



# Wallace Fields Junior School Newsletter



Thursday 26th February 2026

## NEXT WEEK

- Friday 27th February 2026

- 1.00pm – 3.00pm Year 3 & 5 Football Tournament at Auriol
  - 3.30pm - 4.30pm Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby at Sutton & Epsom RFC
- **Monday 2nd March 2026**
  - Book Week Starts
  - Scholastic Book Fair in School Hall Parents Welcome 3.30pm-4.30pm
- **Tuesday 3rd March 2026**
  - Art Exhibition starts at Horton Arts Centre
  - Scholastic Book Fair in School Hall Parents Welcome 3.30pm-4.30pm
- **Thursday 5th March 2026**
  - World Book Day: dressing up as favourite book character
  - Year 3 will need to bring in a shoe box.

[Click Here for Upcoming Events](#)

[Click here for School Calendar and to Subscribe to Calendar.](#) [Click Here for School Term Dates and INSET days](#)

## HEAD'S UPDATE

### Staff First Aid Training Success

On Monday, our whole staff team took part in a full day of first aid training as part of our scheduled INSET. The session was extremely valuable and ensured that everyone is fully prepared to respond calmly and confidently should an emergency arise.

The training covered a wide range of important areas, including asthma management, treating burns, recognising and responding to anaphylaxis, CPR, and how to use our school defibrillators. All key staff attended, including teachers, support staff, our admin team and even our caretaker, so that we have a strong and consistent level of knowledge across the school.

As always, we ask for your support in helping us keep your children safe. Please ensure that:

- Any medicines given to the school office are fully up to date
- The school keeps your child's auto-injector pen safely if they require one

Keeping these items current helps us act quickly and effectively if a child becomes unwell. Thank you for working with us to make sure our pupils are safe, supported and well cared for at all times

### **Ofsted Update for Parents**

In May 2026 our school will be four years from its last Ofsted inspection and the Ofsted model of reporting has changed. We need to make sure that you are fully aware of the new terminology and gradings of the next new style of inspection.

Ofsted has changed the way it reports on schools. Instead of giving one overall grade like “Good” or “Outstanding”, schools now receive a **report card** with grades in several key areas, such as attendance and behaviour, achievement, and personal development.

Each area is graded using the new five-point system:

- **Exceptional** – exemplary practise, sustained and making a strong difference
- **Strong Standard** – the school is consistently very good and effective
- **Expected Standard** – the school is doing everything it should be doing
- **Needs Attention** – some areas need to improve
- **Urgent Improvement** – serious concerns that need rapid action

**Safeguarding** is judged separately as either 'met' or 'not met'. The aim of the new system is to give parents clearer, more detailed information about how schools are performing. We will continue to update you as further guidance is released and we will give you more information as the date gets closer.

## THIS WEEK

### Stars of Week



The latest **Stars of the Week** were announced in the assembly last week - they create a superb role model for their fellow peers through their efforts and commitment by following the school values.

Nominated each week in our Celebration Assembly every Friday. All of the Stars of the Week receive a certificate and five house points for showing one or more of the school BELIEVE values - **B**rilliance, **E**nthusiasm, **L**earning, **I**nspiration, **E**quality, **V**ision and **E**very pupil matters. Well done to this week's winners.

## Head Teacher's Award for Last Half Term

### Head Teacher's Award

From 18/12/25 to 26/02/2026

(In name order)

Aadya S	Freya F	Kasper L	Rihan S
Aarushi B	Gabriel M	Katrina B	Robert F
Aashi L	George D	Kugan T	Roberta P
Alice W	Georgia H	Lander S	Robyn F
Aliki M	Grace H	Lena P	Rory B
Alma T	Gurol B	Leo F	Rose W
Amelia P	Hannah M	Lily M	Rosie C
Anna C	Harry B	Lockie E	Rosie S
Annabelle H	Hendrix R	Logan H	Ruby K
Barnaby R	Henry D	Luke K	Sabrina C
Bella M	Henry K	Madeleine M	Sami P
Benjamin M	Indiana A	Matthew L	Samuel W
Bobby D	Ingrid M	Mia G	Sonny G
Carter D	Isabella A	Mikayeel A	Sylvie P
Chester C	Isabella W	Mila O	Teddy C
Dilan C	Jake T	Mya M	Theo LO
Edward Y	James D	Nathaniel EO	Thomas B
Eesa H	Jaskaran S	Nell C	Vihaan K
Eleanor L	John H	Oscar J	Will F
Ella P	Josh M	Pippa D	Will KB
Ellis F	Joshua K	Rhea J	Zac M

## Year 3 Road Safety Walk

This week Year 3 learnt about road and pedestrian safety with a combination of classroom and practical roadside sessions with the Surrey County Council Feet First: Walking Training programme. Please see below a video about the activity.

TA Miss Nichols accompanied some of the children on the practical roadside session said "Year 3 had their Feet First training this week. They had a lovely time going out in the sunshine to practice their road safety rules. "Stop, look, listen, think". This is the mantra the Year 3s were taught so that they can always remember how to be safe out by the roads."

If you have not yet paid the voluntary donation then it is still available on Scopay.



## Sports Report - Tag Rugby Tournament Thursday 26th February 2026

Well done to all the Upper School tag rugby players who took part in the Epsom & Ewell Tag Rugby tournament against 9 local schools and both Year 5 & 6 teams came 4th. Thank you to all the parents who came to support our team in the cold winds of Priest Hill. Mr Sellars gave special mention to the following players who stood out: Lockie, Lucas, Dylan, Josh and Amelia P. Although all played really well and they really enjoyed it.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### A Reminder About Morning Snacks

We have noticed that packeted corn snacks and other packaged foods being brought into school for morning snack. These items can be unsafe for pupils with allergies and are already creating additional litter in the playground.

Our morning break snack expectations are very simple:

Please send your child in with one of the following options:

- A piece of fruit, for example an apple, banana, pear, or satsuma
- Cut up fruit, such as grapes, melon, or berries
- Cut up vegetables, for example cucumber sticks, carrot sticks, or pepper slices.

To keep all pupils safe, please remind your children not to share their snacks, as this helps prevent any accidental allergic reactions.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all children safe and our school environment clean.

## The Horton Exhibition is Upon Us!

If your child was selected, their artwork will be displayed in an A3 black frame and parents, grandparents and friends are invited to view the exhibition at Horton Art Centre from Tuesday 3rd March 2026 to Saturday 7th March 2026. Horton Art Centre is located at Haven Way, Epsom, KT19 8NP and is open 9:15 to 16:00 daily. As children are at school during the week, parents may wish to visit with their child on Saturday.

Parents may reserve and purchase the framed artwork before the exhibition on Scopay at a cost of **£11**. There is some financial help available for those children on free school meals. Please visit Scopay to make your payment. Artwork will be available to collect from **3.30pm on Saturday 7th March 2026** at the exhibition, from Mrs Curran. All remaining artwork will be brought back to school for collection.

Mrs Curran

Art and D&T Lead

## Pupil Artwork on Display at Epsom Library

The Arts Society is running an arts exhibition at **Epsom Library** from the **7th to 12th March 2026** and all parents are welcome to come along during library opening hours. This year's theme celebrates the imaginative world of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, the famous artist known for his playful "composite heads" made from fruit, vegetables, and flowers. Pupils were encouraged to let their creativity shine by producing artworks inspired by his distinctive style. Fifteen pupils work was selected and their parents have been invited to a viewing of the artworks at Epsom Library from **5pm - 6pm** on the **6th March 2026**.

## Year 6 Junior Citizen Scheme –Tuesday 10th March 2026

As part of their work in Personal, Social and Health Education in the Spring Term, Year 6 will take part in a **Junior Citizen Scheme** at **Epsom Grandstand on Tuesday 10th March 2026**. In partnership with the Police, Fire Brigade, Thames Water and other public services, pupils will learn about personal safety relevant to their transition to secondary school and independence. The children will leave school by coach at 12.00pm and will return to school at approximately 3.00pm. They will eat lunch at school as normal. In order to cover the cost of this trip, we need to ask for a voluntary contribution of **£11.50**. If your child is eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office for financial assistance in paying for this trip. Please visit our on-line payment system Scopay to make your voluntary donation. We are looking forward to an enjoyable and informative morning.

## Multiplication Tables Check Year 4

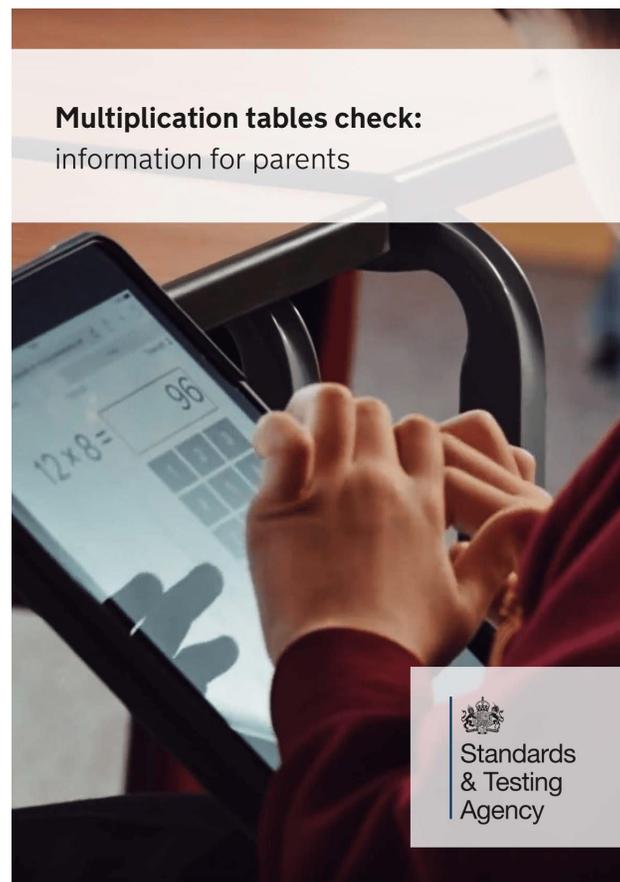
Please find attached the guide for the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). We will be administering the checks the week commencing 1st June 2026. Monday 1st June is an INSET day so they will start on **2nd June 2026** over a two week period.

The scores from the check will be shared with you in your child's end of year report. Please encourage your child to use the 'Soundcheck' area on Times Table Rockstars to increase fluency with all their tables. The format on Soundcheck is very similar to the official MTC in June.

We do lots of practise in school and the children have made outstanding progress with their tables over the year, so thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Sarjeant, Maths Lead



## Multiplication tables check

### Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, your child will be participating in the multiplication tables check (MTC) in June.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help your child's school to identify if your child may need additional support.

### What is the multiplication tables check?

It is an onscreen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

### What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, which can be used to support pupils with specific needs. Your child's teacher will ensure that the access arrangements are appropriate for your child before they take the check in June.

The check has been designed to be inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). However, there may be some circumstances in which it will not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check, even when using suitable access arrangements.

If you have any concerns about your child accessing the check, you should discuss this with your child's school.

### Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

No, you do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check. As part of usual practice, teachers may ask you to practise times tables with your child.

Schools will have unlimited access to a 'try it out' area from April. They can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support to access the check. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required.

### How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, to allow them to identify pupils who need additional support.

### Will I receive feedback on my child's check?

Yes. Your child's teacher will share your child's score with you. There is no pass mark for the check.

### Further information

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any questions about the MTC.

For more details, you can also visit [www.gov.uk/STA](http://www.gov.uk/STA).

Further information about the personal data we collect, process and store for the MTC is available in the department's [personal information charter](#)<sup>1</sup>.

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Multiplication tables check: information for parents  
Electronic version product code: STA/26/9098/e ISBN: 978-1-78957-947-5



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1. [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/about/personal-information-charter)

## BOOK WEEK PLANS 2026

### Book Week Activities

**Wallace Fields Junior School is holding Book Week starting Monday 2nd March 2026.** The purpose of our Book Week is to encourage children to pick up a book and read! We are planning lots of opportunities for cosy reading and visits to the library. The Theme is 'Where is my place?'

Please encourage your child to **bring in a book they love** that they can enjoy reading all week. Children are welcome to bring in **pillows, blankets or onesies** (over uniform) for cosy reading (please ensure they are named).

We would like to invite you to come into school one afternoon and share a favourite book (current or a childhood favourite) with a class for 10 - 15 minutes. Also, if you have a job as a writer, illustrator, publisher etc, please come and share that with us. Parents, grandparents, siblings or other relatives are welcome. If you would like to come into read then please email [Office@wallacefieldsjun.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:Office@wallacefieldsjun.surrey.sch.uk). Please can all children bring in a shoe box or similar size cardboard box by 2nd March 2026 for a competition during Book Week.

We will also be doing a '**Masked Reader**' competition through the week and this will launch the 2026 'Year of Reading' initiative for the year. More information to follow.

Within our exciting Book Week, children will also take part in a writing task. The writing task with link to the development of our outdoor area and also the theme of belonging, through the theme '**Where is my place?**'

On **Thursday 5th March 2026** we will have a **Book Character Day** where all the children and staff dress up as a book character. We do not expect parents to go out and buy costumes. Children on a PE day should wear trainers and loose clothing as part of their outfit to accommodate the PE lessons.

On Thursday 5th March 2026 Emma and her crew of Twelve15 (the lunch providers) will be doing a **Book Week themed menu**.

### **Thursday 5th March 2026 is Book Character Dress Up Day!**

Get ready to unleash your imaginations... Book Character Day is nearly here! On **Thursday 5th March**, our school will be transformed into a magical parade of storybook favourites as children and staff arrive dressed as characters from the wonderful world of books.

Whether your child wants to become **Harry Potter**, channel **Pippi Longstocking**, creep in as **Burglar Bill**, roar like **Aslan**, hop about like **Peter Pan**, or even stomp in as **The Gruffalo**, the possibilities are endless! We cannot wait to see which beloved characters will step off the page and into school for the day.

There is absolutely **no expectation to buy a costume**. Feel free to get creative with props, masks, cardboard accessories, face paint or anything you already have at home. This is a celebration of reading and imagination—not shopping! Please just remember: **book characters only**. (Football kits and mufti outfits will need to save their moment for another day.) If in doubt, school uniform is perfectly fine.

A quick note for those with **PE on the day**: trainers and comfortable clothing should be part of the outfit. A great idea is to choose a costume that can be layered over sports clothing, ready for an easy change when it is time to get moving.

We are looking forward to a colourful, creative, story-filled day. Happy costume-making—and even happier reading!

### **Help Us Get Free Books for School!**

During Book Week we are holding a Scholastic Book Fair. The children love choosing a book at the fair, which is also an important fundraiser for the school. Our last fair raised over **£1,100** which we spent on class reading books and fabulous new library books. All children will have the

opportunity to see the books at the fair in school. **They will bring home a wish list and an order form should you wish to purchase any of the books.** There is no obligation to purchase the books on their wish list.

**Parents and accompanied children are welcome to view and select books in school at 3.30pm - 4.30pm on Monday 2nd March and Tuesday 3rd March 2026 in the Music Room.**

**Year 5 & 6 children walking home alone must be accompanied by an adult if they want to come to the fair after school.**

Parents coming into school can pay cash, **use a QR code available at the fair or take home an order form to order online.** Children can also bring cash (in a named envelope to be handed to their teacher) into school and purchase books during their class visit on either Monday or Tuesday.

If you are unable to attend the fair

- Use this link to view the books [View more books](#)
- Use this link to pay online [Pay for books](#)

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

Every book you buy earns  
**FREE BOOKS**  
for our school!

# COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

AND FIND YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ!

Book covers displayed:

- DOG MAN: Big Jim Believes
- DIARY of a Wimpy Kid: PARTYPOOPERS
- POKEMON: MEGA EVOLUTION HANDBOOK
- Capybara Kingdom: Cara
- The Scarecrows' Wedding
- TOM GATES: PESKY PETS AND PARTIES

DATE: 2nd March 3rd March

TIME: In school and after school

LOCATION: In school

**GO ALL IN.**

National Year of Reading 2026

### Book Week in Year 3 - Book in the Box and Cosy Reading

- **Book in the Box** - Year 3 will be planning their ideas on Tuesday 3rd March and then creating their vision on Thursday 5th March. If possible, children will need to bring in a shoe box on Thursday 5th March. Children may also want to bring in items from home to add to their 'Book in a Box' which teachers will discuss with them in their planning session at school.

- **Cosy Reading** - Year 3 have a planned cosy reading session on Friday 6th March. They are welcome to bring in pillows, blankets and cosy items.

## Year 5 and 6 - Headphones for Music lessons during Book Week

Next week, our school will be bursting with rhythm and creativity as we kick off a **special musical Book Week project** using the Chromebooks — and we would love every child to be fully involved!

If your child has a pair of **wired headphones (3.5mm jack, not USB-C)** at home, please send them in **on the day of their music lesson**:

- **Year 5:** Tuesday
- **Year 6:** Thursday

The headphones will help your children dive into composing, exploring and creating without distraction — and trust us, they are going to have *so much fun*! Thank you for helping make our musical adventure even more exciting!

## PTA

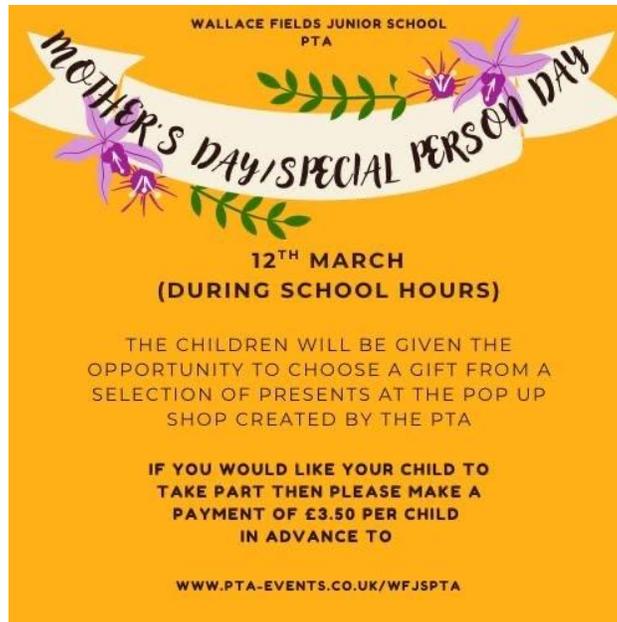
### Special Person Shop for Mother's Day

This year the children will be given the opportunity to choose a gift, during school hours, from a selection provided at the pop-up shop created by the PTA on **12th March 2026**.

If you would like your child to be able to take part and select a gift then we ask that you please pay in advance **£3.50 per child, per gift**.

The children are welcome to choose gifts for other relatives and special people in their life, should you wish them to, as long as this is paid for in advance.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wfspta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=110984>



### **Gather Your Friends and Join Us for QUIZ NIGHT 2026: The Battle of the Schools!**

We are delighted to be holding a Quiz night on **Friday 20th March 2026**, jointly with our friends at the Infant School PTA!!

Do you have what it takes to be the ultimate quiz champions? Will the Infant School or the Junior School come out on top? Will the Infants staff team or the Juniors staff team beat the parents? Who will win the top prize and who will go home with the wooden spoon?!

Your ticket includes entry to the Quiz, pizza supper and a drink (alcoholic or non-alcoholic). There will also be a fully stocked bar (cash or card payment).

If you have already formed a team (of a maximum of eight people) please email us at [wfispta@gmail.com](mailto:wfispta@gmail.com) with your team name and the names of all the participants. If you don't have a team, not to worry! We can team you up with some lovely people! Do email us on [wfispta@gmail.com](mailto:wfispta@gmail.com) and we will be delighted to help.

Get your tickets here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wfispta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=111614>



## ALL COLOUR RUN TICKETS WENT ON SALE AT 8PM ON WEDNESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

PLEASE ensure you READ the following before booking:

Races will be set off every 10 minutes - if you would like to run with specific friends please make contact with them to discuss which time to book before booking - we cannot move runners after purchase.

Race times will be between 2:30 - 4:30pm.

\*All children at the event are the responsibility of their parent or carer at all times. Please ensure you supervise your children and follow all safety advice including the wearing of glasses. During the race itself, all INFANT SCHOOL children must be accompanied by an adult or carer who will also need their own ticket to race.\*

We will of course need volunteers too - slots will also be live to sign up to when tickets are released tomorrow.

Click on link below (Sunday 17th May).

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/wfispta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=112759>

Please contact Kelly Tebbs with any questions on 07813 663002

A vibrant, multi-colored poster for a 'Colour Fun Run'. The title 'COLOUR FUN RUN' is written in large, bold, black letters across three horizontal bands of blue, pink, and green. To the right, a yellow starburst contains the text 'RACE PACK INCLUDES T-SHIRT, HEADBAND, SUNGLASSES & COLOUR PACK'. Below the title, a dark grey box contains the event details: 'SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY', 'WALLACE FIELDS JUNIOR SCHOOL', and 'GATES OPEN AT 2PM'. Underneath, it says 'RACE TICKET & RACE PACK £10.00'. A list of activities follows: 'BUBBLE DISCO • DJ', 'BAR • PIZZAS & HOT DOGS', and 'WATER GUNS • PAINT PACKS'. At the bottom, a purple bar contains the website 'PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/WFIS'. The background is a colorful, abstract splash of paint in various colors.

**COLOUR  
FUN  
RUN**

**RACE PACK  
INCLUDES  
T-SHIRT,  
HEADBAND,  
SUNGLASSES &  
COLOUR PACK**

**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
WALLACE FIELDS  
JUNIOR SCHOOL  
GATES OPEN AT 2PM**

**RACE TICKET &  
RACE PACK £10.00**

**BUBBLE DISCO • DJ  
BAR • PIZZAS & HOT DOGS  
WATER GUNS • PAINT PACKS**

**PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/WFIS**

### **Are You Looking for Swimming Lessons?**

Colin Bull Swimming Lessons has offered a couple of vouchers for a term's swimming lesson. Please email [Office@wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:Office@wallacefields-jun.surrey.sch.uk) with an offer of how much you would donate to the school funds for a free term's swimming lesson by next Thursday 5th March 2026 and the highest bidder will be sent a voucher.

## **REMINDER AND USEFUL INFORMATION**

### **PE Kit for Year 5 & 6 Swimming Days and Swimming Reminder**

Swimming lessons are going well. For those selected, swimming will continue on Monday mornings at Epsom College, and this will help to develop their swimming skills. Lessons will happen on the following remaining dates:

**2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd March,**

**20th and 27th April,**

**11th and 18th May 2026.**

Remember swimming things (including costumes, towel etc) in a waterproof swimming bag and water bottle and snack.

Please remind your child to **wear their PE kit to school** on Mondays from next week. We hope this will speed up changing and allow more swimming time in the pool.

### **Keep the Date - Parent Teacher Meeting Dates Approaching**

Please keep a note of the dates of the next Parent Teacher Meeting and we will shortly be sharing with you the links to School Cloud so you can book your appointment slot. The timings will be as follows:

- **Monday 16th March 2026 3.45pm – 6.00pm – face to face** in the school hall.
- **Tuesday 17th March 2026 3.45pm – 6.00pm – online** video conferencing.

### **Epsom and Ewell Borough Music Festival Tickets - 24th and 25th March 2026**

Mrs Johnstone has now gone back to choir parents to confirm who will be performing on each night of the Epsom & Ewell Borough Music Festival.

- **Tuesday 24th March 2026:** Aarushi, Alma, Bea, Chloe, Eliana, Grace, Jessie, Leena, Mai, Marta, Monty, Nandika, Nyla, Rhea, Violet, and Vivienne.
- **Wednesday 25th March 2026:** Alice, Anna, Ella, Emily, Eva, Francesca, George, Hana, Joe, Reema, Rose, Sabrina, Sophia, Thea, William, and Yoon Seul.

Tickets for the 'Borough Music Festival' will **go on sale directly through The Playhouse from Monday 9th February 2026**. They sell out quickly so it might be wise to set a reminder to avoid disappointment. [Click here](#) for their website.

### **Wallace Fields Junior School are Going to the Moon!**

Four astronauts will fly around the Moon and back on **Artemis II**, the first crewed flight under NASA's Artemis campaign. Artemis II will test NASA's deep space capabilities, as humans fly on the SLS rocket and Orion spacecraft for the first time. The approximately 10-day mission will launch from Launch Complex 39 at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida **no later than April 2026**.

To celebrate this monumental return to the Moon for the human race, each class in the school has received a special boarding pass and the submitted names will be included on an SD card that will fly inside Orion when the Artemis II mission launches... we also thought that we better send Mr Lee and Mrs Day to the Moon as well just for good measure, so they have their own individual passes!

If your child would like to have their personal name added to the SD card and join the mission, please feel free to enter your information at home by clicking on this website link: <https://www3.nasa.gov/send-your-name-with-artemis/#user-information>

## SAFEGUARDING and WELLBEING

At The National College, our WakeUp/Wednesday 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](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ADULT ANIMATED CONTENT

Bright, bold, and widely shared, adult animated content is more popular than ever, but not always what it seems. These videos, which may appear cartoonish and harmless, often contain strong language, explicit themes, graphic violence, or dark humour. Many are accessible through platforms like YouTube, TikTok or streaming services, where filters may not catch them in time.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

**MISLEADING VISUAL STYLE**  
Many adult animations mimic the colourful, exaggerated look of children's cartoons. This can easily mislead not just children, but also adults, into thinking they're suitable for younger viewers. Without watching the content fully, parents or educators might approve a show or video that contains explicit jokes, graphic imagery, or highly inappropriate language, all disguised beneath a playful and fun visual style.

**EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL THEMES**  
A number of adult animated shows and online videos explore mature or disturbing themes, such as addiction, trauma, abuse, self-harm, or violence, and often do so in a stylised or humorous way. Younger viewers may not have the emotional maturity to process this content, leading to confusion, distress, or the normalisation of very serious issues that should be discussed in a supportive context.

**RISK OF DISTRESS AND FEAR**  
Some adult animations, especially horror-based content or 'creepypasta' style stories, include disturbing imagery, unsettling themes, and sudden scares. These videos sometimes feature distorted versions of well-known children's characters, such as Sonic the Hedgehog or Peppa Pig, in frightening or violent scenarios. Children can be negatively affected if they come across this unexpectedly, leading to sleep disturbances, anxiety, or long-lasting fears, especially if children have existing worries or sensitive personalities.

**INFLUENCE OF EDGY HUMOUR**  
Dark, edgy humour is common in adult animation and often includes jokes about topics like sexism, racism, mental illness, or abuse. When children hear these jokes, they may repeat them without fully understanding their meaning. This can lead to inappropriate behaviour in school or online spaces, and in some cases, it can reinforce harmful stereotypes or desensitise children to real-world injustice and discrimination.

**ALGORITHMIC RECOMMENDATIONS**  
Video platforms are designed to keep users watching by suggesting similar content. If a child watches one mature animation, they may quickly be shown more, including even darker or more extreme videos. These recommendations are based on viewing patterns, not age-appropriateness. Without strict settings in place, this can lead to a rapid spiral into unsuitable, upsetting, or even harmful content online.

**DESENSITISATION TO VIOLENCE**  
Stylised violence in animation is often exaggerated and constant. Repeated exposure to it can reduce a child's emotional response to harm, making aggression or cruelty appear entertaining or acceptable. Over time, children may become less empathetic or more tolerant of harmful behaviours in real life, especially if they see others online reacting with humour, memes, or praise for violent characters or scenes.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

**LEARN WHAT CHILDREN ARE WATCHING**  
Take time to ask children what they're watching and who their favourite creators are. Sit down and watch a few videos to get a full understanding. This helps you spot inappropriate content early and shows children that you're interested and engaged in their online world, not just policing it.

**TALK ABOUT WHAT'S APPROPRIATE**  
Keep communication open and non-judgemental. Talk about why certain themes or jokes are not appropriate for children, even if they appear in animated form. Help children understand that just because something is popular or shared widely, it does not mean it's suitable or safe. If they've seen something upsetting, respond calmly, offer reassurance, and explain things in an age-appropriate way.

**USE PLATFORM SETTINGS WISELY**  
Make use of built-in safety tools like content filters, restricted mode, and age settings on platforms such as YouTube, Netflix or TikTok. Turn off auto-play where possible and regularly review what children are being recommended. Although these settings aren't foolproof, they add an important layer of protection and help reduce the risk of children encountering disturbing or adult content accidentally.

**ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING**  
Help children think carefully about what they watch. Talk about the difference between fictional exaggeration and reality, while helping them question why certain content is made, is it informative, entertaining, or meant to shock? This builds digital resilience and encourages them to make safer choices in future, rather than simply following viral trends or peer pressure to watch mature content.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. We offer memberships and packages to help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

**#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: 25.02.2026

## Surrey County Council Offering Free Online Parenting Support Groups

Surrey County Council are offering lots of free courses and **parenting support groups**. [Click here](#) for all the courses on offer.

Of particular interest might be the courses targeting parents of children in years 5 and 6 which is a challenging time as children in these years **prepare for SATs and prepare to transition to year 7**, experience hormonal emotional and physical changes, and enter a developmental stage when they compare themselves to their peers in both the online and offline worlds. We know that parents will be thinking about keeping their children safe while encouraging more independent thinking and resilience.

[Stronger Relationships](#) focuses primarily on the relationship and communication between co-parents and co-carers to ensure that they can cooperate to effectively raise children in these age groups. The course offers relationship enhancing, communication and conflict resolution techniques as well as parenting information.

[Intro to SFSC](#) focuses primarily on parenting information and skills to help parents raise children in a healthy way physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.



## A helping hand for a healthier family

**Do you need help to achieve a healthy weight for your child or teenager?**

*Be Your Best is a funded healthy lifestyle programme for Surrey families with children & teenagers aged 5-17 years, who are above the healthy weight range.*

*We can help you make a positive difference to your child or teenager's health & wellbeing.*

*The programme is made up of one-to-one and group sessions:*

#### Sessions include

Live cooking workshop  
Meal planning for the whole family  
Easy food swaps  
Managing screen time  
How to become an active family  
Importance of sleep

#### One-to-one sessions

With a health & wellbeing advisor at a mutually agreed time & location

#### Online group sessions for parents/carers

Week days after school via Zoom

#### Online physical activity sessions

Group sessions via zoom or on-demand video content

*"Me and my boys are really enjoying this programme and we are so grateful to be taking part." - Mum*

Find out more :



## Family Wellbeing Service

YMCA East Surrey's Community Wellbeing Team offers support to parents/carers whose children are experiencing challenges or difficulties with their emotional wellbeing and mental health.

The Family Wellbeing service helps families set goals and identify needs through 1:1 or group support. We empower parents with the tools and knowledge to create a more supportive home environment, promoting better mental health for children.

This service offers support to parents/carers in the following local authority areas:

- ▶ Epsom & Ewell / Elmbridge / Mole Valley - parents/carers with children aged 11-18

We work from YMCA centres in Mole Valley, Epsom and Tadworth. We also offer online support via Teams and in other community venues.

We accept self-referrals from parents/carers and direct referrals from professionals.

For more information or to discuss a referral, please get in touch.

E [communitywellbeingteam@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk](mailto:communitywellbeingteam@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk)

Or complete our [Family Wellbeing Service Contact Form](#)

[www.ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk](http://www.ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk)

f X @ YMCAEastSurrey

Scan to get  
in touch >>



**YMCA EAST SURREY**

Registered office: YMCA East Surrey, Princes Road, Redhill, RH1 6JJ  
Registered charity no. 1075028



**Epsom & Ewell  
Family Centre**

**12:30-2:30pm**

**Thursdays**

**26 Feb 5, 12, 19 March**

## **Parenting Puzzle course**

**Free course at Epsom Family Centre.**

Having children is rewarding, but it can also be stressful! Learn positive parenting strategies and tools in this four-week course for a calmer, happier home life.

To book a place, scan the QR code, email:  
epsomewellfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk  
Or call: 01372 571 178



**Epsom Family Centre, Pound Lane, Epsom, KT19 8RY**  
(no parking on-site)

**BARNARDOS**

Changing childhoods.  
Changing lives.

TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 7PM - 8PM

eduthing.co.uk

## CLICKING WITH CONFIDENCE: HELPING CHILDREN STAY SAFE ONLINE

FREE Parent & Carer Online Safety Webinar

eduthing IT Services for Education in conversation with  
**SCREENSAFE**

We are excited to again be celebrating the upcoming Safer Internet Day by hosting a virtual parent & carer support session with Anna Sarjantson, ScreenSafe and experts from the eduthing Professional Learning team, and you're invited!

Join us in conversation as we explore the best ways to support our children and young people navigating the online world covering topics such as:

- Artificial Intelligence - What to know and how to support your children and young people
- Resources to facilitate discussion with children and young people on online safety
- Top Tips and Tricks for Parents & Carers
- Particular Apps or Features to be aware of!
- Interactive Q&A Session

### ABOUT SCREENSAFE



I started Screen-Safe to help more parents, carers, teachers and anyone working with children, have access to support, the information they need now and the tools they need for the future when it comes to keeping our children and young people safer online. As a parent myself, I know just how challenging and sometimes, overwhelming it can be to navigate the digital world our children are growing up in. The online world can provide incredible opportunities but also some serious risks, especially where children are concerned.

We want them to be able to recognise the risks, be able to call out fake profiles or misinformation and have the confidence to say NO and get away from anything or anyone online that doesn't feel right or safe to them.

### ABOUT EDUTHING



eduthing are a leading technology provider to schools across the UK. As well as providing technical support to ensure teaching and learning runs smoothly, eduthing work with teachers, parents, carers and students with Computing, EdTech and Online Safety support and workshops.



We are passionate about ensuring the safety of children and young people when they experience the online world and immerse themselves in a safe and measured way.



### SESSION REGISTRATION

Click here to register for the upcoming session:  
<https://eduthi.ng/SIDW-2026> Please note that this is a live session.

[Click here](#) for More Information About Safeguarding at Wallace Fields Junior School

## CLUBS

### Gardening Club Is Coming Back!

We are delighted to let you know that **Gardening Club** will be returning at lunchtime on **Tuesday 3rd March 2026**. The children are always enthusiastic gardeners, and we are looking forward to another season of planting, growing and exploring outdoors.

At this time of year, the ground can be very muddy. To help keep everyone comfortable and safe, we ask that children bring **wellies or an additional pair of shoes** on Gardening Club days. If they do not have suitable footwear, it is best that they sit out until the area has dried out.

Thank you for your support in keeping our young gardeners happy and ready to dig in!

# COMMUNITY

## Good Company

We're here to help you if you're facing financial difficulties. At Good Company, we provide practical support and guidance to help you manage debt, access benefits, find housing advice, and connect with other services that can make life easier. We also offer emotional support and work with the community to make sure you don't have to face challenges alone. Come and speak to us at the Advice Café – we're here to listen, guide, and help you take the next steps.

Alison Mitchelmore, Support Worker  
Email: [support@goodcompany.org.uk](mailto:support@goodcompany.org.uk)



## Waythrough

Are you in need of support to return to work, support to speak to your employer regarding adjustments in the workplace or support to find new employment? Waythrough offers support to those who are suffering with a health barrier that is impacting their employment or their ability to work. Through the Workwell service, we have a dedicated Workwell Coach who can support you. This isn't just about employment. It's about listening, wellbeing, lifestyle, and motivation – all aspects of someone's health and wellbeing. We will be based at the Advice Café every other Friday, or please feel free to pick up a leaflet from the café and you can access our referral form there.

Kelly-Marie Taylor, Service Manager  
Email: [kelly.taylor@waythrough.org.uk](mailto:kelly.taylor@waythrough.org.uk)



## Age Concern

Age Concern Epsom & Ewell is a local independent charity dedicated to empowering older residents of Epsom and Ewell to live active, independent and fulfilling lives. Sal will be at the Advice Cafe to speak to older residents to offer guidance about the local services we can offer.

Sal Bacon, Outreach Support Worker  
Email: [sal.bacon@ageconcernepsom.org.uk](mailto:sal.bacon@ageconcernepsom.org.uk)  
Telephone our Information and Advice Desk:  
01372 732456 9:30am-1:00pm Monday to Friday



