

Newsletter



Dear Malvern Families

What an incredibly special week it has been for Malvern! As many of you will know, on Monday we were named the winners of the National School Song Competition – a truly remarkable achievement that has been proudly shared in the Liverpool Echo, on BBC North West Tonight and on BBC Radio Merseyside.

The competition brought together schools from across the United Kingdom to share their musical talent and creativity. Our children travelled to London to perform *Where Greatness Grows*, an original song written earlier this year by our Composing Club. Their performance was confident and full of the spirit that makes Malvern such a special place. The song celebrates everything we value as a school - kindness, integrity and the belief that every child can achieve something remarkable. For our pupils to perform it on a national stage and be recognised as the overall winners is something we are incredibly proud of.

I would like to give special thanks to Mrs Webber for her creativity, leadership and inspiration in guiding the children throughout this project. My thanks also go to Miss Murphy for supporting the visit and to Mr Wardell for driving the children safely to London and back. Their efforts helped make this experience possible for our pupils.

The children will now have the exciting opportunity to record and release their song professionally. This national title is a proud reflection of their talent, determination and character, and shows exactly what it means to be part of Malvern.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr James
Headteacher



Be Bright - Be Seen

As part of our ongoing focus on keeping children safe on their journeys to and from school, we are holding a Road Safety Poster Competition. The aim of the competition is to help pupils learn about staying safe near roads while encouraging creativity and awareness. With the darker nights approaching, it is even more important for our children to be visible and safe near roads.

Children can submit their ideas in one of three formats:

- Drawn or painted posters – traditional artwork using pencils, pens or paints
- Computer-based posters – digital designs created on a computer or tablet
- Short film or video – a creative clip (30–60 seconds) sharing a road safety message

The deadline for entries is Monday 17th November. On this day, children are invited to come to school wearing something bright, such as colourful socks or a bright hairband.



Swanside Action Day – Recycling Pop-Up

On Thursday 16th October, Knowsley Recycling and Engagement Team will be holding a pop-up event outside Swanside Community Centre as part of Swanside Action Day. The team will be on hand from 8.45 am to 10.45 am to collect a range of items for recycling, including vapes, batteries, textiles and small electrical items.

This is a great opportunity for families to recycle responsibly and learn more about how we can all help to reduce waste in our community. We hope many of our families will stop by and support this local initiative.



Cycle to School Week

Next week is Cycle to School Week, a national campaign that celebrates active travel and encourages families to choose cycling as a fun, healthy and sustainable way to get to school.

Cycling offers many benefits for both children and the wider community. It helps to reduce traffic and air pollution, supports physical and mental wellbeing and promotes safer travel habits. It is also a great way to spend time together and build a sense of shared responsibility for a greener local environment.

We would love to see as many pupils as possible take part by cycling or scooting to school next week. To support this initiative, families are also reminded to avoid vehicle idling outside the school gates, helping to keep the air around our school cleaner for everyone.

For more ideas, resources and training opportunities, visit the Bikeability Cycle to School Week webpage.



Discovering the Stone Age at Calderstones Park

As part of their Learning Expedition, *Ages Ago*, Year 3 children visited Calderstones Park to take part in a Stone Age workshop led by The Reader's Storybarn Heritage Team. This hands-on outdoor learning experience helped the children explore how early humans lived, the tools they used and how their lives changed over time.

The Calder Stones themselves are ancient sandstone monuments believed to be more than 4,000 years old, offering a rare opportunity for pupils to see real prehistoric artefacts up close. Through guided activities, storytelling and exploration, the children gained a fascinating insight into life in prehistoric Britain.



Key Stage 1 @ Liverpool Academy

A group of Key Stage 1 pupils enjoyed an exciting day at Liverpool Academy, where they took part in a fantastic football tournament with schools from across the area.

The children showed great enthusiasm, excellent teamwork and wonderful sportsmanship throughout every match, encouraging one another and giving their very best on the pitch.

It was wonderful to see them represent Malvern with such confidence. Each player demonstrated great effort and a positive attitude, making the whole school extremely proud of their achievements.



Year 2 - Football Mastery

Year 2 have been working hard in their football mastery sessions this week, focusing on developing their dribbling skills. During the lesson, the children took part in a fun zoo keeper-themed activity where they had to dribble their footballs carefully to guide their 'animals' safely back to their enclosures.

The session combined teamwork, control and quick thinking, helping pupils to improve their coordination and confidence with the ball while keeping the learning active and enjoyable. The children showed great focus and enthusiasm throughout – true Malvern determination in action!



Each week we will be sharing a new #WakeUpWednesday poster with parents and carers through the school app. These posters are created by the National College and are designed to help families keep children safe online. Each poster focuses on a different aspect of online life, offering simple, practical advice about the latest apps, games and online trends. They explain the potential risks children may face and provide helpful tips on how to support safe and responsible use of technology at home.

We believe that sharing these resources regularly will help parents feel informed and confident in guiding their children's digital lives. A copy of this week's poster is included in the newsletter for you to read and discuss at home.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

- 1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT**
Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.
- 2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE**
Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.
- 3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY**
Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.
- 4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA**
Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.
- 5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS**
Seemingly well-meaning comments like 'It's not that bad' or 'You're okay' may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.
- 6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING**
Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.
- 7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES**
Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.
- 8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT**
While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.
- 9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION**
Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.
- 10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME**
There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert
This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Social Media Links:
X @wake_up_weds
f /www.thenationalcollege
ig @wake.up.wednesday
m @wake.up.weds

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Attendance League Standings

POSITION	TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAW	POINTS
1	The Smashing Sheikhs	2	1	0	8
2	Resilient Reception 2	2	2	0	8
3	Resilient Reception 1	2	1	0	7
4	Brown's Busy Bees	2	2	0	6
5	The Happy Horans	2	2	0	6
6	The Corn on the Cobs	2	1	0	5
7	The Corn Dogs	2	1	0	5
8	The Magical Murphys	2	1	0	5
9	The Fiery Phillips	2	0	0	4
10	Worthington's Wishmakers	2	0	0	4
11	The McMinions	2	1	0	3
12	Davo's Dino Nuggets	2	1	0	3
13	Donno's Dragons	2	0	0	0
14	Pyne's Pynecones	2	0	0	0

Attendee of the Week

We are thrilled to celebrate Cooper as our Attendee of the Week! Since the start of Year 1, Cooper has shown exceptional dedication by attending school every single day and arriving promptly on time. He has taken his role as Attendance Captain very seriously, encouraging his classmates to be punctual and present just like him. Cooper's positive attitude, responsibility, and commitment have made a fantastic impression on his teachers and peers alike.

Keep up the brilliant work, Cooper – we're all very proud of you!

Weekly School Attendance

97.8%

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow



Every School Day Counts!

Overall School Attendance

97.6%

Key Dates - Autumn Term

Below are some of the key dates for the coming Autumn Term. Please note that they are subject to change. Any changes or updates will be communicated with families as soon as possible.

Date	Event
Tuesday 14 October	3AP - Stone Age Workshop
Wednesday 15 October	Y1 - RWI Parent Workshop 9.00 am
Wednesday 15 October	PHSE Parent Meeting 2.45 pm
Thursday 16 October	Y2 - Imagine That
Tuesday 21 October	Y4 - Parent Showcase 2.45 pm
Wednesday 22 October	Y2 - Parent Showcase 2.45 pm
Thursday 23 October	School closes 3.30 pm
Half Term	
Monday 3 November	School re-opens
Wednesday 5 November	Open Afternoon for New Prospective Parents
Tuesday 11 November	Y6 - Remembrance Assembly
Friday 14 November	Children in Need – Wear your pyjamas
Monday 17 November	Be Bright Be Seen Competition - Wear a bright item of clothing
Thursday 20 November	5JMc - World Museum Visit
Thursday 20 November	EYFS - Animals Take Over in school
Friday 21 November	Own Clothes - Christmas Chocolate Donations
Friday 28 November	Own Clothes - Christmas Bottle Donations
Monday 1 December	Christmas Jumpers can be worn from today
Tuesday 2 December	Y2 - Church Visit
Friday 5 December	Rocksteady Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Friday 5 December	Festive Friday @ Malvern
Saturday 6 December	Breakfast with Santa
Monday 8 December	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 9 December	Y3/4 Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 10 December	Y5/6 Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 10 December	Festive Film Night
Thursday 11 December	EYFS Nativity 2.30 pm
Friday 12 December	EYFS Nativity 9.30 am
Monday 15 December	KS1 Nativity 2.30 pm
Tuesday 16 December	KS1 Nativity 9.30 am
Wednesday 17 December	Drama Theatre Club Evening Performance
Thursday 18 December	Drama Theatre Club Evening Performance
Friday 19 December	School closes 1.30 pm

