



14.11.25

	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,

Parent Coffee Afternoon

On Wednesday (19th), Miss Larkin will be hosting a parent drop-in session with the school nurse and Mental Health Support Team (MHST). The session will run from 2-3pm in The Palm and refreshments will be available. Please click on the link below to book your place.

[Coffee Afternoon - Wednesday 19th November 2pm-3pm – Fill in form](#)

Santa's Grotto

We are delighted to confirm that Santa will be visiting Hawthorn on Friday 19th December. Santa will spend the afternoon, along with one of his elves, in our amazing Hawthorn grotto. He is very much looking forward to meeting our children and spreading some festive cheer. If you would like your child to visit Santa, please purchase your ticket on MCAS in the Store.

Tickets cost £5 per child (£2.50 if you are in receipt of Pupil Premium) and include a short chat with Santa and his elf, plus a small gift. Visits will run during school time. The deadline for purchasing your tickets is Thursday 28th November at 12 noon. No ticket requests can be accepted after this deadline as Santa's elves will need time to sort and wrap presents in time for his visit on 19th December.

Remembrance Day

On Tuesday, we held our Hawthorn Remembrance Day service. The whole school gathered together on the playground to honour those who have served and sacrificed in times of conflict. Y6 pupils read some moving war poetry, which encouraged everyone to reflect on the importance of peace. Afterwards, we observed a two-minute silence as the flag was lowered. Our children were incredibly thoughtful and showed great maturity throughout the service.

Anti-bullying/Friendship Week

This week at Hawthorn we have celebrated Friendship Week. Our children have learnt about how to be a good friend and how to recognise and stand up to bullying. It was great to see so many children come to school in odd socks on Monday as part of the national initiative to raise awareness of bullying. Staff have also joined in Friendship Week by doing kind gestures for a colleague. The children have really enjoyed being part of this and spotting the acts of kindness carried out between the adults.

Little Hawthorns Parent and Under 5's Group

Thank you to everyone who turned up to our new Parent and Under 5's Group Little Hawthorns, this week. It was lovely to see so many of you. The next Little Hawthorns will be held on Monday 8th Dec from 2-3pm. Booking info to follow. We are still accepting donations of good quality early years toys, so please contact Miss Larkin if you have any you are able to offer.

Jolly Jars and Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who brought a jam jar in today as part of The Friend's of Hawthorn Jolly Jars event. The jars will be used as prizes during the Christmas Fayre on Friday 5th December.

Thank you also to those children who dressed in spots for Children in Need and made donations on MCAS. If you have purchased a Children in Need colouring sheet, children have until Monday morning to complete and hand in to Miss Barr.

School Uniform Discount Code

*My Clothing are offering a 10% discount on school uniform. **Code:** 10%MYC2025*

Expires: 31/12/2025.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Emma Jacox

Head Teacher





1 - Little Hawthorns

Sports Clubs

This term, EcoCoach are running the following after-school clubs:

Key Stage 2 Cricket Club (Tuesday)

Key Stage 1 Multi-Sports (Wednesday)

Please see the flyer attached to book your place.



ECOCOACH CIC PRESENTS
AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS AT
HAWTHORN PRIMARY SCHOOL
STARTING NOVEMBER 2025!

ECOCOACH CIC 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 MULTI SPORTS: STARTS: 5TH NOVEMBER 2025 (WEDNESDAYS, 7 SESSIONS)
YEAR GROUPS: RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

KS2 CRICKET: STARTS: 4TH NOVEMBER 2025 (TUESDAYS, 7 SESSIONS) YEAR GROUPS: YEARS 3 - 6

⌚ TIME: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
💷 COST PER SESSION: £5

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE:
WE'RE COMMITTED TO MAKING CHILDCARE MORE AFFORDABLE:
15% OFF FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)
10% OFF FOR NHS, MILITARY, OR BLUE LIGHT CARD HOLDERS

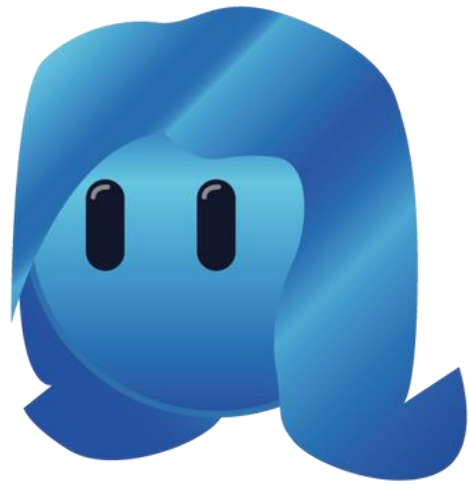
TO CLAIM YOUR DISCOUNT:
EMAIL GREENOFFICE@ECO-COACH.CO.UK WITH A PHOTO OF YOUR EVIDENCE (FSM ELIGIBILITY OR VALID ID). WE'LL SEND YOU A UNIQUE DISCOUNT CODE TO USE WHEN BOOKING.

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://ACTIVITIES.BOOKPEBBLE.CO.UK/SUPPLIER/ECOCOACH-CIC-D2997bfd-8ecf-4d63-af1d-cdb98fcea881](https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/supplier/ecocoach-cic-d2997bfd-8ecf-4d63-af1d-cdb98fcea881)

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC TERM OF SPORTS, TEAMWORK, AND FUN! HURRY AND SECURE YOUR SPOT NOW!
FOR ANY ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT GREENOFFICE@ECO-COACH.CO.UK

House Points so far...



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

Air - 315 points

Fire - 334 points

Earth - 339 points

Water - 365 points

Elm: 95%

Redwoods: 95%

Willows: 94%

What Parents Need to Know About...Pokémon TCG Pocket

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 POKÉMON TCG POCKET

Pokémon TCG Pocket is a mobile version of the hugely popular Pokémon Trading Card Game, downloaded over 100 million times on Android and iOS. Players collect cards, battle others online, and open packs of cards – known as booster packs – to expand their decks. While the core game can be fun and helps develop tactical and numeracy skills, its design encourages spending and can feed addictive behaviours – making it important for adults to understand the risks.

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE PACK OPENING
Booster packs rely on probability to provide rare or powerful cards. The excitement of opening them – and the dopamine rush when finding a sought-after card – can become addictive. Unlike purely cosmetic loot boxes, the cards here are integral to competitive gameplay, adding extra pressure for serious gamers to collect more.

ENDLESS PACK LOOPS
New themed sets of cards are released each month, ranging from around 85 to over 370 cards per expansion. This constant cycle encourages players to keep opening packs in an effort to complete collections or improve their battle decks, potentially promoting unhealthy spending habits. With the introduction of limited-time booster packs, some players may feel increased pressure to collect these cards while they're still available.

QUICK BUT ABSORBING
Card battles last around five to six minutes, making it easy to fit in "just one more game". This quick format, combined with the drive to win, can lead to prolonged play sessions and increased screen time without noticing. With limited-time Ranked Match seasons constantly being refreshed – an opportunity to accumulate points and earn profile emblems – players may find themselves drawn into this game mechanic repeatedly.

COST OF BOOSTER PACKS
Although free to play, with set rewards and two free booster packs given daily, players can exchange Poké Gold if they wish to open more, and a small amount of Poké Gold is rewarded for free as the player levels up. Poké Gold is also sold in bundles that are often just short of what players need to open extra packs, encouraging them to buy additional bundles.

PREMIUM PASS PRESSURE
A monthly subscription gives players access to exclusive missions, rewards, and an extra daily booster pack. Missions and rewards are replaced each month, providing an incentive to stay subscribed. While some premium rewards are exclusive, others are available through free play – making the pass more about faster progression and obtaining cosmetic items than true necessity.

COMPETITIVE ONLINE PLAY
Interactions in Pokémon TCG Pocket are relatively safe – there's no messaging between players, friend requests require player approval, no real names are used, and card trading is restricted to fair trades between friends. On the other hand, the competitive nature of online play can still cause frustration, over-investment, and isolation if children spend too much time focused on the game.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR SPENDING HABITS
Set clear boundaries around in-game purchases. Treat Poké Gold as an occasional rather than routine reward, helping children develop healthier attitudes towards digital spend.

PLAY TOGETHER
Card battles can help children learn tactics, problem-solving, and rule-following, as well as numeracy skills. Playing alongside them is a great way to share in their enjoyment, while also modelling balanced play and keeping an eye on how much they're investing in the game.

SET REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS
Talk about the unpredictable nature of booster packs and prepare children for disappointment when duplicates appear or rare cards don't surface. Understanding probability can help minimise disappointment – use the game's built-in offering rates guides to find out more about it.

TEACH FAIRNESS
Losing a battle can be discouraging, especially when money has been spent on collecting the cards to build a deck. Support children in recognising the importance of fairness, learning from both wins and losses, and making considered choices when trading cards.

Meet Our Expert
Dan Ipscombe is a videogame journalist and children's book author with over 15 years of experience. Specialising in technology and gaming, he has written extensively on how digital platforms affect young people and has been playing games for more than three decades.

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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](#)

Community News & Events



It's back ...
REPAIR CAFE Kettering

WHERE:
The Church of St. Michael and All Angels
33 Garfield Street
Kettering, NN15 6BU

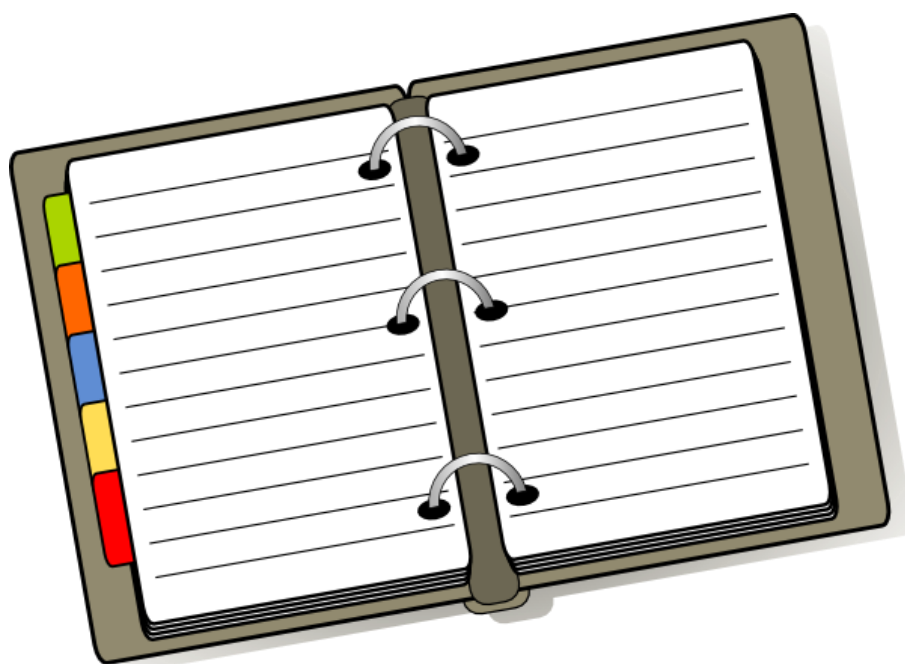
WHEN:
Saturday November 15, 2025
10am – 1pm

To book your time slot for a repair or to volunteer, visit:
<https://repaircafeketterin.wixsite.com/kettering-repair-caf>

TO WEBSITE



Dates For Your Diary...



Weds 19th Nov: Coffee Afternoon with Miss Larkin, MHST and School Nurse (2pm)

Fri 28th Nov: MHST Coffee Afternoon for parents - Talking to your child about mental health

Y5 Cake Sale

Tues 2nd Dec: KS2 Celebration Assembly - invite only (1.00pm)

EYFS/KS1 Celebration Assembly - invite only (2.15pm)

Mon 8th Dec: Little Hawthorns in The Palm (2-3pm)

Tues 9th Dec: KS2 Christmas Musical Performance at **The Toller Church on Gold Street.**

Performance 1: 1.30-2.30pm, Performance 2: 5.30-6.30pm.

Please buy tickets on MCAS

Thurs 11th Dec: 9.30am and 5.30pm: EYFS Nativity 'A Bundle of Joy'

Please request tickets on MCAS

Thurs 11th Dec & Fri 12th Dec: Coram Life Sciences Mental Health Workshops for children

Tuesday 16th December: KS1 Christingle Workshop

Thurs 18th Dec: Kingswood Christmas Lunch

*5.30 pm: KS1 Christingle Service at **The Toller Church on Gold Street***

Please buy tickets on MCAS

Fri 19th Dec: Santa's Grotto at Hawthorn

Carols Around the Tree

Break Up



ANCHORED SCHOOLS



GOLD AWARD