

DUKE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

15th MAY 2026

HEADLINES



What a fabulous day we have had in school today as the children took part in their Bog-Eyed jog. There were some very rosy cheeks enjoying the refreshments in the hall afterwards. A reminder to bring the sponsor money as soon as possible. All money raised will be going towards the children's reading area wish lists. A huge thank you goes to Miss Pierce, our Reading Champion, for all her work in organising this event.

We are hoping for some lovely weather on Wednesday for our annual Sports Enrichment Day. As Goldilocks said, we need the weather to be "Not too hot, not too cold and just right!" Parents are invited to attend both the morning KS2 and afternoon Reception, Acorn class and KS1 sports events taking place on the school field. Seedlings Class will be having their Sports Day after half term.

We've had another 2 'Diamond' Numbots badges awarded this week. Huge congratulations go to Reggie and Wren in Redwood class for their amazing hard work.



And finally, well done to all our Year 6 pupils who demonstrated their resilience, hard work and perseverance during this week's SATs. I am so proud of all your efforts and look forward to you all enjoying your final week's at Duke Street.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE FROM 8th TO 14th MAY

- ACORN: 90.9% ↓
- ROSE: 92.5% ↓
- TULIP: 98.9% ↓
- ACER: 94.1% ↑
- REDWOOD: 99.2% ↑
- SPRUCE: 97.3% ↓
- MAPLE: 97.9% ↓
- BEECH: 98.3% ↓
- ROWAN: 91.3% ↓
- POPLAR: 94.8% ↓
- SYCAMORE: 97.9% ↓
- CHESTNUT: 100% ↓
- OVERALL: 96.2%** ↑

School Target: 96%

Is your class attendance higher or lower than last week?

READING PERCENTAGES

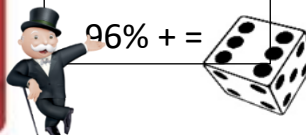
- ACORN: 50% ↓
- ROSE: 35% ↓
- TULIP: 100% ↓
- ACER: 57% ↓
- SPRUCE: 40% ↓
- REDWOOD: 83% ↓
- MAPLE 32% ↑
- BEECH: 63% ↓
- ROWAN: 40% ↓
- POPLAR: 57% ↓
- SYCAMORE 86% ↔
- CHESTNUT: 89% ↔

Is your class reading percentage higher or lower than last week?

We would love to see every class rolling the Classopoly dice next week!

Class Attendance

96% + =



Every moment in school counts, Did you know...

If in a school year, your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 MINUTES	3.5 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	20 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	7 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	41 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	55 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	14.5 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	82 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	22 DAYS FROM SCHOOL	123 LESSONS

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance.

Make sure your child doesn't miss out!

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Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity



Award Winners

CLASS	MATHS	ENGLISH	ICARE
Rose	Zariah	Andre	Betty
Tulip	Grayson	Harper	Isaac
Acer	Paisley	Bobby	Hugo
Spruce	Azaan	Kobey	Junop
Redwood	Aydan	Ella	Reggie
Acorn	Sienna	Oliver	Harry-George
Maple	Emily	Pippa	Daisy R
Beech	Zoja	Kayson	Kydan
Rowan	Olivia T	Ibrahim	Leo C
Poplar	Jordan	Mia	Annabelle B
Sycamore	Toby	Charles	Nia
Chestnut	All of the class	All of the class	Henry Bradshaw

CLASS	Active Minutes
Redwood	655
Acer	620
Sycamore	350
Poplar	285
Maple	279
Chestnut	248
Rowan	245
Spruce	165
Beech	155

KS1 Numbots Highest Coin Earners

Harry in Redwood
 Lincoln in Redwood
 Reggie in Redwood



KS2 T.T.R.S. Highest Coin Earners

jake in Beech
 Nia in Sycamore
 Logan in Beech




MACHINE OF DREAMS

K.S.1

Harriet in Tulip
Reggie in Redwood
Darcy in Redwood
Amal in Acer

K.S.2

Leo in Rowan
Dominic in Polar
Olivia in Acorn
Harry-George in Acorn
Parker in Poplar

Safeguarding/Outreach (239950 option 3)

Parenting can be stressful at times . If you are someone you know is experiencing Mental health difficulties the NSPCC has some helpful information.

[Mental health and parenting | NSPCC](#)

Please scan the QR code for quick access to our website



On Line Safety

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 ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

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DIARY DATES

Reading Cafes

(Make your way to the hall after dropping off your child – except Acorn class)

Yr 2: **Thursday, 21st May**

Yr 3: **Thursday, 18th June Please note time change to 3.00 pm**

Yr 4: **Thursday, 25th June**

Yr 5: **Thursday, 2nd July**

Class Assemblies

Rowan: Tuesday, 19th May

Bog Eyed Jog: Friday, 15th May

Sports Enrichment Day: Wednesday, 20th May

School Closes for Half Term: Friday, 22nd May

(Please note "Happy Shoes Day" will now take place in the Autumm Term)