School Office Friday Update

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD	
Monday 30th September	• KS2 Qualitas Trampolining After School Club – places still available. Please use Parent Pay to pay and book.
Tuesday 1st October	• Football training after school • KS1 Qualitas Archery After School Club
Wednesday 2nd October	• Pupil flu vaccinations in school • This Girl Can Sports Festival at Whitworth Park – Y5/6 girls PLEASE USE ParentPay TO PROVIDE CONSENT
Thursday 3rd October	• Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am • Swimming for Year 1 and 2 • Anthony Gell School open evening
Friday 4th October	• KS2 Qualitas Tag Rugby After School Club – places still available. Please use Parent Pay to pay and book
Monday 7th October	• KS2 Qualitas Trampolining After School Club – places still available. Please use Parent Pay to pay and book.
Tuesday 8th October	• Football training after school • KS1 Qualitas Archery After School Club
Wednesday 9th October	• Individual School Photographs
Thursday 10th October	• Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am • Swimming for Year 1 and 2
Friday 11th October	• KS2 Qualitas Tag Rugby After School Club – places still available. Please use Parent Pay to pay and book

OTHER NEWS

- **Pet Blessing Service – St Giles Church 4.00pm – Sunday 29th September**
  Parents, children and pets are invited to attend the Pet Blessing service on Sunday afternoon. It would be lovely if you were able to be there.

- **Car Park Safety** – Please do not use the school car park to drop off and collect your children. The car park is for staff, visitors and deliveries only. The safety of your children is our priority and the car park is not a safe place for children at these busy times of the school day. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

- **Walking Home** – If your child is year 5 or 6 and you would like them to walk home from school please send an email to the school office giving your permission in writing if you have not already done so.

- **Parent Pay** – Please can we ask that you check your accounts regularly and ensure that payments are made at least every month to keep balances low.

- **Student Update Forms** – At this time of year we have usually sent home a copy of the personal information we hold on your child/children. This year we are just asking that you only tell us of any changes to the information we hold, for example a new mobile phone number, email address or new home address. Please also ensure we have at least two contact telephone numbers in case of emergency.

- **Walesby Forest Residential** – The second payment for the Year 5 and 6 residential is due on Friday 27th September. Thank you if you have already paid. Please contact the school office if you have any questions at all.

- **Pupil Flu Vaccinations** – You should have received the information regarding the Flu Vaccination programme that is taking place on **Wednesday 2nd October.**
  Please be aware that school are required to share personal data with Intrahealth to facilitate the School Immunisation Programme. You can view our Privacy Notices here https://ddat.org.uk/gdpr/

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 14th October	Open Day for September 2025 New Starters 9.30am Football match – St Joseph's V St Giles
Wednesday 16th October	Class 2 - Fun Run at All Saints Junior School Open Day for September 2025 New Starters 5.00pm
Thursday 17th October	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am Swimming for Year 1 and 2
Monday 21st October	PARENTS EVENING THIS WEEK – further details to follow
Thursday 24th October	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am NO SWIMMING
Friday 25th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4th November	**INSET DAY – School closed**
Tuesday 5th November	Back to school
Thursday 7th November	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am Swimming for Year 1 and 2
Monday 11th November	**Anti Bullying Week** ODD SOCKS DAY Bikeability for Year 6 this week
Thursday 14th November	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am -10.30am Swimming for Year and 2
Friday 15th November	Children in Need
Thursday 21st November	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am Swimming for Year 1 and 2
Thursday 28th November	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am Swimming for Year 1 and 2
Thursday 5th December	Little Smiles Toddler Group 9.00am – 10.30am Swimming for Year 1 and 2
Tuesday 10th December	Jack and the Beanstalk at Buxton Opera House
Thursday 12th December	NO SWIMMING CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND JUMPER DAY

Tuesday 17th December	Christingle Service 2.00pm in St Giles Church
Friday 20th December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 6th January 2025	Back to school
Monday 27th January 2025	Class 4 to Young Voices in Sheffield
Friday 14th February 2025	Break up for half term
Monday 24th February 2025	**INSET DAY – School closed**
Tuesday 25th February 2025	Back to school
Friday 4th April 2025	Break up for Easter
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	Back to school
Wednesday 30th April 2025	Class 2 Multi Skills Festival at All Saints Juniors
Monday 5th May 2025	**MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY**
Friday 23rd May 2025	Break up for half term
Monday 2nd June 2025	**INSET DAY – School closed**
Tuesday 3rd June 2025	Back to school
Monday 9th June 2025	Football match – St Giles V St Joseph's
Wednesday 18th June 2025	Class 2 Dance and Gymnastics Festival at All Saints Juniors
Wednesday 2nd July 2025	Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4
Thursday 3rd July 2025	Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4
Friday 4th July 2025	Walesby Forest Residential – Class 4
Wednesday 9th July 2025	Class 2 Sports Day at All Saints Juniors
Thursday 24th July 2025	Last day of the school year

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 LEGO FORTNITE

Epic Games have recently introduced three new game modes to Fortnite: Rocket Racing, Fortnite Festival and, finally, Lego Fortnite: a survival game using official Lego characters. There are lots of great mechanics that encourage creativity in children, but – as with any online game – it's important to stay aware of the potential risks.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MONETISATION

Lego Fortnite utilises a similar online item shop to the main Fortnite game. When this title was released, the makers introduced thousands of Lego versions of the original game's character skins. Owning an original Fortnite cosmetic means you also own the LEGO version at no extra cost, but the addition of these extra versions could potentially spark new interest in young players, making it more tempting to pay real money for these in-game accessories.

ONLINE PLAY

LEGO Fortnite can be played online, as with the base game. While a player's LEGO world is private when it's first created, they can then invite anyone on their in-game friends list to play with them. If any strangers are on this friends list, they can be invited onto their server. Thankfully, Epic Games has implemented a solid reporting system, as well as tools to kick other players from the game.

FEAR FACTOR

There is no explicit violence in Lego Fortnite, but there is a lot of combat. While the battles in Lego Fortnite remain very cartoonish and child friendly, a lot of the action unfolds inside dark caves, with spiders, skeletons or scary-looking monsters. The game can get a little spooky at times, which could potentially scare younger players.

COMPLEX GAMEPLAY

Lego Fortnite is a survival game, though it's not as simple as something like Minecraft. There are lots of different crafting stations and loads of items to use or combine (including various rarities to seek out and harvest). The gathering and crafting elements of the game can get quite complicated and confusing, which could be a source of frustration for some younger players.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEGO IS FRIENDLY

Much like real Lego, this game is incredibly inviting. It's friendly, fun and accessible: a younger player could still enjoy this title even if they'd never played Fortnite before. With sanitised violence, it's a far more family-friendly gaming experience all round – worth bearing in mind if you're concerned about children and young people being exposed to violent or frightening content.

SET LITTLE CHALLENGES

As we've noted, the game is a lot more difficult than it may seem, which could be frustrating or upsetting for some younger players. While the game does a good job of setting realistic targets for players, it can still feel overwhelming. If parents suggest smaller challenges – such as building a house – children can flex their creativity, express themselves with their builds and feel a real sense of accomplishment.

PLAY TOGETHER

Take some time to play the game together. Not only will that help with some of the complicated tasks, but it's also just a fun pastime. Playing with family members also reduces the potential for younger players to invite strangers to enjoy the game with – if any are on their friends list. Furthermore, playing with children will let you more effectively limit their time spent on the game. Instead of "switch it off", you can now say "let's play some more later!"

MONITOR SPENDING

If a child has provided their parents' email address and been given consent to make in-game purchases, it's worth keeping an eye on how much gets spent on the in-game currency, V-Bucks. It's very tempting to buy character skins in LEGO form, as a way of expressing yourself and looking cool and unique. As you may know already, the average skin costs between £6-18, which can add up very quickly if not tracked and limited. Keep in mind that you can make it necessary to enter a PIN code to validate every purchase using the game's parental controls, and you can prevent the game from saving your payment information whenever you make a purchase. Furthermore, players under-13 automatically have their spending limited to $100 (£78.55) per day.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality, augmented reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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School calendar 2024/25

DERBYSHIRE County Council

August 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31				1	2	3	4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
35							1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
40	30						

October 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40		1	2	3	4	5	6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
44	28	29	30	31			
45							

November 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44					1	2	3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2024

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
48							1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1	30	31					

January 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1			1	2	3	4	5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
5	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5						1	2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9	24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9						1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14	31						

April 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14		1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				

May 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18				1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22							1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
27	30						

July 2025

Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27		1	2	3	4	5	6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31	28	29	30	31			

Denotes Bank holidays

Denotes School holiday dates

195 days – including up to 5 days to be taken

BLUE DENOTES SCHOOL SWIMMING DAYS IN 24/25