



Newsletter

24th April 2026



Dear Parents and Carers of Greenleas School,
It's been a perfect week for sports and outdoor activities this week, and the children who attended the Year 3-4 Cluster Festival at Brooklands this week would certainly agree. The children did a range of activities including archery, golf, throwing and team building skills. It was a great opportunity to experience middle school and support their transition.

On Wednesday morning, the Reading team attended some training offered by Roade English Hub to help us on our journey to develop a love of reading for pleasure across the school. The session was hosted by Nina Jackson, who introduced us to different accessibility tools available on digital devices and other ways of adapting the reading curriculum to appeal to and engage children with additional needs.

On Wednesday afternoon, our staff meeting focus was on managing emotions in the classroom, a training session offered by the MHST team. This was a workshop to understand how the prefrontal cortex and amygdala in the brain control behaviour, and how the amygdala overrides rational thought, meaning we need to help calm the amygdala when we are working with children to co-regulate.

On Thursday the Governing Board approved our budget forecast for the next three years. Like many schools, we are forecasting a deficit – like everyone else, education is also feeling the pinch of the rising cost of living. We are always looking for additional ways to raise funds and cut costs.

Our pieces of writing this week are from Theo and George from Year 2 at Derwent Road and Kestrel Way.

With best wishes for the weekend.

Rebecca Clarke,
Head Teacher

Greenleas' Value of the Month for April is...

Perseverance

Perseverance means keeping going even when something is difficult. Sometimes this might mean that it goes wrong lots of times before you get it right! Sometimes perseverance means lots and lots of practise.

Think about some of things you have persevered at.

Star of the Week

Derwent Road:
Sienna
Kestrel Way:
Robyn



Tidy Tortoise

Derwent Road:
Nightingales
Kestrel Way:
Cranes



Derwent Road Car Gate Reminder

When coming in to school and leaving school please can all parents/carers be reminded **not use the car gate when entering and leaving.** This is very dangerous and can lead to a serious accident.

Click the icon to visit our school social media channels.



Safeguarding Matters

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 NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18 CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 3 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including iDR, TechRadar, and plenty more.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

@wake_up_weds /www.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.06.2025

If you wish to report any safeguarding concerns, please contact the below staff members in the first instance:



Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Rebecca Clarke
Kestrel/Derwent



Derwent Road:
Sarah Horne



Derwent Road:
Bindia Sexton



Derwent Road/Kestrel Way:
Alexia Cook



Kestrel Way:
Amanada Wallace

LO- To write a recount
My Day At The Space Centre

After that we visited the rocket. We went up to the fourth floor. I played a game. After the game a plastic rocket shot up so high! A minute later we headed to lunch. I had a cheese roll an apple and a ^{SP} After ^{SP} After lunch we visited the rocket. It was so big! Then we saw a bit of a moon! Finally at 2.30pm we collected our stuff and walked back to the coach. When I got home I told my mummy my favourite bit was when ~~can't think of a name~~

LO- To write a recount
My Day At The Space Centre

Yesterday I went on a school ^{school} trip to the National Space center in Leicester! We had to get to school a bit early! We had to go on a huge blue coach. Then we were off! It took an hour and a half! When we got there we ~~tripped~~ off the coach and skipped into the building. When we got in we saw a budge space craft was on the ceiling. Next we visited the black hole and I went through throo the black hole!

Hot Write
Published
C5

LO- To write a recount
My Day At The Space Centre


On tuesday, we went to the Space Centre because we are learning about space in History.

First, we went to the ball spinner spinner. After that we looked at planet Earth.

At lunch, I sat with Henry

After lunch, we watched the planetarium.

My favourite part was the planetarium because of Chad.



Primary School Health Clinics

Supporting the health and wellbeing of your child

We are pleased to share that the School Nursing Service is now offering Primary School Health Clinics for parents and carers of primary-aged children on a termly basis.

Who are we?

Your allocated School Nursing Team supports your child's health and wellbeing throughout their school journey. These clinics are delivered in school, making it easier for families to access support.

What the clinics offer

Bookable appointments where you can receive:

- ✓ Health advice and guidance
- ✓ Early intervention support
- ✓ Signposting or referrals to other services

Our aim is to work with you to support your child's health, wellbeing, and development, helping them reach their full potential.

Next Clinic Information

Date: 23rd June 2026

Time: 2pm - 3:30pm

Location (if applicable): Greenleas School Derwent Road

How to book

Appointments can be made:

- Through your child's school or
- By contacting the School Nursing Service directly or
- Alternatively, although we prefer you to book, please drop in on the day.

Please click the following link to view an animation explaining our service offer and how to contact us
<https://vimeo.com/840387234/0a3c6c32db?fl=pl&fe=sh>

School Nursing Team

CHUMS

YOUNG PEOPLE & PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS

Our online workshops are designed as a starting point for families with children who have low level difficulties. These are one-off 2-hour sessions conducted virtually via Microsoft teams. Please note these workshops do not support moderate/severe difficulties and will not address risky behaviours (self-harm, suicidal ideations).

PARENT ANXIETY WORKSHOP

23/4/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of young people aged 5 - 11 years old)
One-off workshop exploring emotional development in children, emotional regulation, psychoeducation around anxiety and anxiety management strategies.

11+ ANXIETY WORKSHOP

27/4/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 11+, parents also welcome to attend)
This single psychoeducation session explores emotional development in children, emotional regulation, and focuses on anxiety and anxiety management strategies.

EXAM STRESS WORKSHOP

29/4/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 12+ and parents)
One off workshop which equips teenagers with an understanding of exam stress, strategies for managing exam stress, revision tips and self-care. The workshop also offers parental tips for supporting their adolescent's exam stress.

BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOP

16/6/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of young people aged 5-11 years old)
A one-off workshop that covers the following topics: Emotional development in children, emotional regulation, common behaviour difficulties and strategies to promote positive behaviours.

SELF ESTEEM WORKSHOPS

TEENAGE SELF-ESTEEM

7/5/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 13+, parents also welcome to attend)
One off workshop which equips teenagers with an understanding of self-esteem and tools to build confidence through thought challenging, relaxation and activities to celebrate strengths and successes. Workshop also offers parental tips for building self-esteem in adolescence.

PARENT SELF-ESTEEM

2/6/26 @ 9.30AM - 11.30AM

(For parents of children aged 5 - 12 years old)
One off workshop which equips parents with an understanding of self-esteem and ways to promote high self-esteem through parenting style and collaborative activities to try at home with their young person.

RESILIENCY WORKSHOPS

PRIMARY

23/6/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of children aged 5 - 11 years old)
This single session explores relevant child development including and provides psychoeducation on mental health vs mental health problems, emotional regulation, anxiety and low mood. You will leave with a greater understanding of your child's needs and armed with strategies to build their resilience.

SECONDARY

29/6/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 12 - 18 years, parents also welcome to attend)
One-off Workshop that explores the following topics: mental health vs mental health problems, emotional regulation, psychoeducation on anxiety and low mood, strategies for relaxation with strategies to build their resilience.

SUPPORTING SCHOOL TRANSITIONS

PRIMARY

30/6/25 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

27/8/25 @ 10AM - 12PM

(For parents of children aged 5-10 years old)

We offer these single session workshops, so that you are ready to go when the new school year begins, whether that is starting a new class, year group or school. These workshops provide psychoeducation to learn about the research behind supporting transitions and you will learn evidence-based strategies to help children start the school year with confidence.

SECONDARY

14/7/25 @ 4PM - 6PM

19/8/25 @ 2PM - 4PM

(For young people aged 11+, parents also welcome to attend)

To register for any of our workshops, please fill in the standard referral form in the 'Any other relevant information' section, state that the referral is for a workshop and include the workshop date.

BUCKLE UP BUTTERCUP!

- Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of death by 50%
- 4 unbelted young people were killed/seriously injured every week in 2022
- 41% of people who dies in a vehicle collision at night could have been saved if their seat belts were fastened
- 40% of back seat passengers killed in collisions were not wearing a seat belt
- Children under 12 years olds **MUST** be in a car seat or booster seat unless they are over 135cms tall
- If a car travelling a 30mph stops suddenly, everyone and everything in the vehicle will continue to move at 30mph until something stops them. At a force of 2-3 tonne! Make sure its the seat belt that stops you!!!

25%

of people who have died in car accidents could have been saved if their seat belts were fastened



Bedfordshire Road Safety Partnership
Working together to reduce road casualties

The driver is responsible for all passengers under 14 year old and can receive an on the spot fine of at least £100. Passengers over 14 years old are responsible for themselves and can receive the same fine.





MAY HALF TERM CAMP

3 COURSES

50+ ACTIVITIES

5-13 YEAR OLDS!

Dates

TUE 26 MAY - FRI 29 MAY

Times

8.30AM TO 4PM

Extra time

8.00AM DROP 5.30PM STAY

Day pass £27.50

8am drop £3 5.30pm stay £6

TFG10 for 10% off! (exp 22/5/26)

Activities

- ✓ 3G Pitch
- ✓ Sports Halls
- ✓ Qualified Coaches
- ✓ Ofsted registered
- ✓ Established 15 years

Cedars Upper School

Mentmore Road, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 2AE

Book online www.tfgcamps.com




SCAN ME



More Information www.tfgcamps.com hello@tfgcamps.com







OVER 10,000 CHILDREN ATTENDED!

CHOOSE FROM

FUTURE FOOTBALL
IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS WITH OUR FA COACHES; PLAYERS WILL FOCUS ON SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND FUN SMALL SIDED MATCHES AND TEAM CHALLENGES! WITH TOP EQUIPMENT LIKE TARGET NETS, SPEED RADAR, REBOUND WALLS, REBOUND NETS, FOOTBALL MANNINGUINS AND MORE! ALL ON A 3G FOOTBALL PITCH! ALSO CHANCE TO HAVE A GO ON OUR FOOTBALL INFLATABLES - DARTS, POOL, TARGET AND BOWLING!

FUTURE SPORTS
FUN, SAFE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING: 65FT INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSE, INFLATABLE WRECKING BALL CHALLENGE, LASER TAG, QUIDDITCH, SCOOTERS, STREET SURFING, GO-KARTS, ARCHERY, NERF WARS, BALL GAMES, INDOOR CURLING, TENNIS, TRI GOLF, KWIK CRICKET, ROUNDERS, ATHLETICS, OUTDOOR & ADVENTURE AND MORE! WITH USE OF A LARGE FIELD, PLAYGROUND, 3G AND SPORTS HALL!

FUTURE STARZ
CREATIVE, FUN ACTIVITIES INCLUDING: STREET DANCE, CHEER DANCE, DISCO DANCE, MUSICAL DANCE, DRAMA, DAILY ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY, ARTS & CRAFTS, OUTDOOR NATURE EXPLORERS AND OUTDOOR YOGA. WITH THE USE OF A LARGE HALL AND LARGE FIELD!

Certificates TFG branded prizes

Sports Star Awards 50+ ACTIVITIES Daily prizes

- Please book online before your child's first day.
- Packed lunch, snacks and drinks are required.
- **Please note: all TFG Camps are nut-free zones**
- Sessions that are not attended are still charged unless 10 days notice is given.
- Booking is acceptance of our full terms and conditions found at www.tfgcamps.com

More Information

www.tfgcamps.com

hello@tfgcamps.com