



07.03.25

	Hawthorn Community Primary School <i>The Hawthorn Herald</i>	
Website: hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk		
Head Teacher: Emma Jacox Email: head@hawthorn.pfschools.org.uk		@hawthornpri
		Tel: 01536 512204

Dear Parents and Carers,

Y4 Residential

Year 4 will be heading off on residential on Monday to the Frontier Centre in Irthlingborough. We wish them all a wonderful time completing all the fantastic activities that are in store for them! We look forward to seeing the photos and hearing all about it when you get back!

Class Photographs

Class photographs were taken this week. If you would like to purchase your child's class photo please follow the link that was sent to you today on MCAS.

World Book Day

We enjoyed a fabulous World Book Day at Hawthorn yesterday. It was great to see so many children come to school dressed as their favourite character or in their comfy clothes ready to enjoy a book. Thank you to all the parents who joined us for Book and Biscuit, it was lovely to welcome you all into school to share stories with your children.

We had dozens of wooden spoon and paper plate character entries for our House Challenge, thank you to everyone who supported the children with making them! The winners were

announced today in assembly and will have the chance to choose a book from the upcoming book fair - well done to everyone who took part. The winning house for this event is FIRE!!!!!! The stunning gold House Challenge Cup will be presented to the winning house complete with their ribbons and will remain on display until the next House Challenge!

Thank you also to everyone who brought in books for our book swap day. This was very successful and dozens of children made use of it. Well done to the School Council for organising this event.

Have a lovely weekend, let's hope the Spring sunshine continues for a little bit longer.

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

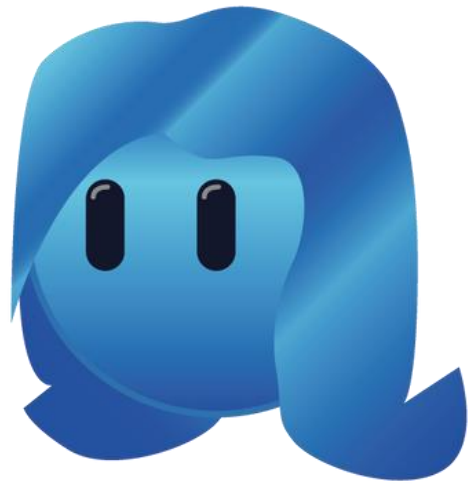
Head Teacher







House Points so far...



Click on the cards below to see which house is in the lead so far!!

Earth - 473 points

Air - 494 points

Fire - 582 points

Water - 647 points!!!

Well done Water - still in the lead. But what will happen when the World Book Day House Challenge points are added next week?

Spring Term 2 Sports Clubs

Please see below for details of our this term's clubs, delivered by EcoCoach. Parents can book individual sessions or the whole term:

KS1 Dance and Gymnastics Club



- ***When:*** Wednesdays
 - ***Time:*** 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
 - ***Year Groups:*** Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
-

KS2 Football Club

- ***When:*** Tuesdays
 - ***Time:*** 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
 - ***Year Groups:*** Years 3 - 6
-

Key Information

 ***Cost per session:*** £5 (General Admission) or £3.50 for Pupil Premium.

 ***Booking Link:*** <https://bookwhen.com/ecocoach>  ***Capacity:*** Limited to 20 children per session, with 5 spaces reserved for FSM children. If these spots remain unfilled, they will be offered to those on the waiting list.

Parents can book individual sessions or the whole term, and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

We're excited to offer these engaging opportunities for your children to stay active, develop skills, and have lots of fun next term. Should you have any questions or require assistance, feel free to contact us at greenteam@eco-coach.co.uk.



ECOCOACH PE SOLUTIONS **AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS** **AT HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL** **ECOCOACH GREEN JUNIORS**

ECOCOACH PE SOLUTIONS are excited to announce the launch of our new after-school sports clubs for KS1 (including Reception class) and KS2 children, offering an engaging and fun-filled opportunity to develop new skills, stay active, and make new friends!

KS1 DANCE & GYMNASTICS CLUB: STARTS: 26TH FEBRUARY 2025 (WEDNESDAYS, 6 SESSIONS) YEAR GROUPS: RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

KS2 FOOTBALL CLUB: STARTS: 25TH FEBRUARY 2025 (TUESDAYS, 6 SESSIONS) YEAR GROUPS: YEARS 3 - 6

⌚ TIME: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM 🏠 COST PER SESSION: £5
GENERAL ADMISSION £3.50 FOR FSM CHILDREN (MUST BE VERIFIED BY SCHOOL).

HOW TO BOOK: PARENTS CAN CHOOSE TO BOOK INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS OR THE WHOLE TERM.

THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 20 CHILDREN PER SESSION, AND 5 SPOTS ARE RESERVED FOR FSM CHILDREN.

IF THESE SPOTS ARE NOT FILLED, THOSE ON THE WAITING LIST WILL BE OFFERED PLACES. IF THERE'S HIGH DEMAND, WE WILL CONSIDER ADDING AN ADDITIONAL COACH TO ACCOMMODATE MORE CHILDREN. BOOKINGS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED, AND ONLINE PAYMENT ONLY.

BOOKING LINK: [HTTPS://BOOKWHEN.COM/ECOCOACH](https://bookwhen.com/ecocoach)

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC TERM OF SPORTS, TEAMWORK, AND FUN! HURRY AND SECURE YOUR SPOT NOW! FOR AN ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT [GREENTEAM@ECO-COACH.CO.UK](mailto:greenteam@eco-coach.co.uk)

FSM DISCOUNT BOOKING STEPS:
CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY: CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL TO CONFIRM YOUR CHILD'S FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM) STATUS.
GET DISCOUNT CODE: FORWARD THE CONFIRMATION TO [GREENTEAM@ECO-UKCOACH.CO.UK](mailto:greenteam@eco-ukcoach.co.uk) TO RECEIVE YOUR FSM CODE.
BOOK WITH DISCOUNT: USE THE FSM CODE AT CHECKOUT TO PAY £3.50

10 Top Tips...Using Technology to Boost Reading Skills

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

- 1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT**

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they read help on occasion, digital reading apps can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used to ensure they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.
- 2 READING ON SCREEN**

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.
- 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS**

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user-friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.
- 4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES**

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.
- 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS**

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.
- 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS**

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.
- 7 USING AUDIOBOOKS**

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.
- 8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING**

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.
- 9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY**

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight or passage or sentence and press play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.
- 10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS**

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13-16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert
Catrina Lown is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO, she recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.

[@wake_up_weds](#) [/www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

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For information on talking with child about social media, please click on the following link which will take you to the Internet Matters website: [Internet Matters: Talking with your child about social media](#)

Internet Matters also offer The Family Digital Toolkit where parents can get personalised online safety advice based on a number of factors such as age, popular apps and platforms their children use, tackling online issues and more. [My Family's Digital Toolkit - tailored online safety advice | Internet Matters](#)

Friends of Hawthorn Upcoming Events



Raising money to support our school
FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN

BINGO

1	93	41	90	79
40	95	18	78	20
92	70	30	97	94
71	38	96	72	39
99	31	19	98	2

Family BUNNY BINGO!

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL 2025

EYFS/KS1 3.20-4.05PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL
KS2 4.15-5PM ENTRY VIA OFFICE

£10 PER FAMILY
UP TO 5 PEOPLE
LIMITED TICKETS
PLEASE PAY ON MCAS

REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED
PLEASE NOTE - THERE WILL BE NO CASH PRIZES.
PRIZES WILL INCLUDE EASTER EGGS, GAMES, VOUCHERS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES. TOP PRIZE WILL BE LUXURY FAMILY HAMPER

If you have any questions, please contact friendsofhawthornkettering@gmail.com or the school office



Raising money to support our school
FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN

Mother's Day GIFT SHOP

FRIDAY 28th MARCH 2025

During the school day, children are invited to visit our pop-up gift shop to choose a surprise gift for the mums/aunties/Grandmas/step mums/special people in their life. Gift choices will include candles, stationery, toiletries, pampering, mugs, books etc...

All gifts - **£3.50** (£2 pupil premium) with personalised gift bag and tag!

Please pay for your gifts on MCAS by 3pm Monday 24th March. Access to gift shop will be for children who have pre-ordered only to allow us to ensure we have enough gifts.

If you have any questions, please contact friendsofhawthornkettering@gmail.com or the school office

Community News & Events



**ST. MICHAEL
& ALL ANGELS**
GARFIELD STREET NN156BU



SUNDAY CLUB

**1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS
AT 9AM -9.30AM***

CRAFTS & GAMES

*For families attending Sunday Services

2025 DATES

19TH JAN
2ND FEB
16TH FEB
2ND MARCH
16TH MARCH
6TH APRIL
20TH APRIL - (EASTER SUNDAY)
4TH MAY
18TH MAY
1ST JUNE
15TH JUNE - (FATHER'S DAY)
6TH JULY
20TH JULY

Please help this cause run by a small group of volunteers provide a support network to provide a warm space and to combat loneliness



Mondays 10am - Noon run by Mel

Tea's Up!

Company, Friendship, Fun, Crafts, Activities, Well Being & More!

Come join us for refreshments, friendship, fun, crafts and well being support. Don't miss out!

St Michael's & All Angels
Garfield Street
Kettering
NN15 6BU

Cash or Card Donations Welcome

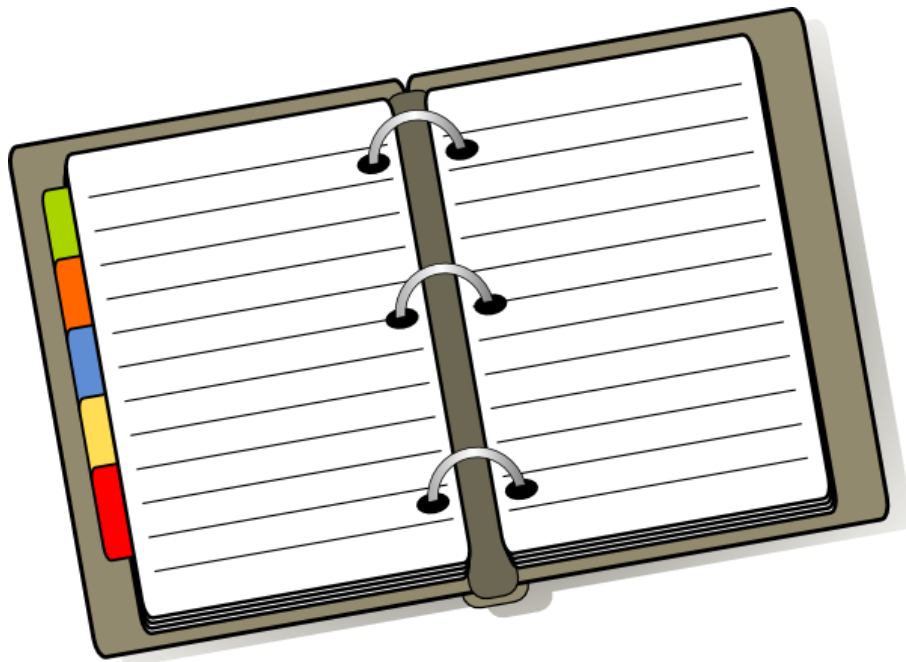
Also needed

Tea bags, coffee, biscuits, cake, Hot chocolate, long life milk, crafting supplies(wool, crochet needles, knitting needles, mindfulness colouring books/pens, jigsaws, recycled products(toilet rolls, kitchen rolls, plastic plates and bowls (picnic type) Eco friendly cleaning products(washing up liquid), tea towels
We also need to fundraise for a licence to play music and Films and tables that can be folded used indoor and out. All help or donations greatly appreciated.

Please follow the link below to the school website to find information on events happening in Kettering and surrounding areas:

[Hawthorn Primary - Community News and Events \(hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk\)](http://hawthornprimarykettering.co.uk)

Dates For Your Diary...



Mon 10th Mar - Weds 12th Mar: Y4 Residential at the Frontier Centre, Irthlingborough

Mon 17th - Thurs 20th Mar: Book Fair in school

Fri 21st Mar: Rocksteady Concert (Friday Bands) 2pm

Tues 25th Mar: Parents Evening (3.30-6.30pm)

Weds 26th Mar: Rocksteady Concert (Weds Bands) 2pm

Thurs 27th Mar: Parents Evening (3.30-6.30pm)

Fri 28th Mar: Y5/6 Sponsored Bounce

FoH Mothers' Day Stall

Mon 31st Mar: KS1 Easter Egg Hunt

Thurs 3rd Apr: Coffee Afternoon: Easter Crafts

Fri 4th Apr: Break Up for Easter

3.15-5pm: Easter Egg Bingo for Families (FoH) more info to follow
