



02.10.26

	Hawthorn Community Primary School <i>The Hawthorn Herald</i>	
Website: hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk		
Head Teacher: Emma Jacox Email: head@hawthorn-slt.co.uk		
Instagram & Facebook: hawthornpri		

Dear Parents and Carers,

Harvest Festival

Thank you for all the generous donations of Harvest produce we received today.

The majority of our harvest produce has now gone to Homestart Kettering which supports parents in situations as diverse as isolation, bereavement, illness or disability. Our Hawthorn Community Reps and Ambassadors will also be out and about on Monday, gifting Harvest Hampers to those in need in our local area.

*If you would like to nominate someone to receive a Harvest Hamper, please complete the form on the **Reach More Parents** App by 9 am on Monday.*

Pumpkin House Challenge

Next week, we will start our first House challenge of the school year! The Pumpkin Challenge, run by the newly elected Hawthorn School Council!! We will be inviting children to decorate pictures of pumpkins; the winners will receive house points to go towards their house challenge. Bonus points will be awarded for children who then go on to carve their own pumpkins at home in their picture's design!

Parents Evenings – Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th October

*Our first parents evenings of this academic year will be held soon. 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.*

Playground Champions

This week's Playground Champions are:

-
- *Albert*
 - *Cora*
 - *Darcey D*
-

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

Goodbye Miss Bell

A huge thank you, goodbye and good luck to Miss Bell who leaves us today to pursue a career in youth work. Miss Bell has been an asset to Hawthorn over the 8 years that she has been with us, as not only as a key member of the UKS2 team, but also by teaching and supporting children across the school. Miss Bell you will be very missed at Hawthorn and we wish you all the very best of luck in your new career.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher

Football Tournament

On Wednesday, a group of our Year 6 children attended a school football tournament held at Latimer Arts College. While it wasn't their day with the results, they put in a good team performance with lots of encouragement between themselves. Well done to Thalia for getting us on the score sheet!



Friends of Hawthorn AGM

Everyone welcome!



Please Join Us!

FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN AGM

TUESDAY OCTOBER 13TH

15.30

Please collect your child/ren as usual at the end of the school day and sign in at the office. To enable as many parents/carers as possible to attend, a film will be shown for children accompanying them, with adult supervision provided for the duration the meeting.

Contact:
friendsofhawthornkettering@gmail.com

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

 **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.

ECO COACH
CIC

ACTIVE CHILDREN
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

**OCTOBER
HALF-TERM
CAMP**

HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

PLAY • EXPLORE • CREATE • BELONG

MAKE FRIENDS

BUILD CONFIDENCE

STAY ACTIVE

HAVE FUN!

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

MOVE. MAKE. PLAY. REPEAT.

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
pbbi.uk/EcoCoach
Late collection can be added during booking.

LIMITED SPACES BOOK EARLY!

#EveryChildPlays

**MORE THAN A CAMP.
A BRIGHTER HALF TERM.**



House Points

There's been a change at the top!

Air: 194

Fire: 207

Water: 221

Earth: 227

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!



The top spot is hotly contested this week with 4 classes achieving 99%! Well done!

Maples: 99%

Willows: 99%

Redwoods: 99%

Bay: 99%

Apples: 98%

Oaks: 98%

Cherries: 97%

Silver Birches: 96%

Ash: 92%

Elm: 92%

Cedars: 91%

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

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 LOOKSMAXXING

Looksmaxxing is an online trend focused on improving one's physical appearance, particularly among boys and young men. At the milder end, it can involve grooming, skincare, diet and exercise advice, sometimes called "softmaxxing". At its extremes, or "hardmaxxing", it can promote unproven or dangerous practices and contribute to body image concerns, low self-worth, and mental health difficulties.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TARGETING MALE INSECURITIES

Although usually aimed at men, looksmaxxing can also reach boys by promising to improve their appearance and dating success. Forums offer 'objective' and sometimes brutal, views on attractiveness, while influencers may make appearance seem all-important. Advice ranges from useful tips on hygiene, skincare, and fashion to more concerning guidance.

DUBIOUS ADVICE

Some advice moves into dubious territory. One example is "mewing", a tongue exercise claimed to create a more masculine jawline. The American Association of Orthodontists says evidence for its effectiveness is limited and warns that following such guidance could contribute to tooth alignment problems, bite issues, and speech difficulties.

EXTREME REMEDIES

Some DIY remedies are even more extreme and potentially dangerous. While fears of "bonesmashing" – which involves trying to alter the cheekbones using blunt objects for a more 'masculine' appearance – may sometimes be overstated in the media, other guidance can also cause harm. Untrained use of microneedling and derma rollers, taking substances or medication without appropriate medical guidance, and overusing skincare products can all have potentially harmful consequences.

BODY IMAGE ISSUES

This pursuit of physical perfection can become obsessive and contribute to serious body image issues. Exposure to looksmaxxing content can encourage teenagers to tie their appearance to their value and self-worth, as well as making boys and young men feel they need to change perfectly normal aspects of their appearance. This can be associated with disordered eating, overexercising, or other obsessive behaviours that interfere with everyday life.

MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

As well as the physical consequences, body image concerns can be associated with mental health difficulties, such as depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, body dysmorphic disorder, and psychological distress. They can cause problems both at school and at home, with children and young people potentially avoiding social situations because they fear their appearance will be negatively judged by others.

A PATHWAY TO EXTREMES

Looksmaxxing has its roots in online 'incel' communities but has since become more mainstream on platforms such as TikTok. Algorithm-driven feeds may show users more extreme material as they interact with similar content. Some looksmaxxing spaces have also been linked with misogynistic, incel, and white supremacist ideologies.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR CHANGES

Keep an eye out for concerning behavioural changes in children and young people. This could include an obsession with diet and exercise, spending more time on social media apps, becoming secretive with their phone, or a shift in how they interact with friends and family. If a young person suddenly becomes distressed by their appearance or adopts rigid or extreme routines, try to understand what may be behind the change.

LISTEN FOR THE LINGO

Like many internet communities, looksmaxxing groups and influencers use distinctive language. As well as "mewing", mentioned above, you might hear terms such as "Chad" (an attractive male), "foid" (a misogynistic term for a woman), and "maggot" (looking more attractive than someone else). Other examples involve calling "maxxing" to another word, such as "jastemmaxxing" (using humour to attract women) and "starvemaxxing" (extreme dieting).

CHECK THE SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media algorithms are tailored to each user, meaning what appears on your feeds may be dramatically different from what children see on theirs. Try to get an idea of the content children and young people are consuming online, and use available parental controls where appropriate. TikTok, for example, provides tools that can help families manage or filter certain types of content.

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN

Open communication can help children and young people recognise misleading influencers and harmful online communities. Discuss unrealistic ideas about appearance and explain that some creators benefit from controversial or extreme content. Talk about the risks of unqualified health advice and how people's insecurities can be exploited online, while making it clear that it's okay to speak openly about any concerns.

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

The National College

See full reference list on our website

[X @wake_up_weds](https://www.wake_up_weds.com) [f /www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com) [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.wake.up.wednesday.com) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.wake.up.weds.com)

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Online Safety and Scams

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

Digital Technology

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



JOIN OUR LOTTERY



BOOST SCHOOL FUNDS



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

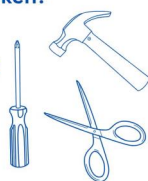


BIN IT? NO WAY!

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

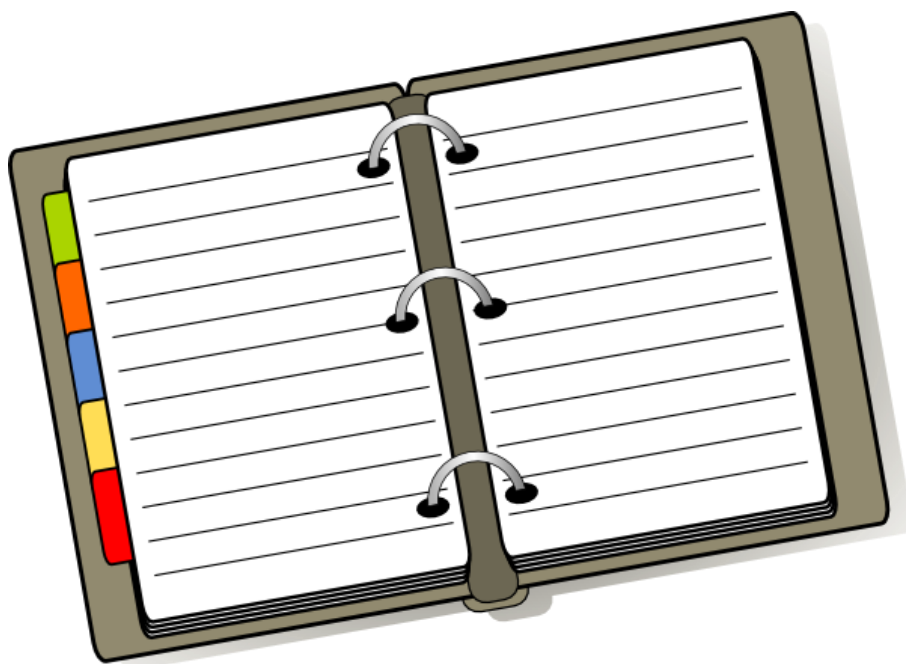
£6 per child

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

Dates For Your Diary...



Mon 5th Oct: Pumpkin House Challenge begins - info to follow!

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

Friends of Hawthorn AGM at school (3.30pm)

New Parent Intake Tour - Reception 2027 (4pm)

Weds 14th Oct: EYFS Toast & Tales

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*******

Mon 2nd Nov: *Back to school*

Mon 16th Nov: *Little Hawthorns*

Tues 24th Nov: *New Parent Intake Tour - Reception 2027 (4pm)*

Tues 1st Dec: *KS2 Celebration Assembly - invite only (1pm)*

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

Weds 9th Dec: *EYFS Nativity for Parents - Performance 1 (9.30am)*

KS2 Christmas Concert at St Peter and St Paul Church, Market Place, Kettering

(1.30pm)

Thurs 10th Dec: *EYFS Nativity for Parents - Performance 2 (1.30pm)*

Mon 14th Dec: *Little Hawthorns (2-3pm)*

Tues 15th Dec: *KS1 Christingle Making Workshop (2.30pm)*

Weds 16th Dec: *KS1 Christingle at St Michael's Church (2.15pm)*

Thurs 17th Dec: *Kingswood Christmas Lunch*

Friday 18th Dec: *Santa's Grotto*

Carols Around the Tree

Break UP



ANCHORED SCHOOLS



GOLD AWARD