



Head Lines

READING PERCENTAGES

ACORN: 79%
 ROSE: 47%
 TULIP: 61%
 ACER: 58%
 SPRUCE: 71%
 REDWOOD: 61%
 MAPLE 73%
 BEECH: 96%
 ROWAN: 87%
 POPLAR: 87%
 SYCAMORE 30%
 CHESTNUT: 33%

There is a buzz of excitement in the air around school this week. Posters have gone up for Duke Street's Got Talent 2025!

Children are invited to complete an application form if they have a talent they would like to share. Forms are available from the reading area outside the staffroom. Once completed, application forms should be put in class envelopes, ready for collection. The closing date for applications is Friday 14th February. All children from Reception to Year 6 are invited to take part. Auditions will take place after half term with the selected acts taking part in 'The Final' during the evening of Thursday 3rd April. If you are planning to enter, get practising!

House point badges have been given out to all children this week. This is to help House Captains spot members of their houses when around school. Please encourage your children to wear this every day. House Captains have got special Dojo stickers that they have been awarding to children they spot around school showing 'outstanding etiquette' (see below). They will also be awarding a weekly certificate in good news assemblies to children who they spot on multiple occasions.

Replacement badges are available from Mrs Nicholls priced 15p.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

ACORN: 89.5%
 ROSE: 96.8%
 TULIP: 89.5%
 ACER: 95.0%
 REDWOOD: 99.3%
 SPRUCE: 93.8%
 MAPLE: 90.9%
 BEECH: 98.1%
 ROWAN: 94.4%
 POPLAR: 96.0%
 SYCAMORE: 94.6%
 CHESTNUT: 95.4%
OVERALL: 94.6%
School Target: 96%

Outstanding Etiquette

In the corridors and around school demonstrating outstanding etiquette, you will see us:

- Wonderful Walking
- Holding doors open – letting others through a doorway before walking through yourself
- Greeting people politely – say 'Good Morning/Good Afternoon'
- Look at the person speaking to you
- Using 'please' when asking for something
- Using 'thank you' and showing gratitude when somebody does something nice for you
- Standing aside to let people past
- Being mindful of other learners around us
- Going back to our classrooms as soon as possible

You won't see us...

- Talking loudly
- Being silly in the corridors
- Wandering around or wasting learning time



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

Class Attendance

96%+ =



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) information

For parents/carers of children with SEND or concerned regarding a possible need you can access all relevant information on the following link on our school website;

You can also contact the school office if you wish to make contact with Mr Reay (SENDCo) and an appointment can be made at a convenient time. Additionally the Local Authority have lots of useful information on the following links;

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/>

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/send-newsletter/>

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/things-to-do/break-time/>

Safeguarding/Outreach

'Sleep Webinar for Parents

This webinar aims to provide an overview for parents/carers on the purpose of sleep, the impact of poor sleep, and advice and strategies to improve sleep and overcome some common sleep difficulties. The strategies may be applied to both adults and children and young people. Please see Parentmail for the QR code to book on!

There are 2 sessions:

Tuesday 28th Jan 11am-12.12pm

Thursday 30th January 1pm-2.15pm

<https://bit.ly/JanuarySleepWebinar>

Machine of Dreams Winner for 60 Reads

KS1

Luke in Acorn

Marnie in Rose

Kai in Tulip

Naomi in Acer

Nina in Acer

Jack in Acer

KS2

Billy in Rowan

Joud in Beech

Robbie in Beech

Hajra in Beech

Harleigh in Sycamore

Grace in Sycamore

Kenny in Maple

Kaleb in Chestnut



Award Winners

CLASS	MATHS	ENGLISH	ICARE
Acorn	Indie	Bella M	Harry-George
Rose	Yusra	Marnie	Isla
Tulip	Evie	Kai	Harlie
Acer	Tommy	Aydan	Hunter
Spruce	Juno	Faith	Penny
Redwood	Joseph	Darcy	Emily
Maple	Kenny	Logan	Leo
Beech	Harry H	Matilda	Harrison
Rowan	Alfie	Heidi	Delta
Poplar	Jaylen	Alfie	Oliver
Sycamore	Jamie	Charles H	Grace T
Chestnut	Lelan	Ali	Alfie

KS1 Numbots Highest Coin Earners

1st: Nina from Acer

 2nd: Mahirah from Spruce

3rd: Aydan from Acer

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

1st: Ali from Chestnut

2nd: Mathew from Sycamore

3rd: Yasin from Chestnut

CLASS	OVERALL ACTIVE MINUTES
Spruce	168
Acer	141
Redwood	80
Maple	102
Beech	108
Rowan	147
Poplar	68
Sycamore	58
Chestnut	110

Photo Gallery (see X for more pictures)



Well done to these amazing readers!



Brian Hull – Arctic Explorer visited us today and let the children try some of his equipment



Rowan class have been looking at and sorting different food labels to help us make healthier choices



TERM DATES

Spring Term 2025

Half-term Mon 17th to Fri 21st Feb 2025 (inclusive)

Term ends Fri 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Term starts Tue 22nd April 2025

Bank holiday Mon 5th May 2025

Half-term Mon 26th May to Wed 4th June 2025 (inclusive)

Return after half-term break Thursday 5th June 2025

Term ends Fri 18th July 2025

Reading Café Dates

Please bring your child to their class in the usual way then make your way to the hall, (Acorn will be in the classroom)

Thursday, 23rd January: **Rose and Tulip**

Thursday, 6th February: **Acer**

Thursday, 27th February: **Spruce**

Thursday, 6th March: **Redwood**

Wednesday, 12th March: **Acorn**

Thursday, 20th March: **Maple, Beech and Rowan**

Thursday, 27th March: **Poplar, Sycamore and Chestnut**

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 29th January, 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm: Dragon Drive

Friday, 14th February: Closing date for D.S.G.T.

Wednesday 5th March, 9.10 am: Redwood Class Assembly

Tuesday 11th March, 9.10 am: Spruce Class Assembly

Wednesday 19th March, 9.10 am: Acer Class Assembly

Tuesday 25th March, 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm: Parents Consultations

Wednesday 26th March, 9.10 am: Reception Class Assembly

Tuesday 1st April, 9.10 am: Maple Class Assembly

Thursday 3rd April: D.S.G.T. The Final.

Internet 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

TIKTOK



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's Following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, For You is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.9 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app: that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2025>



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