

# Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

(FORTNIGHTLY)



“  
Believe,  
Persevere,  
Succeed.  
”

26th September 2025

## A message from Miss Harbridge

This week, I had the privilege of joining our Year 4 pupils on their residential trip to Henley Fort, where we took part in a range of exciting activities—from archery and shelter building to making popcorn over a campfire and rock climbing. The children were fantastic: curious, courageous, and full of energy (even after midnight!).

Our mornings began with impressive four-course breakfasts that certainly set us up for the day (though I suspect the children were more energised than the staff!). The first night brought a little less sleep than hoped for, with lots of excitement and a few sleepy teachers the next morning—but it was all worth it to see the children thriving in an outdoor learning environment.

Back at school, the rest of our Year 4 pupils also enjoyed a brilliant week. They visited Rugged Earth yesterday, where they learned survival skills and connected with nature; got creative in cooking sessions; and had a fun-filled outing to Woking Park today.

A huge thank you to all the staff who made these experiences possible, and to our wonderful children for embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm and joy. I am very proud of our Barnsbury children, who displayed our values outside of school. It's been a week that truly reflects the spirit of Barnsbury—perseverance, enjoyment, and full of learning.

## Whole School Focus

Over the past two weeks, we've been focusing on our Barnsbury value of Respect, which is also one of our three core school rules. Respect is central to how we learn and interact—whether it's listening carefully, speaking kindly, or treating our environment with care.

To explore this value, we used the brilliant book Bibi, which helped us reflect on the importance of patience and thoughtfulness.

We've seen some lovely examples of respectful behaviour across the school, and it's been great to see children putting this value into practice in lessons, on the playground, and during trips. Respect helps build strong relationships and a positive learning environment—and it's wonderful to see it continuing to grow at Barnsbury.

## Focus Value



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## Key Messages

### Parking

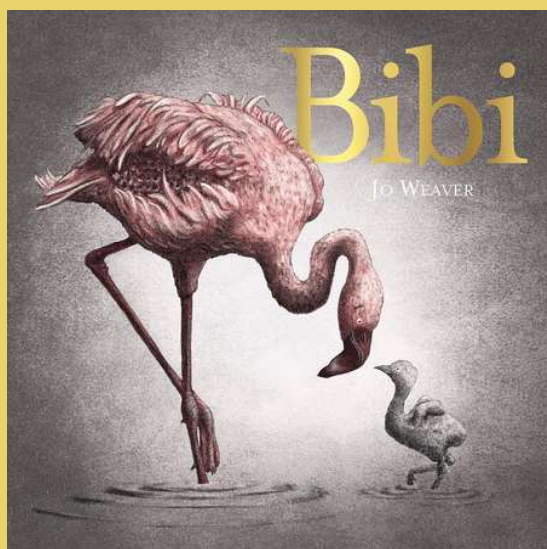
We ask that parents and carers are considerate when parking near the school site during drop-offs and pick-ups.

Although we understand that these are busy times for everyone, we want to avoid causing any further congestion to our local area. As an example, over the last few weeks, some parking on Laburnum Road has caused delays in buses as they are unable to get through.

### Dogs on Site

Please be reminded that dogs are not allowed on our school site. This includes if they are on a lead or being held.

Thank you in advance for your continued support in both of these matters.



School Text

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## Awards - week commencing 15/09

Star Award, Effort Award and Values Award			
Oak	Amy	Arjun	Zacky
Pine	Georgia	Darren	Sofia M
1B	Elizabeth	Ivy	Isra
1M	Loki	Ameer	Isla
2A	Yana	Noah	George W
2T	Yuri	Carter	Dominic
3M	Damari	Elize	Jannat
3MC	Tommy	Kyla	Amirah
4B	Emily R	Mudra	Emily J
4J	Theo H	Mike	Christian
5D	Lucy	Abubakr	Steve
5T	Frankie	Maya-Mae	Jonathan
6G	Mia	Emma	Ben
6L	Ziena	Lexi	Harry

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Awards - week commencing 15/09

Congratulations to our Super Speller of the Week:



Congratulations to the recipients of a WOW certificates this week:  
Sedef, Abi, Dexter, Will, Bella, Zoe &  
Oscar T—6G  
Abram—5T  
Christian & Molly—4J  
Miss Lockie



## Congratulations to the Lionesses of the week:





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## Awards - week commencing 22/09

Star Award, Effort Award and Values Award			
Oak	Rohaam	Ethan	Lalarukh
Pine	Ella	Logan	Lucas
1B	Rafferty	Billy	Amelia
1M	Matthew	Ava	Neel
2A	Charlie	Louis	Angelica
2T	Haziq	Daniel	Shauna
3M	Ekow	Layla	Reggie
3MC	Alexia	Ben	Jack
4B	-	-	-
4J	-	-	-
5D	Daisy	Teniola	Benjamin
5T	Natalia	Ava	Natalia
6G	Oscar T	Rosie	Victoria
6L	Lydia	Maria	Jack

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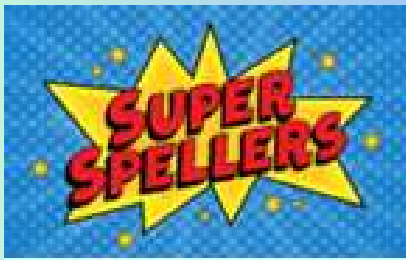


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Awards - week commencing 22/09

Congratulations to our Super Speller of  
the Week:

Amber - 5D



Congratulations to the recipients of a  
WOW certificates this week:



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## Dates for your diary 2025-26 - Autumn Term

October	
Friday 3rd	Flu Vaccination Programme, years Reception - year 6
Friday 3rd	Height and Weight for Reception and year 6 children only.
Friday 10th	4J Class Assembly
Friday 10th	PTA Quiz Night (times TBC)
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 17th	Year 6 Residential Trip
Friday 17th	5T Class Assembly
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 31st	Half Term
November	
Monday 3rd	Inset Day
Tuesday 4th	Inset Day
Wednesday 12th	Individual and Sibling Photos
Friday 28th	6G Class Assembly

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## Dates for your diary 2025-26 - Autumn Term

<b>December</b>	
Tuesday 2nd	KS1 Christmas Panto (in school)
Tuesday 9th	Rocksteady Autumn Concert - Tuesday Bands
Wednesday 10th	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 11th	Rocksteady Autumn Concert - Thursday Bands
Thursday 11th	KS2 Panto
Friday 12th	Rocksteady Autumn Concert - Friday Bands
Friday 12th	KS2 Panto
Monday 15th	KS1 Christmas Performance 9am and 2pm
Tuesday 16th	KS1 Christmas Performance 9am and 2pm
Friday 19th	End of Term (1:15pm finish)
<b>January 2026</b>	
Monday 5th	Inset Day
Tuesday 6th	Inset Day
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Term at 08:30am





## Woking Family Centre

Every Tuesday - 4 weeks

7pm - 8pm

4<sup>th</sup> November - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025

## Online SEND Support Group for Parents/Carers

Free support group for parents/carers with children aged 0-16 with pre or diagnosed SEND.

The course will cover topics like:

- Back to school and discussions around EHCP's
- Boundaries and useful parenting tools
- Accessing useful websites and other support networks
- Support on applying for DLA and other funding options.

For more information scan the QR code or call 01483 310419



Woking Family Centre, The Bungalow  
Sythwood, Woking GU21 3AX



Changing childhoods.  
Changing lives.



## SNAP STREAK

97

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

## SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

## SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

## SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTH VIOLENCE

## UNDERSTANDING YOUTH VIOLENCE

Youth violence affects one in four children in the UK, but it doesn't have to. When parents, carers, and educators understand the risks, they're better placed to support young people. The right support, mentoring, therapy, and guidance can help young people affected by violence to feel safe, manage conflict, and make positive choices.

### WHY DO YOUNG PEOPLE COMMIT SERIOUS VIOLENCE?

A recent study surveyed over 10,000 young people affected by violence, asking why serious violence occurs among their peers, such as an assault involving a weapon or sexual violence. The most common reasons given were due to a personal characteristic of the victim e.g., race, religion, sexuality, gender, a gang or school rivalry, and being provoked. While not all young people face these issues, many lack the emotional regulation skills needed to manage provocation.

### WHAT ARE SIGNS A YOUNG PERSON IS AT RISK?

Children and young people often express that something is wrong through behaviour rather than words. Be alert to signs such as sudden mood changes, secrecy around friendships, excessive phone use, unfamiliar slang, unexplained injuries, fear of school, aggression, going missing, or substance use. They may also be associating with older peers. These behaviours can indicate underlying issues that can lead to violence.

### ONLINE INFLUENCES

Social media plays a powerful role in normalising and escalating violence. Platforms like TikTok and Snapchat can expose young people to harmful content, often shaped by algorithms. Many see violent material that distorts reality, leading to fear and desensitisation. A recent study found 70% had seen real-world violence online, and 80% felt less safe in their communities. Alarmingly, 39% said it made them more likely to carry a weapon. Online conflict can often spill into real life, with serious and sometimes tragic consequences.

Opportunity

Community

Wellbeing

Respect

UNCERTAINTY

CONFLICT

FEAR

### WHEN IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

For children and young people in England and Wales, the hours between 4 pm and 8 pm – just after school – carry a particularly high risk for serious violence. This can stem from conflicts that escalate during the school day, online arguments, or simply moving through unfamiliar areas on the way home. Understanding this risk helps us support safer travel and routines. Our recent report found that over one in three young people don't feel safe in the area they live in, and 36% don't feel safe walking the streets.

### WHY MIGHT A YOUNG PERSON CARRY A WEAPON?

Young people may carry weapons due to fear, threats, peer pressure, or a false sense of protection. Many young people tell us they feel unsafe and carry weapons 'just in case', while others may be influenced by social media, peers, or criminal activity. Some don't realise it's illegal or may believe it earns respect.

### WHERE IS VIOLENCE MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

Violence often happens in certain places. Busy areas like transport hubs carry risk simply because lots of people gather there. Other hotspots, like places linked to drug activity, attract those more likely to be involved in violence. Some areas become risky due to poor supervision, such as under-resourced public spaces. Understanding where violence tends to occur helps us guide young people safely through their communities and advocate for better support and safer spaces.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT STAYING SAFE

Choose a safe moment for the conversation, emotionally and physically. If a child is upset or angry, help them settle before discussing serious topics. Listen actively without judgement, even if what they share is difficult. Avoid interrupting and offer advice when the time feels right. If you're worried, you're not alone; support is available.

### AVOID CONFLICT & MANAGE ESCALATIONS

Encourage young people to consider the 'Safe T's' – Trust instincts, Take a breath, and Talk to a trusted adult. When triggered or provoked, they may react from their 'survival brain', unable to think clearly about the consequences. Taking a breath helps calm, and helps them access their 'thinking brain'. Remind them that moments pass, and seeking support from trusted adults builds resilience and safer decision-making.

### HELP CHILDREN UNDERSTAND CONSEQUENCES

Young people can be searched by police or teachers if suspected of carrying a weapon. If found with a knife, they could face arrest and criminal proceedings. A conviction can result in a criminal record. Even being present during a violent assault, encouraging it, filming, or sharing footage can lead to prosecution. Open and honest conversations can help children understand these risks and make safer choices.

### REPORT INFORMATION

We all have a role in preventing violence. If a child shares concerns, you can act. For educators, it's important to follow your school's safeguarding procedures. Other adults can report anonymously through Fearless or Crimestoppers, and speak with other parents, the school, or local police through 101. If someone is in immediate danger, always call 999. These steps help protect children and the wider community.

### Meet Our Expert

The Ben Kinsella Trust is a UK anti-knife crime charity educating young people through immersive workshops, awareness campaigns, and community resources. Visit: [benkinsella.org.uk](https://benkinsella.org.uk)



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/youth-violence>

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# **YOUR BARNSBURY PTA NEEDS YOU!**

**Help us shape the future of  
Barnsbury school and it's  
children by helping us raise  
vital funds...**

**WE NEED YOUR:**

**INPUT...your opinions matter  
TIME...however much you can spare  
DONATIONS...big or small and your  
help CREATING AWARENESS**



**Contact your class rep or email:  
[pta@barnsbury@surrey.sch.co.uk](mailto:pta@barnsbury@surrey.sch.co.uk)**