

Tipton St John Bulletin

BELIEVING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE



Thursday 2nd April 2026

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Dear Parents

Here is our end of term newsletter with news from all the classes. I can't believe we are at this point again in the term!

Last night was a highlight of the year with the singing club performing at Wellington School. It's a fantastic event and we would love to be sending more children next year (more reports to follow when we return).

A huge thank you to the PTFA for another great Egg hunt yesterday afternoon.

We look forward to our Easter Service this afternoon and celebrating the hope that this reminds us of.

A reminder about our potential Breakfast and After School provision - do get in touch if you think you might make use of this.

We wish you a very peaceful, restful and hopefully sunny Easter break!

Attendance

Class	Attendance
R	95.45%
1	100%
2	92.50%
3	100%
4	100%
5	91.41%
6	99.04%
Whole School	96.23%

Kind regards

Mr Pete Button

Head of School

Dates to Remember :

Monday 20th April 2026 — First day back of the Summer term

Monday 11th May — KS2 SATS week

Tuesday 28th April — Oak Quad Kids event at Kings (pm)

Tuesday 12th May—Willow Quad Kids event at Kings (pm)

Monday 18th May— Start of Creative Arts Week and Field studies day

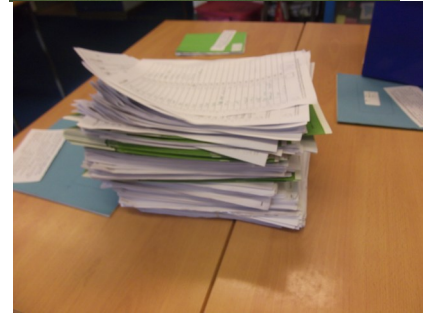
Friday 22nd May—last day of the first half term

Oak Class

A picture paints a thousand words' is an old adage meaning that a single still image can convey multiple ideas, emotions, and narratives more effectively than a lengthy verbal description.

Need I say more: Boys & Girls football & Cross Country, meeting an infamous Highwayman, playing with circuits, making Aztec warriors and 168 tests - just a few highlights.

Have a great Easter from all in Oak



Willow Class have had a fantastic and busy term, filled with lots of learning and achievements to celebrate. In Maths, the children have been working hard on fractions, developing their understanding of parts of a whole and building confidence in applying this knowledge. Alongside this, we have placed a big focus on times tables, with regular practice really helping to improve fluency and recall across the class. In English, we have been reading *After the Fall*, which the children have absolutely loved. The story has sparked thoughtful discussions and inspired some fantastic writing. Our wider curriculum has also been full of exciting learning. In Geography, we have been exploring Greece, discovering its physical features, culture, and history. In Science, we have been learning about human digestion and teeth, with the children showing great curiosity and enthusiasm for how the body works. It has also been a brilliant term for sport. We are incredibly proud that two of our teams finished in second place in tag rugby competitions, showing excellent teamwork and determination. In addition, we had children achieve great success in a cross country event, which is a fantastic accomplishment. We have now completed our school swimming sessions, and it has been wonderful to see the progress the children have made in confidence and ability in the water. Despite at times facing the challenge of working in a smaller space at the back of the village hall, the children have been amazing. They have shown resilience, positivity, and a fantastic attitude to their learning throughout. I am very proud of everything **Willow Class** have achieved this term and look forward to seeing their continued progress next term.

Regards

Mr McKenzie

Maple Class have had a positive half term after being evicted because of the flood. We have enjoyed being in the 'big' Willow playground but will be glad when we don't have to cross the road! We have learnt all about living things this term and enjoyed looking for minibeasts! We have sorted animals according to what they eat. We have learnt about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We have also had lots of fun at Forest School and experienced setting up cafes and making our own signs. We have made lots of lovely 'mud food' to sell and made structures. We also made mini fires using fire starters. In the run up to Easter we have been learning about Holy Week and thinking about the different ways people celebrate Easter. We have enjoyed making prints during art lessons and made our own clay tile to complete our learning. We wish everyone a happy Easter and look forward to a new and interesting term of learning in the Summer term.

Mrs Davies



Happy Hazel Class

We have had so many exciting and fun things going on in Hazel Class. Our theme about caring for animals has been very successful and the children were so interested in learning about how to look after animals. They were delighted with raising £192 for ARC, the dog rehoming charity in Ottery, who are so in need of any support. We had a great animal day and everyone came to school in different animal costumes. The role play area was transformed into a vet and pet shop, which has now become an Easter shop! This week we are making Easter chocolate nests and learning about the meaning of Easter. Mrs Garrick

The FSU team would like to thank all the families for their Tapestry posts, reading to and with their children at home and letting us teach your lovely children.



Before and After School Club Update!

Dear Parent Carers,

We have a hopeful update on Wrap Around Provision!

I recently met with the founder of Kids Holiday Heroes who runs breakfast, after school club and holiday provision and he feels he may be able to meet the needs of our school, should the number of children attending be high enough. This would be provision run solely by Kids Holiday Heroes in collaboration with the school. For more information visit their website: [Kids Holiday Heroes | School Holiday Club](#)

The proposal would be to run a daily breakfast club 8am - 9am and an after school club for 3-4 evenings 3.30pm-5pm

Places would be booked via an online booking system and would cost £5.80 per hour.

If numbers are high then KHH will also explore the option of a club in holiday time, but for the immediate future we will look to set up holiday provision at Feniton Primary, open to children from both of our schools. More information to follow on this. To take advantage of government grants we need to move quickly with this and establish potential numbers of children who would be attending, so please register your interest by completing the form below:

[Tipton St John Primary School - Breakfast & After School Club – Fill in form](#)
(Q1 showing as Please... - you can ignore this and move onto Q2)

Fingers crossed we can make this work together. We will keep you updated.

Kind regards

Amanda Fulford

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 MEMES

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (78%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

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Parents can also access a course via national college that is about 40 minutes long and will provide a more detailed journey through their child's digital habits, explaining the type of online world they're experiencing now, what risks they might be exposed to and just what you can do to support.

Course title: Award in Online Safety for Parents of Children 3-7 or Award in Online Safety for Parents of Children 7-11

Parents can access via the National College link and enrol as part of our school subscription.

You can then enrol for one of the courses above. Link is here.

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/otter-valley-federation-2>