

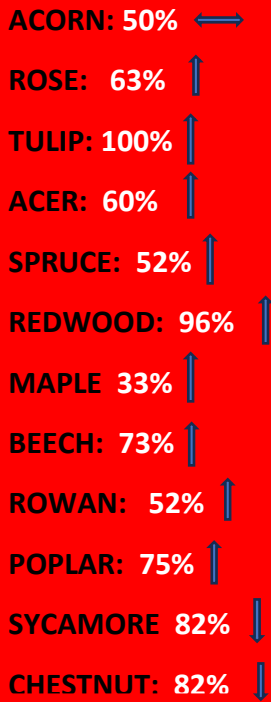
# DUKE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2026

## HEADLINES



### READING PERCENTAGES



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

Well, the weather was not on our side for our sports' day this week, but the children still had great fun completing the rest of our sports enrichment activities.

Throughout the day, the children learnt some self-defence moves in martial arts, practised their chipping and putting skills in golf, and enjoyed healthy eating games delivered by the staff from Blackburn Rovers Community Trust.

The children also tested their knowledge in a World Cup quiz and enjoyed watching a video about the history of the World Cup. To make the day even more special, we had a surprise visit from Strider, which the children absolutely loved!

A huge thank you goes to Mr Allen for organising the day. It was lovely to see the children having so much fun and embracing all of the activities on offer.

We have rearranged our Sports' Day for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June. KS2 in the morning and Reception, Acorn class and KS1 in the afternoon. Seedlings class sports' day will take place the day before on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Parents are invited to attend these events.

We've had some great end of half term celebrations this week. Congratulations to all of Lancaster house who were top of this half term's house point leader board. They celebrated with a special lunch on Thursday.

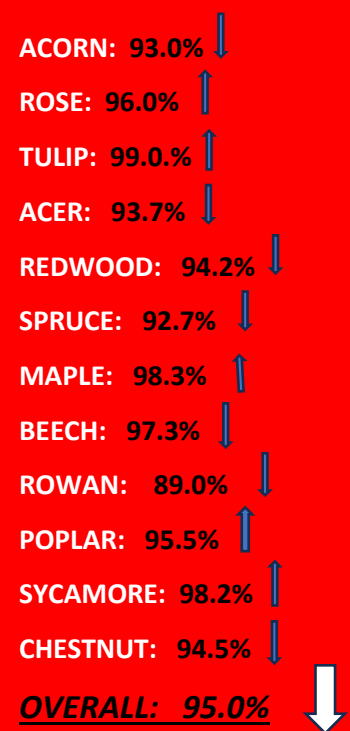
We also celebrated some amazing attendance for this half term too when Tulip and Beech class were rewarded with a special Attendance Pizza Party for having the highest attendance this half term. We are really pleased with the positive progress we are making with improving overall school attendance for all pupils. The reduction seen in applications for term time holidays is having a significant positive impact on our summer term attendance figures. Thank you to all our families for working with us and valuing the importance of regular attendance.

To celebrate this improvement, we have planned some special attendance events over the next half term. The first event takes place during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> June when we will see the return of our Punctuality Prize Days. We will be having a class raffle every day that week for all children who arrive in school on time.

**We return after the half term on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> June.**

Have a lovely half term break everyone.

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE FROM 15<sup>TH</sup> TO 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY



**School Target: 96%**

Is your class attendance higher or lower than last week?

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

96% + =



# Award Winners

<b>CLASS</b>	<b>MATHS</b>	<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>ICARE</b>
Rose	<i>All of Rose Class</i>	<i>Being amazing</i>	<i>This week</i>
Tulip	<i>Imogen</i>	<i>Myla</i>	<i>Zain</i>
Acer	<i>Hunter</i>	<i>Owen</i>	<i>Yousra</i>
Spruce	<i>Juno</i>	<i>Emily</i>	<i>Faith</i>
Redwood	<i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>Charlie</i>	<i>Shelby-Rose</i>
Acorn	<i>Rida</i>	<i>Luke</i>	<i>Olivia</i>
Maple	<i>Lottie</i>	<i>Darcy</i>	<i>Oscar</i>
Beech	<i>Alfie</i>	<i>Jaxon</i>	<i>Heide</i>
Rowan	<i>Olivia P</i>	<i>Lucs</i>	<i>Mason</i>
Poplar	<i>Dominic</i>	<i>Rosie</i>	<i>Zac</i>
Sycamore	<i>Lydia</i>	<i>Layla N</i>	<i>Luca</i>
Chestnut	<i>Grace T</i>	<i>Sam</i>	<i>Isla</i>

## KS1 Numbots Highest Coin Earners

*Harry in Redwood*

*Reggie in Redwood*

*Wren in Redwood*



<b>CLASS</b>	<b>Active Minutes</b>
Acer	<b>787</b>
Redwood	<b>785</b>
Sycamore	<b>390</b>
Maple	<b>373</b>
Poplar	<b>345</b>
Rowan	<b>300</b>
Chestnut	<b>293</b>
Spruce	<b>225</b>
Beech	<b>190</b>

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

*Zoja in Beech*

*Nia in Sycamore*

*Logan in Beech*



## MACHINE OF DREAMS

### K.S.1

Naomi in Spruce  
Jensen in Spruce  
Hayden in Rose

### K.S.2

Abdi in Poplar  
Zeynep in Beech  
Kenny in Beech

A big congratulations to our recent  
"Attendance Stars Group"

Kobey	Kayson
Jaylen	Pheobe
Sam	Thomas
Harry	Lydia



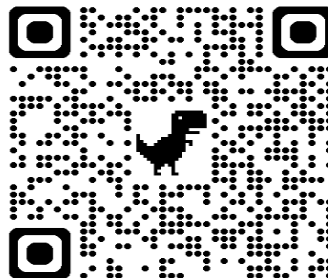
## Safeguarding/Outreach (239950 option 3)

### Pupil Premium

Edenred vouchers have now finished. Holiday support is now being provided exclusively through the HAF scheme.

These activities will be running over the Summer period. Families on Pupil Premium will receive vouchers via email at the end of June/early July.

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

As the best-selling game in history, Minecraft has made a name for itself by empowering audiences of all ages to harness their creativity. Originally an indie hit, it's become a cultural phenomenon with merchandise, spin-off titles, and wider media adaptations. Even if you don't know your Creepers from your Endermen, this guide will explore the risks of Minecraft in 2026 and explain how to support a safe gaming experience for the children in your care.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### PUBLIC SERVER COMMUNICATION

Many players enjoy Minecraft with others, including friends and unknown players online. In-game text chat is commonly used to coordinate building projects and gameplay, and this can extend to adding friends to voice chat. While often harmless, this creates risks around contact with strangers, and in some cases server hosts may expose IP addresses (if hosting independently), which raises privacy and security concerns.

#### GRIEFING BEHAVIOUR

Some players deliberately damage or destroy other players' creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying that can undo hours of effort and cause frustration or distress to affected players. Although many servers treat griefing as a serious offence, enforcement varies. Children who prefer to build independently may feel safer working on private worlds or controlled servers.

#### ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY LOOPS

Minecraft's creative focus can make it easy for players to lose track of time. The cycle of gathering resources and building projects can be highly engaging, which may challenge agreed screen-time limits. If not managed effectively, this can impact children's sleep, schoolwork, and real-world social interaction.

#### SCARY GAME ELEMENTS

Although often compared to digital construction toys, some gameplay modes include hostile creatures with unsettling sounds and sudden encounters. While there is no graphic violence, younger players may still find zombies, spiders, or dark environments frightening. These experiences can lead to anxiety or reluctance to play, depending on the child's age and sensitivity.

#### IN-GAME SPENDING

Minecraft requires a one-off purchase after a free trial, usually around £15, but additional spending is possible. Players can buy cosmetic content or subscribe to Minecraft 'Realms' for private servers. Without supervision, children may make unintended purchases. Subscription services and add-ons can also increase overall costs over time if not monitored.

#### ONLINE INTERACTIONS

Playing with others can introduce broader online safety concerns, including exposure to inappropriate language or behaviour. Some players may attempt to move conversations beyond the game, which can increase risks to children's safety and welfare. Children may not always recognise these situations, meaning guidance and ongoing conversations about safe interactions are essential.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHOOSE SUITABLE GAME MODES

Creative or Peaceful modes remove hostile creatures and reduce the pressure during gameplay. These options allow children to focus on building and exploration without fear of attack. They are also ideal for shared play between adults and children, creating a calmer environment to learn the game and enjoy collaborative projects.

### USE PRIVATE SERVERS

Setting up a private server helps control who can join a child's game. Access can be limited to trusted friends through passwords or invitations. This reduces the likelihood of unwanted interactions and gives adults greater oversight. While some options involve a subscription fee, they offer a safer and more controlled multiplayer experience.

### DISCUSS ONLINE STRANGERS

Children should understand that not everyone they meet online is who they claim to be. Clear guidance about not sharing personal information is essential. Encourage children to report any worrying or uncomfortable interactions and reassure them that they can seek help without fear of punishment. Open, ongoing conversations help build their confidence and awareness of these issues.

### SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Agree on clear rules around purchases before letting children play, and use device settings or platform controls to restrict spending within agreed limits. Explaining that in-game currency uses real-world money can help children make informed decisions. Regularly reviewing purchases together can also prevent unexpected costs and encourage responsible behaviour.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes spent 7 years in games media, before moving into the games industry via PR and marketing. A parent himself to a Minecraft-loving son, he understands why it's so important to stay safe online.



#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: 20.05.2026



## DIARY DATES

### Reading Cafes

(Make your way to the hall after dropping off your child)

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

Yr 4: **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> June Please note time change to 3.00 pm**

Yr 5: **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

### Class Assemblies

**Rowan: Re-scheduled date – Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> June**

### Re-Scheduled Sports Day: Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June

Yrs 3 to 6 – 9.00 to approx. 11.30 am

Yrs Reception to Yr 2 and Acorn – 1.00 pm to approx. 3.05 pm.