



## Newsletter—Week Ending 25th April 2025

### TEAM OF THE WEEK!

This week's Team of the Week are:

**P16:** Thomas O, Drew, Joseph

**KS4:** Faye, Ethan M, Alex, Kai

**KS3:** Willow Class, Ellen, Ilia, Thomas R, Alfie, Elsie

**Primary:** Poppy, Lennox, Tonylee, Seb, Abel, Nelson



**WELL DONE!**

### DATES FOR THE DIARY:

**Monday 5th May—**

**SCHOOL CLOSED—BANK HOLIDAY**

**Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th May—**

Kilve Court Residential

**Wednesday 21st– Friday 23rd May—**

DofE Practice Expeditions.

**Friday 23rd May–** End of Term 5

**Monday 2nd June—** Start of Term 6.

**Week commencing 23rd June—** Relationship and Sexual Education (RSE) Week.

**Wednesday 25th– Friday 27th June—**

DofE Expeditions.

**Friday 27th June—**End of Year Reports Home

**Tuesday 1st July—**Moving Up Day



### SIGNS OF THE WEEK

Earth/ World



Earth/ Ground/ Soil



Day



### PARENT CARER COFFEE AFTERNOON



Parent Carer  
Coffee Afternoon



Ravenswood  
Special School



Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July  
2pm–3pm

For parents & carers of children with any emerging need,  
additional need and/or disabilities - no diagnosis needed



## WELL DONE POST16 PUPILS

Post16 pupils took part in Work Experience for two weeks during March.

They worked with 12 employers in total to experience the world of work. The placements included; Brown Rock Farm, Waitrose, SENSE, Nailsea library, Puxton Park, Strawberry Line café, Pretty Nail Salon, Hannah More Infant School, Warmley Wheelers, The Front Room Theatre, Bluebird class in Ravenswood and Bristol City Football club!

The pupils made such a great impression that employers have invited us back next year!

Pupils, Employers and staff have commented that "it was a great two weeks where we learned new skills, worked hard and made memories".

We will be holding a celebration assembly on 16<sup>th</sup> May, please save the date we would love to share our stories and photos with you.

Well done to all pupils for trying new experiences whilst upholding the school values, we are proud of you!







# *Ravenswood School Summer Disco*

*Friday 16th May 2025*

*Aloha!*

*6:30pm - 8:30pm*

*£2 per child.*

*All children MUST be supervised at all  
times.*

*Adults are free.*

*Siblings and friends are welcome to  
come and join the fun.*

*Food and refreshments available.*

*A raffle will take place on the night.*

**\*Fancy dress is optional\***





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](https://nationalcollege.com). Trigger Warning: This guide contains mention of suicide, which may be distressing for some readers.

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

#### EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

#### PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

#### COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sextortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

#### LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 28-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 15, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS ONLINE NOW

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

### KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

### ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

### Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



The National College

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# Bowling with a disability

## Open Day 11<sup>th</sup> May

West Backwell Bowling Club, West Town Road, Backwell BS48 3HQ

**Your invite - we look forward to welcoming you**

### Programme of Events

**11-1pm Give bowls a try** - discover the different equipment & aids you can use; Hear from visually impaired and physical disability bowlers; Learn what's needed from coaches, umpires, markers and directors;

**1-2pm Lunch & Learn - Inclusion** - your chance to discuss what inclusion means for you and your club and to ask questions of Bowlers with disabilities including England Para Squad Members, Coaches, Umpires, Markers, Directors and Bowls England.

**2pm Exhibition Match v Bowls England Disabilities Squad**

### Who is this for?

**Bowls is one of the most inclusive sports there is and we believe anyone can enjoy it regardless of age or ability.**

Anyone who has an interest in finding out more about bowling with any disability.

Children & Adults with a disability, their friends, family, carers and personal assistants

Those who run groups, schools or in advisory roles

Social prescribers and professionals

Bowling Club reps, Coaches, Umpires & Markers

**#PeopleLikeMeDo**