School Office Friday Update

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 13th January	• KS2 Qualitas after school – Badminton – Book and Pay on ParentPay
Tuesday 14th January	• KS1 Qualitas after school – Dance – Book and pay on ParentPay
Wednesday 15th January	• **Deadline for Applications for September 2025 Reception Starters** • Qualitas KS2 after school - Benchball - Book and pay on ParentPay • **PTFA Meeting in school 7.00pm. Everyone Welcome**
Thursday 16th January	• Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am -10.30am • SWIMMING FOR CLASS 2
Friday 17th January	•
Monday 20th January	• KS2 Qualitas After School Club – Badminton - Book and pay on ParentPay
Tuesday 21st January	• KS1 Qualtias After School Club – Dance – Book and pay on ParentPay
Wednesday 22nd January	• Junior Cross Country Event at Whitworth Park – Consent required from those that have received details via e-mail • KS2 Qualitas After School Club – Benchball – Book and pay on ParentPay
Thursday 23rd January	• Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am • SWIMMING FOR CLASS 2
Friday 24th January	

OTHER NEWS

- **Thank you for all your support and understanding this week as we navigated the extreme weather and temperatures. Next week looks promising!**
- **Reports will be sent home with children today.**
- **Class Newsletters for the term are on the school website.**
- **ParentPay – Please ensure you check your Parent Pay account on a regular basis. Accounts should be kept up to date to prevent balances increasing. There are still some outstanding fees from last term, these should be settled as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support with this.**

- **Applying for a place at Primary School.** If your child is due to start school in September you need to apply for their primary place before **midnight on Wednesday 15 January**. You need to do this even if your child is already attending our Nursery.To find out more and apply please follow this link: Primary, infant and junior school admissions - Derbyshire County Council.
- **Walesby Forest Residential** – The next payment for the Year 5 and 6 residential is due on 31st January. Thank you if you have already paid. Please contact the school office if you have any questions at all.
- **PTFA Meeting – Wednesday 15th January 7.00pm in school. Everyone is welcome to join us.**

- **Class 4 – Young Voices – Monday 27th January**. Please ensure you have given consent on Parent Pay for this. Payment can be made up to the end of January.

- **Class 2 – Space Centre – Wednesday 29th January.** Please ensure you have give consent on Parent Pay for this. Payment can be made up to the end of January.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 01629 56813 or by email with any questions or queries.

Friday updates can be found in the Newsletters section of our school website.

FURTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Monday 27th January	**Class 4 trip to Young Voices in Sheffield Arena** Qualitas After School Club – KS2 Badminton
Tuesday 28th January	Class 2 to sports festival at The Arc PM. Consent required via ParentPay Qualitas After School Club – KS1 Dance
Wednesday 29th January	**Class 2 trip to the Space Centre, Leicester** Qualitas After School Club – KS2 Benchball
Thursday 30th January	SWIMMING FOR CLASS 2
Monday 3rd February	Qualitas After School Club – KS2 Badminton
Tuesday 4th February	Qualitas After School Club – KS1 Dance
Wednesday 5th February	Qualitas After School Club – KS2 Benchball
Thursday 6th February	SWIMMING FOR CLASS 2
Monday 10th February	Qualitas After School Club – KS2 Badminton
Tuesday 11th February	Qualitas After School Club – KS1 Dance
Wednesday 12th February	Qualitas After School Club – KS2 Benchball
Thursday 13th February	**Last swimming lesson for Class 2** **Class 3 will start swimming after half term**
Friday 14th February	**Break up for half term**
Monday 24th February	**INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 25th February	**Back to school**
Wednesday 26th February	MAD Infant Sports Event – Fun Run at All Saints Juniors – rearranged from 16th October
Thursday 27th February	**First Swimming for Class 3**
Friday 4th April	**Break up for Easter**

Monday 21st April	**Easter Monday**
Tuesday 22nd April	**Back to school – Start of the Summer Term**
Wednesday 30th April	Class 2 Multi Skills Festival at All Saints Juniors This Girl Can – Whitworth Park 930 – 11.30
Monday 5th May	**MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**
Monday 12th May	KS2 SATS – English Grammar Punctuation and Spelling
Tuesday 13th May	KS2 SATS – English Reading Paper
Wednesday 14th May	KS2 SATS – Maths Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 15th May	KS2 SATS – Maths Paper 3
Friday 23rd May	Break up for half term
Monday 2nd June	**INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 3rd June	**Back to school**
Wednesday 18th June	Class 2 Dance and Gymnastics Festival at All Saints Juniors
Tuesday 1st July	Highfields Transition Day for Y6 pupils
Wednesday 2nd July	Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4
Thursday 3rd July	Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4 Last swimming for Class 3
Friday 4th July	Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4
Wednesday 9th July	Class 2 Sports Day at All Saints Juniors
Thursday 10th July	NO SWIMMING FOR CLASS 3
Thursday 17th July	NO SWIMMING FOR CLASS 3
Thursday 24th July	**Last day of the school year** **NO AFTER SCHOOLCLUB**
Friday 25th July	First Day of the summer holidays

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

JUSTALK KIDS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

JusTalk Kids is a child's version of the JusTalk app – a highly popular social networking platform – designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can link their own JusTalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While JusTalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium account or a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others in a call; exclusive stickers; a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber; and exclusive ringtones and themes.

RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

JusTalk Kids endeavours to allow children the sense of having a chat-based app while allowing parents to set controls (within the app or from their own adult JusTalk account). The basis behind this is positive; however, some children are challenging their parents by refusing to use JusTalk Kids, preferring to use the adult version without any restrictions in place.

KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading JusTalk Kids, parents can set a passcode which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children can add as a contact: this then allows children to chat with friends in a controlled environment. However, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username. In theory, someone could type in a random name and then add them as a friend.

POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

JusTalk and JusTalk Kids claim to be secure and encrypted, going so far as to state that even the developers themselves won't access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted – leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development team.

CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a sense of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in person. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might join in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially turning what should be a fun experience into something deeply negative.

TOO MUCH SCREENTIME

A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 52% increase in children's screen time between 2020 and 2022 – as well as finding that 25% of children used their smartphones in a manner consistent with screen addiction. Introducing children to social networking apps when they're too young can lead to bad digital habits and a reliance on technology from an early age.

Advice for Parents & Educators

JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use JusTalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the app safer. Make sure the child knows not to put their full name on the account and doesn't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussion will help to ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what is and isn't safe to share on the internet, and discuss the concept of a digital footprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even if they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a positive, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it's important to talk to others politely and call out any unpleasant behaviour. Discuss the importance of limiting their contacts to people they know in real life and use parental controls to enforce this.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like JusTalk can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive and negative) at home. Remind them that they can block a contact if someone is treating them disrespectfully.

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/justalk-kids

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.01.2025