

DUKE STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

28TH FEBRUARY 2025

Head Lines



READING PERCENTAGES

ACORN: 97%
ROSE: 57%
TULIP: 40%
ACER: 37%
SPRUCE: 68%
REDWOOD: 68%
MAPLE 72%
BEECH: 97%
ROWAN: 73%
POPLAR: 59%
SYCAMORE 41%
CHESTNUT: 39%

It has been great to see so many parents attending our Year 1 maths workshops this week. The children have really enjoyed showing you how we learn maths. I hope you found the sessions useful and enjoy completing the games at home with the children.

Miss Pierce has been busy at her Reading Cafe again this week, welcoming Spruce class parents in for a reading session with their children. Miss Pierce has also been busy helping Miss Robinson reorganise the school library which is looking amazing. Yet another enhanced reading space for children to enjoy that now has a lovely bookshop feel to it.

The Year 5 and 6 children had a lovely time at the Blackpool Tower Ballroom on Monday morning, listening to the National Youth Orchestra Concert. What an amazingly talented group of musicians! Thanks go to Mrs Robinson for organising this enrichment activity.

Class Assemblies will be starting from next week. Please see the list in the diary dates section. We look forward to seeing Redwood class first on Wednesday. Parents are warmly invited to watch their child's class assembly.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

ACORN: 96.3%
ROSE: 97.5%
TULIP: 96.7%
ACER: 99.1%
REDWOOD: 99.1%
SPRUCE: 95.7%
BEECH: 95.8%
ROWAN: 90.6%
POPLAR: 89.4%
SYCAMORE: 96.4%
CHESTNUT: 95.1%
OVERALL: 95.8%
School Target: 96%

Duke Street's **GOT TALENT**

Auditions will be taking place on Monday. Any child who has applied to take part this year has been given an audition time. Should any acts require the children bringing in equipment, please send this in on Monday.

Following the auditions, the children will be informed who has made it through to the final.

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

Live Sleep Webinar

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.

Wednesday, March 26 · 1 - 2:15pm. All parents/carers are invited. Please register onto this by using the following link..

<https://MarchSleepWebinar.eventbrite.co.uk>

Machine of Dreams Winner for 60 Reads

KS1

Barnaby in Rose
Olivia in Acorn
Elizabeth in Acorn
Bella in Acorn
Rida in Acorn
Zayaan in Acer
Scarlett in Acer
Royal in Acer
Ella in Acer
Mia in Redwood
Juno in Spruce
Eren in Spruce
Frankie in Spruce
Mia in Spruce

KS2

Emily in Maple
Anthony in Maple
Zac in Maple
Olivia in Beech
Annabelle in Beech
Ava-Rose in Rowan
Izabell in Rowan
Freya in Rowan
Christopher in Poplar
Layla in Poplar
David in Chestnut
Jomiya in Chestnut
Annabelle in Chestnut



Award Winners

CLASS	MATHS	ENGLISH	ICARE
Acorn	Bella-Mae	Farhaan	Eesa
Rose	Ale	Isla	Lottie
Tulip	Frankie	Summer	Devontay
Acer	Jack	Lincoln	Naomi
Spruce	Olivia	Frankie	Emily
Redwood	Isaac	Henry	Nevaeh
Maple	Leo F	Mason	Jaxon
Beech	Joud	Zac	Parker
Rowan	Casey	Billy	Izabell
Poplar	Harrison	James	Nicole
Sycamore	Macie	Shai	Henry
Chestnut	Bobby	Grace	Annabelle

KS1 Numbots Highest Coin Earners



1st: Royal from Acer

2nd: Callum from Spruce

3rd: Nina from Acer

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



1st: Yasin from Chestnut

2nd: Zeynep from Rowan

3rd: Ali from Chestnut

CLASS	OVERALL ACTIVE MINUTES
Spruce	69
Acer	70
Redwood	55
Maple	35
Beech	75
Rowan	77
Poplar	20
Sycamore	30
Chestnut	35

Photo Gallery (see X for more pictures)



Some of our Amazing Readers!!

Fabulous family fun doing Maths games in the hall on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.



Year 3 children in Rowan enjoyed their work on capacity

Thank you Miss Pierce and Miss Robinson for reorganising our Library. We love the new 'bookshop' feel that this space now has.



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 WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious "emergency" – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't reopen them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

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/whatsapp-2025>

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DIARY DATES

Wednesday 5th March, 9.10 am: Redwood Class Assembly
Tuesday 11th March, 9.10 am: Spruce Class Assembly
Wed 12th & Thurs 13th March, 9am: Year 2 Parent Maths workshops
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.

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, **3rd April: Redwood (Changed from 6th March)**
Wednesday, 12th March: **Acorn**
Thursday, 20th March: **Maple, Beech and Rowan**
Thursday, 27th March: **Poplar, Sycamore and Chestnut**

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2025

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