gaming communities and streaming platforms as a way of spreading propaganda and recruiting young players to their cause. Even in 2019, the ADL's research found that 23% of players had been exposed to white supremacist ideology, with a further 8% exposed to positive views about Islamic State. Disinformation is also a problem, with 13% hearing conspiracy theories about 9/11 and 9% exposed to Holocaust denial.

A SAFE SPACE MADE UNSAFE

This toxic environment can lead to the same feelings of fear, isolation and depression that offline bullying can. Children exposed to toxic gaming can become withdrawn, anxious or irritable. They can struggle with sleep and find it difficult to focus on schoolwork and other pursuits, even after the game has been switched off and they're no longer playing.

COPYING HARMFUL BEHAVIOUR

At the other end of the spectrum, children can mimic the toxic behaviour and language they've seen online in offline settings. If bullying or bigoted chat is normalised as a legitimate part of online gaming, children may end up emulating it offline with classmates, seeing it as harmless banter. This could make other children's lives miserable or leave them feeling isolated at school.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PLAY WITH FRIENDS

While some games rely on playing with strangers to make up the numbers, there are plenty of titles that can be played on a private server with vetted, trusted friends, sidestepping the toxic elements of the wider gaming community. If a child encounters toxic behaviour in others while playing larger games, encourage them to block and report the players responsible.

USE THE GAME'S TOOLS

Many online games provide ways to limit interaction with strangers, either through the global settings on Playstation or Xbox, or within the game itself. Look at the options, and make it so children can only communicate with their friends. If you can't see this level of control, you can consider disabling chat completely and, where age-appropriate, using a suitable separate service for communication with friends.

TALK TO CHILDREN

Most importantly, if children are gaming online or want to start, talk to them about the risks and how to deal with toxic behaviour. Explain the kinds of behaviour they may encounter, encourage them to report and block, and let them know they can talk to you about any concerns. Where appropriate, you may even want to play alongside them to get a feel for the community yourself.

FIND THE RIGHT COMMUNITY

If your child is at an age where social media is permitted, friendly communities exist. There are online groups for LGBTQ+ players, players from minority backgrounds and girls, where they can chat and find people to play with in more welcoming environments. Not everyone is who they claim to be online, so be sure to discuss the risks of online friendships, and maintain an open dialogue with children to ensure their ongoing safety.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.

[#WakeUpWednesday](https://www.wakeupwednesday.com)

The National College

Get full reference list on our website

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

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.09.2020

Online Safety and Scams

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

[Back to School](#)

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

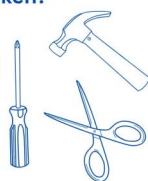


BIN IT? NO WAY!

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

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!

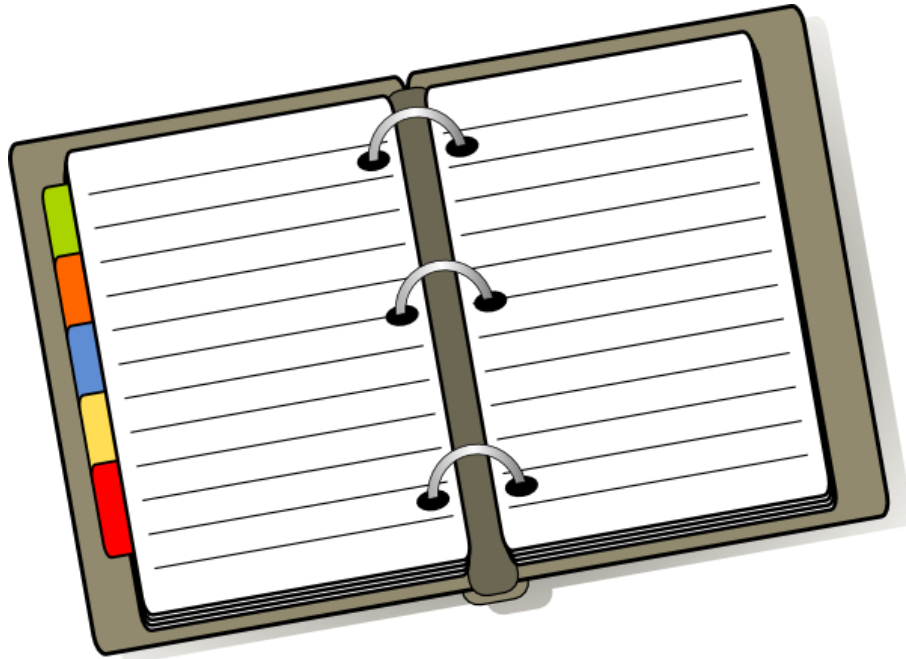
Come and spend some time with your little one exploring different textures, sights, sounds and smells.

For more info contact Linda at MessyMayhemCP@outlook.com

Hawthorn Road Pharmacy

A new Sage Pharmacy has now opened in Hawthorn Road, near the Butchers. The team look forward to supporting parents and children with their health care needs.

Dates For Your Diary...



Mon 21st Sept: All sponsored bounce forms and money to be returned to school

Little Hawthorns (2-3pm)

Tues 22nd Sept: Y4 Toast & Tales (8.20am)

Weds 23rd Sept: Y3 Toast & Tales (8.20am)

Thurs 24th Sept: New Parent Intake Tour - Reception 2027 (4pm)

Fri 25th Sept: Maths Workshop for new Reception parents (2.45pm)

Tues 29th Sept: Y2 Toast & Tales (8.20am)

New Parent Intake Tour - Reception 2027 (4pm)

Weds 30th Sept: Y1 Toast & Tales

Thurs 1st Oct: National Poetry Day

National Holocaust Centre in for Y5 & 6

Fri 2nd Oct: Harvest Festival (2.30pm)

Tues 6th Oct: Parents Evening - starting at 3.30pm

Weds 7th Oct: Whole-school flu vaccinations

Thurs 8th Oct: Parents Evening - starting at 3.30pm

Mon 12th Oct: Little Hawthorns (2-3pm)

Tues 13th Oct: School Photos

New Parent Intake Tour - Reception 2027 (4pm)

Thurs 15th Oct: KS2 Celebration Assembly - invite only (2.15pm)

Y6 Cake Sale (3.10pm)

New Parent Intake Tour - Reception 2027 (4pm)

Fri 16th Oct: EYFS/KS1 Celebration Assembly - invite only (2.15pm)

Break Up

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



ANCHORED SCHOOLS



GOLD AWARD