

Broxbourne CE Primary School Newsletter

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

We have enjoyed another excellent week here at school – full of energy, teamwork, and plenty of smiles!

A huge well done to all of our Year 3 and 4 girls who took part in the final round of the first House event of the year – the Girls' Football Tournament. The matches were exciting, the scores were very close, and every player represented their house with determination and pride. Congratulations to all who participated, with the final point outcomes as follows:

-  Blue Badgers 4
-  Green Hedgehogs 5
-  Red Squirrels 7
-  Yellow Foxes 8

We are equally pleased to have started the Year 3 and 4 boys' football tournament this week with the opening round of matches. It was wonderful to see so many boys enjoying their football, showing admirable sportsmanship, and giving their best on the pitch.

Our week has also seen the launch of cross-country training in preparation for the district event on the 7th of November. On both Monday and Thursday, it was fantastic to watch so many children turn out to run together. Training now is a worthwhile investment, and we are already noticing the children increase their fitness, stamina, and confidence – all while having a lot of fun. We also recommend a weekend jog or even building up to the local Park Run at Barclay Park

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/barclay/>

We hope you found our Meet the Teacher meetings on Wednesday both helpful and informative. All the key information shared there will be hosted on our brand new school website, which is due to go live on Monday. Our advice is that on Tuesday, you head straight to the calendar section of the site, where you will find all the updated dates for the academic year. Events such as Parents' Evenings, PTA activities, and major school community gatherings are already listed, so please do take a moment to add them into your own diaries. The site will run on any smart phone and checking the calendar there is the best way of ensuring information is current and accurate.

Dream, Believe and Achieve with God

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Finally, it was delightful on Monday to be up to our full complement with all EY1 children now in our setting. A very warm welcome to all parents and carers who are new to our school. We hope you very soon feel part of our school community – it is a joy to have you with us.

We are so proud of everyone for their enthusiasm and commitment this week. Sport, learning, and community have all been celebrated, and we are excited for all that lies ahead this term.

As we look forward together, we take encouragement from these words:

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” – Ephesians 4:32

With thanks, as always, for your continued encouragement and support.

Best wishes Paul Miller

TEAM SPIRIT SHINING THROUGH AT OUR HOUSE FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS!





HARVEST FOOD DONATIONS

This year for harvest we are collecting food donations for 'The Broxbourne Foodbank'. The following items have been identified as being urgently needed:

- EY1 UHT Milk
- EY2 Biscuits or Snack Bars
- Year 1 Packets of Tea Bags / Instant Coffee
- Year 2 Packets of Rice or Dried Pasta
- Year 3 Tinned soup (not fresh)
- Year 4 Pasta sauce
- Year 5 Any tinned vegetables or tinned fruit
- Year 6 Any jam



Food produce and monetary donations can be brought into school week commencing on Monday, 29th September. Thank you.

We also request a minimum £1 donation, which will be equally split between the Kingfisher Council's chosen charity 'HABS' and this year's Bishop of St Alban's Harvest Appeal 'Rewrite Their Future' and they are once again partnering with Mission Direct. Their work in Uganda and Zambia is focused on building schools and improving access to education in some of the world's most under-resourced communities.

Thank you.

REMINDER: INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS

Thursday 25th September

BIRTHDAY BOOK THANK YOU



Miss Swash—Member of Staff—The Day the Teachers Disappeared, Superpoop and Daddy and Me



REMINDER: Birthday books should be new and age appropriate for the year your child is currently in.

We hope you both had a lovely day!

If you wish to donate a birthday book, please send in via your child and we will put in the library for everyone to enjoy. Thank you.



'INTRODUCTION TO THE SEND LOCAL OFFER WEBSITE' – WEBINAR

The Hertfordshire SEND Local Offer website lets parents, young people and professionals know what special educational needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire, and who can access them. There is so much more than that, too.

A friendly face from the Local Offer team will take you through what's on the website and how you can use it to find the right services and support.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer

Thursday 9th October 8pm – 9pm (for parents and professionals): [Book your free place on the webinar](#)



A GENTLE REMINDER ABOUT FORGOTTEN ITEMS

We know mornings can sometimes be a rush, and it's easy for children to forget things like packed lunches, water bottles, PE kits or homework. Recently, the school office has been making several trips each day to deliver these items, which can interrupt learning time.

To help with this, any forgotten belongings will be placed at the back of the classroom for children to collect when it's a suitable moment. Lessons won't be interrupted, but your child will still be able to pick up what they need. Thank you for your support in helping us keep classroom learning running smoothly!

Thank you for your co-operation.



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. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🍌 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgmentally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland 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 academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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H·A·B·S
STRENGTH IN MIND
THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

Christmas
APPEAL 2025

Could you help us in supporting vulnerable families in our local community?

Every donation you make will put a smile on a child's face this Christmas.

Please donate to our GoFundMe link or purchase an item for a child from our amazon wish list.

gofundme



WWW.HABSFAMILY.CO.UK

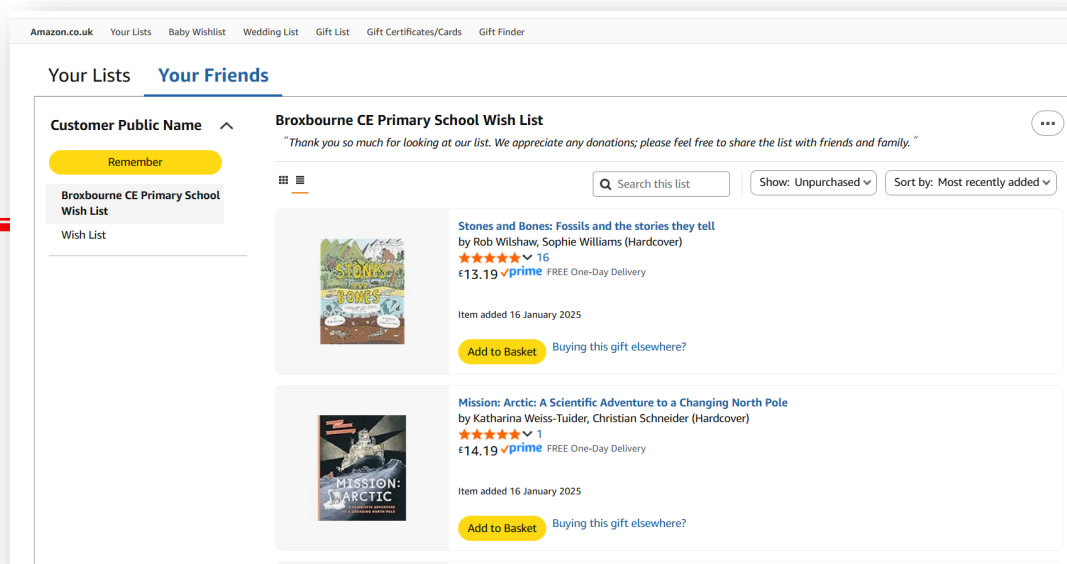




SCHOOL AMAZON WISHLIST

We are delighted to share with you our Amazon School Wishlist. The list is updated regularly and will show items that we would love for our school to enhance the learning experience for our children. We would greatly appreciate any parents, grandparents, friends, relatives and former pupils/parents selecting something from our wishlist to benefit the children of our school. Please feel free to share the link via email and on social media and thank you in advance for supporting us with this. Education is being placed under considerable financial pressure currently and this exciting idea will help alleviate this burden.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/409ZC1Z2CE2K?ref_=wl_share



HOUSE POINT LEADERS

This week's winners are.....

Blue Badgers



REMINDER: The House that wins the House Cup for the greatest number of weeks each term will enjoy a non-uniform day in the final week of term.

The children should wear an item of clothing in their house colour!



SEND UPDATES

We know how important it is for children with SEND to feel supported both at home and in school. To help strengthen this connection, we're sharing a resource on *Smooth SEND Integration from Home to School*. It offers practical tips and guidance for families and schools to work together, making sure every child feels confident, included, and ready to thrive. [Daily Transitions: Smooth SEND Integration from Home to School - SENSible SENCO](#)

Please also be reminded of the charity Space, who run fantastic FREE workshops on a plethora of topics to support children with SEND. [Workshops and Courses – SPACE Hertfordshire](#) On this website you can also find social events where children can attend to grow, develop and make new friends.

We're excited to invite you to our **first SEND Coffee Morning of the year on Friday 3rd October after drop off, to start at 9am**. This will be a relaxed chance to meet other parents, share experiences, and find support over a warm drink and a treat. We're delighted that **HPCI (Hertfordshire Parent/Carer Involvement)** will be joining us. HPCI represents the views of parents and carers of children with SEND across Hertfordshire, working closely with services to help shape and improve provision. Having their expertise at our coffee morning is a fantastic opportunity to ask questions, gain valuable insight, and learn more about the support available for families. We hope to see many of you there!

Coffee Morning for SEND parents/carers

Group discussion on everyday challenges

Informal help and support from local organisations

Which services can I have access to?

Want to speak to other parents of children with SEND?

Come and join us for a chat!

