

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

11/09/2026



'Let your light shine'

Flu Vaccinations – 16th September in school

The School Aged Immunisation Team will be attending school on Tuesday 16th September to offer the flu vaccination to eligible pupils.

Please keep an eye out for a consent form, which should have been sent to you via email or text message with a link to complete the online form.

If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine, please complete the consent form and select "Yes".

If you do not wish your child to receive the flu vaccine, please complete the consent form and select "No".

It is important that all parents/carers complete the form, regardless of whether they choose to consent to the vaccination or not.

Flu is more than just a bad cold. It can lead to serious health complications, even in otherwise healthy children. Vaccination is the best way to help protect your child and reduce the spread of flu within schools and the wider community.

If you haven't already, please complete the form using this link: <https://www.manage-vaccinations-in-schools.nhs.uk/consents/bauhZQnQC2/flu/start>

If you would like any further information about the flu vaccination programme, please contact the School Aged Immunisation Team:

☎ 03333 583 397 (Option 7, then Option 1)

✉ ImmsW-CE@intrahealth.co.uk "



HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS OUR AMAZING CHILDREN HAVE 'LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE' THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL...



Nursery



Y1 have been working on their first DT project, called 'Shade and Shelter'. They have discussed why people and animals might need shelter, and different types of shelters. They drew their initial designs for their own play den shelters and finally got to build real-life play dens and test them out to see if they met the design criteria!



In Year 3, the children have been playing a game where they explored how addition is commutative (meaning we can change the order and the sum stays the same).

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Friendship'

'A good friend is a blessing from God.'

Samuel 1 18.3



This week's big question:

Is it good to have friends? Is it possible to have a bad friend?

This week we pray to remember those who lost their lives and were affected by the 9/11 disaster.

Water Bottles

Children are asked to bring a bottle to school filled with water which they can drink throughout the day. Drinking water throughout the day keeps children's brains hydrated and helps them to learn well. Only water is allowed in these bottles, as drinking juice throughout the day causes tooth decay. Children can drink juice or with their lunch. If any children persist in bringing juice in their water bottles, parents will be contacted.

Starting reception class

If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, they are due to start reception class in September 2026. You will need to apply for a place here: <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/primary-school-admissions>

Start and Finish Times

School opens at **8:40am** and all children should be in school by **8:45am**. Gates are locked at 8:50am and anyone who arrives after this time will need to enter via the school office and be marked as late. At the end of the day, doors open at 3:10pm and all children should be collected by 3:15pm. Being just a few minutes late each day adds up to days of lost learning over a year - **BE ON TIME!**

Playtime Snacks

We are a healthy school and constantly reinforce with our children that healthy eating and regular exercise lead to positive mental and physical health. Part of this is to educate our children to eat as healthily as possible, as this contributes to future success. The only snacks we allow at playtimes are **toast or fruit**, these can be brought in from home or toast can be purchased via ParentPay. Thank you for your support.

LOOK OUT FOR THE CONSENT FORM AND COMPLETE IT

Service Provided By:
IntraHealth

Intrahealth will be visiting your child's school to deliver the **flu vaccination**.

WE WILL BE AT:

St Barnabas School

DATE:

16th September

Please ensure you have completed your form decision before the date of our team visit to school



WHY IS THE FLU VACCINE IMPORTANT?

Flu is a virus that changes every year. Even healthy children can become seriously unwell from flu. All eligible children are offered a free flu vaccination.

The flu vaccine helps protect your child and those around them during the winter months.



Protect your child this winter.



HAVE YOU NOT RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM INTRAHEALTH?

If you haven't received information or a consent form from the Intrahealth School Aged Immunisation Team, please get in touch with us.

Please do not contact the school regarding consent or vaccination queries.

03333 583 397

Imms.W-CE@intrahealth.co.uk

www.intrahealth.co.uk

Our team can help with:

- Completing or accessing a consent form
- Questions about the flu vaccination
- Information about the vaccination process
- Any support you may need



PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF THE INTRAHEALTH TEAM if you have any questions — we're here to help.



Calling all Jigsaw Enthusiasts

St Elphin's, St Barnabas & Holy Trinity Churches invite you to join them at St Elphin's Church, Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TL for a

Jigsaw Festival

17th - 19th September 2026

Thurs: 3.00 - 7.00pm

Friday: 12.00 - 5.00pm

Sat: 10.00 - 4.00pm



Other Stalls include:

Refreshments

Chocolate Tombola

Knitted Goods

Stained Glass

Silk Flowers

Cake Stall

Jams Stall

Candles

Wood

Books



Admission £2.00 - includes free raffle ticket (free re-admission with programme over the 3 days)
Proceeds to be split between the 3 churches

This week's guide is about Character.AI, which lets users create and chat with AI-powered characters that can behave like friends, mentors, fictional favourites, or romantic partners. While these conversations can feel engaging and supportive, their convincing human-like responses can blur important boundaries. Young people may encounter inappropriate content, misinformation and privacy risks, or begin forming an unhealthy emotional attachment to an AI companion. Our guide provides practical advice to support any young people and to check age restrictions.

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 CHARACTER.AI

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Character.AI is an entertainment platform where users create and chat with AI-powered characters.

These chatbots can act like existing favourite characters from movies or books, or like friends, mentors, or even romantic partners, responding in an emotional, personally engaging way. Although this can encourage creativity, it can also make a generated conversation feel like a genuine relationship, which is concerning if it takes the place of human relationships.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

AI replies are generated in real time rather than chosen from a fully checked script. Even with safety filters on, conversations can still move into sexual, violent, discriminatory, or self-harm material. These AI characters are often made by users, so a familiar name or child-friendly description does not guarantee that every response from the character will be suitable for a young person.

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

Characters on Character.AI can use the language of friendship, love, and empathy without ever feeling anything. Vulnerable young people may struggle to separate this simulation from genuine understanding. Romantic role-play or a character that demands attention, loyalty, or secrecy could also risk distorting young people's expectations around consent, disagreement, and the give-and-take involved in healthy human relationships.

UNRELIABLE ADVICE

Characters, like other chatbot platforms, are at risk of inventing facts or giving inappropriate advice while sounding completely confident. Characters may also echo a young person's assumptions instead of questioning them. This can become particularly risky when users rely on a character for guidance about health, mental wellbeing, relationships, money, or personal safety instead of checking with a credible source or trusted adult.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Character.AI chatbots can appear endlessly attentive, supportive, and affectionate, which is one of the hallmarks of the generative AI models that such companions are built on. A young person may start turning to a character chatbot whenever they feel lonely or upset and believe that it understands them better than the humans in their life. This can become more concerning when chatting starts to replace sleep, schoolwork, hobbies and friendships.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Character.AI chats may feel private, especially when a bot sounds personal and caring, but they take place on a company's online systems. Users could intentionally or unintentionally reveal their name, school, location, routines, images, or intimate concerns. Character.AI says some data may be retained to improve its services and AI models, so young people should never treat a chatbot like a confidential diary.

UNHEALTHY ENGAGEMENT

Be aware of warning signs such as secret accounts, bypassing age restrictions, hiding phone use from adults, chatting late at night, distress when access to the platform or character stops, withdrawal from other people, falling interest in school, or believing the character is conscious. Increased use may also signal that the young person is already lonely, anxious, or seeking help.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Ask what the young person enjoys about Character.AI and invite them to show you how the platform and their favourite characters work. Useful questions include, "Has it ever said something that felt wrong?" and "How can you tell it doesn't have feelings?" Avoid shaming them for using platforms like Character.AI or making them feel there is something wrong with them for doing so.

PAUSE, CHECK AND ASK

Teach young people to pause before accepting an answer from characters on Character.AI. Encourage them to check important claims against a trustworthy source and ask a safe adult when the issue matters. Never use a character as the sole source of medical, mental health, legal, financial, or safeguarding advice. Remind them not to share passwords, contact details, school information, live locations, or private images.

CHECK AGE, SETTINGS & LIMITS

Character.AI's minimum age is 16 in the UK, but open-ended companion chat is restricted to adults aged 18 or over. Users aged 16 to 17 receive a different experience built around guided 'Stories' and other creative or social features. Check their current settings, never help or encourage a young person to give a false age, and apply the same safety rules to other chatbot apps.

NOTICE AND RESPOND

Take action if chats involve sexual content, threats, coercion, abuse, self-harm or danger. Save relevant evidence, report the character and follow the setting's safeguarding process; educators should involve the designated safeguarding lead. If anyone is in immediate danger, contact emergency services. Childline is available on 0800 1111 and the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000.

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is an educator with almost 30 years' experience across teaching, school leadership and governance. He works internationally supporting schools and colleges with AI leadership and governance and [insert NC courses I have written].



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See 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: 09.09.2025

FREE BREAKFAST CLUB!



From September our Breakfast Club is changing as we move over to the National Breakfast Club Programme.

All school children are invited to come from 8.15am every day for free and receive a healthy breakfast. This will replace the bagels that are currently available to children on arrival in their classroom.

We will maintain our self-funded wrap around care from 7.30am at a reduced charge of £2.75 until 8.15am where children will then join the free session.

To enable us to properly plan and purchase food, please can you follow this link to register your interest [FREE BREAKFAST CLUB – Fill out form](#)

You do not need to book for the breakfast club, you can just turn up.

School Uniform

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
- Pale blue polo shirt
- Grey trousers or blue tartan skirt/pinafore
- Black shoes must be worn NOT boots please



PE Kit

St Barnabas CE Primary School and Nursery

School PE Uniform

- PE sports t-shirt with school logo, royal blue shorts or black/navy joggers/leggings & trainers.
- Children should come to school in full PE uniform on planned PE days.



Healthy packed lunches for children at St Barnabas CE Primary School

CARBOHYDRATES

- wholemeal bread
- pasta
- rice
- couscous
- potatoes



DAIRY (OR NON-DAIRY ALTERNATIVE)

- cheese
- yogurt
- milk
- fortified soy milk
- calcium-set tofu



FRUIT

- apples
- bananas
- berries
- oranges
- grapes



VEGETABLES OR SALAD

- carrot sticks
- cucumber
- cherry tomatoes
- peppers
- sweetcorn



PROTEIN

- chicken
- eggs
- beans
- lentils
- fish



WHAT SHOULD I NOT BRING TO SCHOOL

Sweets Fizzy drinks Nuts
Sesame Shellfish Donuts Pastries

Winter Warmers Wanted

don't let a child go cold this winter

Help us to put a warm winter coat on every child

We need your donations of good quality winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves in all sizes and colours.

From primary to high school - don't let a child go cold this winter

Warrington
**SCHOOL
UNIFORM
NETWORK**

Thank You



Donated BY the people of Warrington - FOR the people of Warrington supported by



Follow us on Facebook - Warrington School Uniform Network

Every Body Counts

Welcome to our third installment of our **Every Body Counts** newsletter! further to our previous installments of the newsletter we continue to work with young people and families to improve **healthy habits** around **Physical Activity, Mental Wellbeing and Nutrition**- aiming for a **Healthier, Happier and More Connected Warrington** in 2026 and beyond! We thank our current partners and supporters for their ongoing assistance in this vital service- feel inspired to support the Foundation and projects like this? Why not become a **Gold, Silver or Bronze patron** of the Foundation and feel safe in the knowledge that you are "Being the change" information on patronage can be found [here](#)



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?



St Margaret's
Church of England
Primary School

We have recently completed the programme with a cohort of young people and their families at the Halliwell Jones Stadium whilst working diligently across BEWSEY LODGE ACADEMY, DALLAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, ST MARGARETS CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL and ST AUGUSTINES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL to create a "Happier, Healthier and More Connected Warrington". Thank you to our IN SCHOOL CHAMPIONS, parents, carers and young people for our best attended cohort yet!



[LEARN MORE](#)

OUR PARTNER PRIMARY SCHOOLS...

We are just about to start work with a new crop of Primary school partners- all committed to helping their young people develop their healthy habits- A big welcome back to our colleagues at...

St Barnabas Cof E Primary School
Brook Acre Community Primary School
Birchwood Primary School

And a first time welcome to our colleagues at
St Bridgets Catholic Primary School



HAPPIER, HEALTHIER AND MORE CONNECTED...

Every Body Counts



SUMMER CAMPS

We were so pleased to see so many of our Every Body Counts Alumni taking part in our summer camps! We were also pleased to welcome back our friend and trusted colleague from Community Food Champions Sarah Raby who was wowed by the young peoples ability in preparation and how they attempted all the tasks to make themselves burritos and curry!

Sarah said "I really enjoyed the session with the Warrington Wolves Foundation HAF Camp.

Although some of the children had done a session before they were eager to do it again- having the opportunity to talk to the young people about their experiences with food and cooking was a real positive- several children who at first said they didnt like the ingredients or had never had them before were eating fajitas saying how good they smelled and that they were better than the ones their parents make!"

Food preparation and healthy cooking are just two of the aspects of our **Every Body Counts programme**, get in touch if you would like to know more!



[LEARN MORE](#)

GULP (GIVE UP LOVING POP!)



**FOOD
ACTIVE**

Fantastic news for us as a Foundation as Public Health and Food Active have again commissioned our work in local primary schools to continue to deliver the GIVE UP LOVING POP programme! We believe that giving our young people more information about their intake of sugary and acidic drinks; whilst reinforcing the importance of Hydration and Nutrition through simply drinking water and milk is incredibly important. We look forward to delivering this fun and engaging block of PSHCE style sessions for more Y3 students in the town... Get ready to GULP!



EBC ONLINE

Finally, Just a reminder that we also offer our Every Body Counts programme fully online! This allows young people and families access to the service and ability to go "at your own pace" if you would like to see it in action please scan the QR Code!



HAPPIER, HEALTHIER AND MORE CONNECTED...

Dates for your Diary Autumn Half Term 1

Wednesday 16th September	Flu vaccinations
Monday 21st September	School Photos
Monday 21st September - Friday 25th September	Pupil Ambassador Week
Friday 25th September	9am Harvest Worship led by Y5 Parents of Y5 invited
Tuesday 29th September	3:15pm – 5pm Movie Night
Friday 2nd October	8:45am Parent Coffee Morning
Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th October	Parents' Evenings for all classes Starbooks Reading Cafe open in the hall from 3:30pm
Friday 23rd October	School closes for half term

Term Dates for the Academic Year 2026 – 2027

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
AUTUMN	Wednesday 2 nd September to Friday 23 rd October	Monday 26 th October to Friday 30 th October inclusive	Monday 2 nd November to Friday 18 th December

Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December 2026 to Tuesday 5th January 2027 inclusive

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
SPRING	Tuesday 5 th January to Friday 12 th February	Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February inclusive	Monday 22 nd February to Thursday 25 th March

Easter Holiday Friday 26th March to Friday 2nd April 2027 inclusive

Term	First Half Term	Half Term Break	Second Half Term
SUMMER	Wednesday 7 th April to Friday 28 th May	Monday 31 st May to Friday 11 th June inclusive	Monday 14 th June to Wednesday 21 st July

Closure Days

BANK HOLIDAY Monday 3rd May 2027

WARRINGTON WALKING DAY Friday 25th June 2027