

Kedington News

Magical Moments

Year 4 Residential

Our Year 4 class had an amazing time during their three day residential trip to Thorpe Woodlands. During their stay, they enjoyed participating in a range of activities such as caving, canoeing, climbing and zip lines. All the children tackled every challenge with a smile and came away feeling very proud of themselves.



Bollywood Day

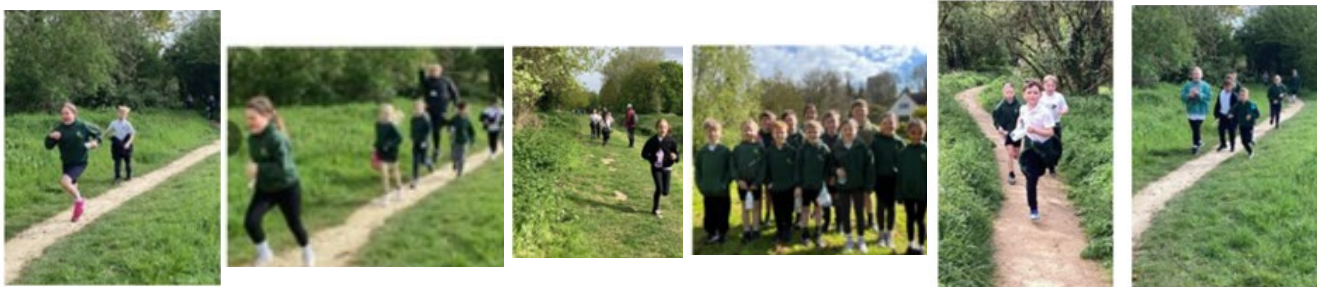
It was such a pleasure to welcome Kalpesh from KZ Dance Group back into school for another year of successful Bollywood dancing. Our whole school did brilliantly to learn each dance and perform to our families. Here you can see Margo and Ronnie, covered in paint after the Holi celebration.



Mini Marathon

We had another successful Mini Marathon this term. This time the sun was shining and the ground was dry. We even made it into the Haverhill Echo!

It was brilliant to see our children challenge themselves to run 2.6 miles within our community. Thank you to Mr Proffitt for organising a brilliant event once again and for all the parent helpers who took part.





Dear families,

As the summer begins, we are focusing on preparing for another exciting half term ahead. We have our class trips, Sports' Day and Leavers' Assembly all to look forward to.

Our children in Year 6 were incredible working towards their SATs exams and we will be reporting on their achievements at the end of the academic year. Our Year 4 pupils are preparing for their National Multiplication Check and Year 1 have their Phonics Check in June. We are incredibly proud of all our children on how hard they work in school and I'm sure this will show in their achievements.

Thank you for your continued support.

Meadowlark Country Dancing

On Saturday 15th June some of our children will be performing Country Dancing at Meadowlark. Miss Glen has been offering an afterschool club for those who wish to take part and already their dance is looking excellent. If your child would like to take part, please let the office know.

School Uniform Reminder

As the weather improves, children will be wearing their summer uniform. Please can you ensure jumpers, cardigans and PE kits are clearly named as many children tend to leave them on the school field at lunchtimes. If you are missing any school uniform, our lost property bin is located in the hall for you to look through.

Sports Day

Sports Day will be **on Thursday 11th July 2024**. Parents are invited to join their children for a picnic lunch from 12.15pm and stay for the afternoon to watch their races. The PTFA are organising an ice-cream van for the event to help raise money for the school.

Show and Share Sessions and Annual Reports

We will once again be inviting parents into school with their children for our 'Show and Share' sessions before and after school. This will be a chance to spend 10 – 15 minutes with your child looking through all the work they have done this year and celebrating their achievements. The sessions are:

Tuesday 25th June 3.15pm – 4.00pm

Wednesday 26th June 8.00am – 8.30am



Teachers are busy writing end of year reports. These will go out to parents on the new date of the **12th July 2024**.

Survey Results

A few weeks ago now, we asked parents, pupils and staff to complete surveys to help us to understand what we do well and what we could do even better. We are in the process of looking carefully at the results and we will report back to you on what was said and what we will do to make things even better shortly. Thank you to all of you that took part, it is incredibly helpful to have your views.

Theatre Company Visit

This year we will be organising a KS2 production with a professional company. We will be inviting Divergent Drama into school to provide a drama/dance workshop for the Year 3, 4 & 5 pupils based around their learning in class. They will then have the opportunity to perform this to parents in the afternoon. Mrs Wreathall is busy organising this with the company and will notify us of further updates. As soon as we have a date planned, we will let parents know. We are grateful that the PTFA have agreed to pay half of the cost towards this.

PTFA

Can you help support our PTFA? If so, then please do get in touch. We are desperately seeking new volunteers to be part of our successful PTFA at Kedington. Over the years, the PTFA have raised a substantial amount of money for our children. So far this year, the PTFA have funded our Year 6 SATs breakfast, Easter eggs, Christmas books, leavers' hoodies, a new shed for our Forest School and will contribute towards the above event for Years 3 and 4. Without their fundraising, all of these would sadly have to stop. If you can support the PTFA, then please let us know.



Family Service - Sunday 2nd June 2024

Family Service - 10.00am on Sunday 2nd June 2024 at St Peter and St Paul's Church in Kedington. Fr Chris Giles is on holiday so the service will be lead, in part, by Sarah Glasswell who is the Senior Youth Worker for Haverhill and District Youth for Christ.

Sarah contributes to the wellbeing programme at Castle Manor Academy and Stour Valley Community School. Parents who already have children at these schools or whose children will be moving there soon may be interested to come and meet Sarah. The service will be around an hour and will be followed by refreshments.

All ages are welcome!



Attendance

Our attendance for the school year so far is 94.3%. This is in line with the national average.

Thank you for all the efforts you go to in order to ensure your children are in school as much as possible. With the increase in holiday requests we are receiving this term, I need to remind you once again that term time holidays will not be authorised. Please see our attendance policy for further information on our website <https://www.unitysp.co.uk/documents/attendance-policy/>

A message from our Education Welfare Officer (EWO):

We work in close partnership with Kedington Primary Academy and routinely monitor all pupils who are persistently absent. If the authenticity of illness appears to be in doubt, then we may ask the school to request that parents provide clearer medical evidence to support the period of illness absence, otherwise the absence will be unauthorised. Penalty Notice Fines will be issued after seven sessions of unauthorised absence over the academic year in accordance with the School's Attendance Policy.

It is important that schools and families work together to improve attendance so do let us know if there is any support we can provide to ensure your child attends school regularly and on time. Thank you

Transition for the Next School Year

We are in the process of finalising staffing for next year. Children will then have a chance to visit their new class before the end of term.

We have 30 new reception children starting in September and our China staff have already started visiting their pre-schools to get to know them. Similarly, our Year 6 children are due to have visits from their secondary school staff as well as their transition days to look forward to. Our leavers' assembly for Year 6 will take place on Friday 12th July 2024 and we will notify parents of arrangements nearer the time.

Online safety

We are worried that some of our children in upper KS2 are using online chat groups such as 'WhatsApp'. This has an age limit of 13 so children in primary school should not be using it. Despite these restrictions, we are aware that some still are and would strongly recommend that parents abide by the age limit and not let children use it. We are finding that our children do not have the emotional maturity to deal with upsets from things that are posted. It also means that staff in school are spending time having to sort out problems happening online outside of school. Please find some further information for parents and carers on the next page.



Kedington Primary Academy

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. Regularly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address other topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit www.thenationalcollege.co.uk.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. It's a handy app that only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients (not even WhatsApp itself can read them). This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently on the UK's Online Safety Bill, proposed to end such encryption on private messaging. WhatsApp is known to be a secure app, but it's important to understand what's in the app should the legislation go ahead.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a hotbed for scammers. Recent examples include posing as a friend's child, requesting a money transfer because of a supposed emergency. Plus a scam where scammers trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (pretending to be WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the person you want to message. Your child has to add your number out to someone they don't know, their contact information is added to their WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child's contact is added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) or that other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on this app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double checkmark. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from original – and might not be entirely factual either.

ONLINE

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or videos with children. The recipient can't re-open them later to see the evidence of misbehavior. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new update allows users to lock certain messages or photos, making them a password-protected chat. The idea here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and parents wouldn't suspect (such as age-inappropriate content).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journey that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unsolicited messages with caution. Get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would say and then, share your rules. Know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's a good idea to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy' then 'Groups') to ensure that only those they've added to their contact list can add them to group chats without needing your consent. You can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to be shared more widely (even posting on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you find a 'locked chat' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutcliffe is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various guidance papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and posting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

Source: <https://www.thenationalcollege.co.uk/wake-up-wednesday> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/settings> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/terms-of-service> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/privacy-policy> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/legal> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/help> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/about> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/contact> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/feedback> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/privacy-policy> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/terms-of-service> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/legal> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/help> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/about> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/contact> | <https://www.whatsapp.com/feedback>

Use of this guide is at your own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.04.2024

Twitter: @wake_up_weds Facebook: /www.thenationalcollege Instagram: @wake.up.wednesday TikTok: @wake.up.weds

WhatsApp safety guide for parents

internet matters.org

13+ Kids aged 3-17 who use WhatsApp

58% Kids under 13 who use WhatsApp

37%

WhatsApp's minimum age in the UK

Kids aged 3-17 who use WhatsApp

Kids under 13 who use WhatsApp

5 tips to keep kids safe on WhatsApp

- 1 Review privacy settings** WhatsApp has a range of privacy and security settings to keep users safe. Customise groups, app access, live location and more.
- 2 Customise contacts** Show your child how to report and block unwanted contacts. Then, work with them to add their friends and family. Review and talk about their contacts regularly.
- 3 Talk about personal information** Make sure your child understands what personal information is. Talk about the importance of keeping that information private on WhatsApp.
- 4 Show them where to get support** If something goes wrong or they see something worrying on WhatsApp, make sure they know to come to you, and talk about other sources of support.
- 5 Check in regularly** Once you've done all of the above, check in with them regularly to review settings and how they use WhatsApp.

Dates for your diary

Monday 27 th May	Break up for Half-term Children back in school on Monday 3 rd June
Monday 10 th June	Year 1 Statutory Phonics Assessments
Friday 14 th June	Year 1 trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park
Monday 17 th June	Bikeability begins for Year 6 Art Festival Week
Thursday 27 th June	RSE Day
Friday 28 th June	PD day
Wednesday 3 rd July	China class trip to Hollow Trees Farm
Thursday 4 th & Friday 5 th July	Year 6 Linton transition days
Friday 5 th July	Music workshops PTFA Disco
Tuesday 9 th July & Wednesday 10 th July	Year 6 Stour Valley transition days
Friday 12 th July	Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop Reports to parents
Monday 15 th July	Year 3 Colchester Museum trip
Wednesday 17 th July	Samual Ward & Castle Manor transition days Whole school transition morning
Thursday 18 th July	Samual Ward & Castle Manor transition days
Friday 19 th July	Last day of term – 3.15pm finish

2024-25 Term Dates			
	Begins	Ends	Draft PD days
Autumn	Monday 2nd Sept 24	Friday 20th Dec 24	Monday 2nd Sept 24 Tuesday 3rd Sept 24
Half Term*	28th Oct 24	8th Nov 24	
Spring	Monday 6th Jan 25	Friday 4th April 25	
Half Term	17th February 25	21st February 25	
Summer	Tuesday 22nd April 25	Tuesday 22nd July 25	Friday 27th June Monday 21st July 25 Tuesday 22nd July 25
Half Term	26th May 25	30th May 25	
2025-26 Term Dates			
	Begins	Ends	Draft PD days
Autumn	Monday 1st September 25	Friday 19th Dec 25	Monday 1st Sept 25 Tuesday 2nd Sept 25
Half Term*	27th Oct 25	7th Nov 25	
Spring	Monday 5th Jan 26	Friday 27th March 26	
Half Term	16th February 26	20th February 26	
Summer	Monday 13th April 26	Monday 20th July 26	Friday 22nd May 26 Friday 26th June 26 Monday 20th July 26
Half Term	25th May 26	29th May 26	