

NEWSLETTER

ASPIRE - ACHIEVE - THRIVE - ENJOY

13th March

Dear Families

I know a number of you were looking forward to the Colour Run event that the PTA made the difficult decision to postpone. There had been a lot of rainfall the night before and it was predicted to be windy so it was felt it would be better to reschedule this for after Easter instead when hopefully the weather will be warmer. As soon as a date has been confirmed, we will share it with you. We will reopen bookings for the event when the new date is shared.

The National Measurement Programme takes place on Monday for children in EYFS and Year 6. The information and consent for this was sent out to you before Christmas.

The Easter disco booking will go live this week on Gateway. We will send a communication out when the payment area has been set up for this.

The book fair also arrives this week on Wednesday. It will be held in the hall directly after school if you wish to take your children to browse the books available to purchase.

We have enjoyed celebrating British Science week this week. Miss Rosewell led an assembly on Monday to introduce this. If your child has been talking this week about who stole Miss Pollard's cake, it was linked to a challenge set by Miss Rosewell in the assembly that the children explored in their Science work this week! The children presented their findings to Miss Pollard in their Aspire assemblies at the end of the week. You can find out later on in the newsletter who the culprit was and have a look at some photos of the children carrying out their investigations.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Dixon.



Your weekly reminder that we are a nut free school

Thank you for your continued support with this matter ensuring our children who have this life-threatening allergy stay safe.



Our attendance so far this year is **94.7%**. Attendance this week was **95.2%**

Well done to **1TP** who had the highest attendance this week with **100%** attendance!

Diary dates

Dates were given out for the year in the first newsletter. Going forwards, I will include dates here for the current term as a reminder. **Any new dates which were not shared previously will appear in red.**

16 th March		Home learning due in
16th March	4:00 – 5:00pm	The Big Sing – Key Stage 2 choir performance
16th and 17th March	During school day	EYFS (Caterpillars) seeing the school nurse for vision, hearing and the ‘National Child Measurement Programme’ checks (height and weight)
16th and 17th March	During school day	Year 6 seeing the school nurse for ‘National Child Measurement Programme’ checks (height and weight)
Tuesday 17 th March	3:45pm.	The Big Sing – Key Stage 2 Choir Performance
Change of Date		
18 th – 24 th March	3:15 – 3:30pm	Book fair <i>Books will be available to buy in the hall</i>
23rd March	2:15pm	Rock Steady Concert in the hall
24 th March	2:45pm – 3:10pm	Home learning winners’ gallery in the hall
25 th March	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Year 4 Local Walk
25 th March	3:30 – 4.30pm	EYFS (Caterpillars) and Years 1 and 2 Easter Disco
25 th March	5:00 – 6:00pm	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Easter Disco
27 th March		Last day of term



This week's Aspire winners



Caterpillars	Emrys		
1TP	Maaz	1RC	Adriel
2PK	Alfie	2LD	Oliver
3MY	Paisley	3JC	Freya
4AJ	Amelie	4MH	Harvey

5SS	Husna	5GF	Kyle
6LG	Tali	6AS	Maisie
Mr Jenkins		Wraparound	Mark
Miss Guy KS1	Alara	Miss Guy KS2	Omar

Key Stage 1 Kindness Awards



CJ 1TP	George 1RC
Oliver 2LD	Gabby 2PK



Ask your child about something kind they said this week!

Aspire Tea

Mrs Dixon celebrated with lots of children this week as she caught up on winners from the past few weeks. As always, if your child is absent and missed it they will be caught up.











NEW - Brass Lesson Opportunities with Ruby Orlowska

Ruby has been offering taster sessions for Brass in our school for free through the MKCoop and Milton Keynes Music Faculty. In partnership with the MK-Coop Ruby is offering trumpet, baritone and trombone lessons. The instruments in the Brass section are.

THE BRASS FAMILY

TRUMPET	FRENCH HORN	TROMBONE	BARITONE	TUBA
				

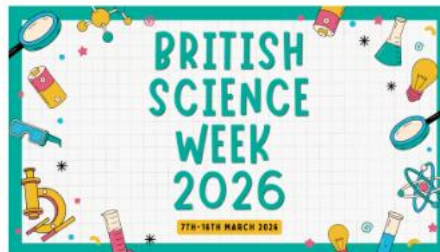
Brass instruments are a type of musical instrument where sound is created by buzzing your lips into a mouthpiece. Most have valves that are pressed down to open different parts of the tubing. However, trombone uses a slide to change the length of the tubing.

If your child is interested in taking Brass lessons please complete this form:

<https://mkcoop.eepos.fi/#/forms/1018>.

Learning a musical instrument provides many benefits, including enhanced memory, improved multitasking, disciplined focus, sharpened mathematical/spatial skills, and better fine motor coordination. It also cultivates patience, stress relief, increased confidence and improved listening skills.

Many Thanks,
Miss Creed.



This week has been British Science Week! The theme for this year has been curiosity. We have been curious about who stole Miss Pollard's chocolate cake. Each year group looked at a different investigative skill to help solve the case. The final verdict was.... Mr Jenkins stole the cake.



Support the GLPS PTA

If you're interested in getting more involved, simply follow the QR code to join our volunteer group – we are always grateful for extra helping hands.



<https://linktr.ee/glpspta>

Congratulations to our dancing girls!

Huge congratulations to Isla (Year 4) and Peighton (Year 3) who came away with trophies at the Woolacombe dance festival a couple of weeks ago representing their dance school Milton Keynes Dance Centre.



Online Safety

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

WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, allowing users to send text and voice messages, share multimedia, make video calls, and chat in groups. With end-to-end encryption, only the sender and receiver can view messages. This may offer privacy, but it also comes with risks that parents and educators need to be aware of.

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats enable multiple users to message in the same space, but this can also make it easier for young people to feel excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and young people may feel pressure to respond or stay engaged even when the conversation is uncomfortable or upsetting.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers are increasingly using WhatsApp to trick users into sharing personal information. Common scams include fraudsters posing as family members in an emergency or tricking users into revealing security codes. These can lead to identity theft or access to private conversations.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp offers features like disappearing messages and 'Chat Lock', which can give users a false sense of security. While intended to protect privacy, they can be used by young users to hide inappropriate conversations or content, making it harder for adults to spot potential issues.

EXPOSURE THROUGH CHANNELS

'Channels' are an optional feature that allows users to follow updates from public figures or organisations; however, there is no way to block this feature or filter its content by age. Young users may encounter adult or distressing content, including misinformation and harmful ideologies.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp users can share their live location, and if not managed carefully, this can allow others – even those in mutual groups – to track someone's whereabouts. Also, without the right privacy settings, young users may be contacted by strangers.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp now includes ads in the 'Updates' feed and has introduced an AI assistant – Meta AI – across the app, which cannot be removed. These additions raise concerns about targeting, privacy, AI use, and the type of content children and young people might interact with.

Advice for Parents & Educators

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Help young users check who can see their profile photo, status, and location. Activate the 'Silence Unknown Callers' setting and set group chat invitations to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...' for added safety.

TEACH HOW TO SPOT SCAMS

Encourage caution around unusual and unexpected messages, especially if they involve money or codes. Help young users understand the signs of scams and what to do if they receive a suspicious message. Enable two-step verification to add an extra layer of protection.

BE OPEN ABOUT HIDDEN CHATS

Discuss why children and young people might use features like disappearing messages or 'Chat Lock'. Encourage them to share if something made them uncomfortable, even if the messages are gone. Let them know that privacy should not mean secrecy.

TALK ABOUT ADVERTISING AND AI

Explain that WhatsApp now includes ads and AI tools. Discuss the difference between genuine and sponsored content, and the potential for AI to share inaccurate or age-inappropriate responses. Encourage young users to think critically before trusting or interacting with these features.

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.



See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

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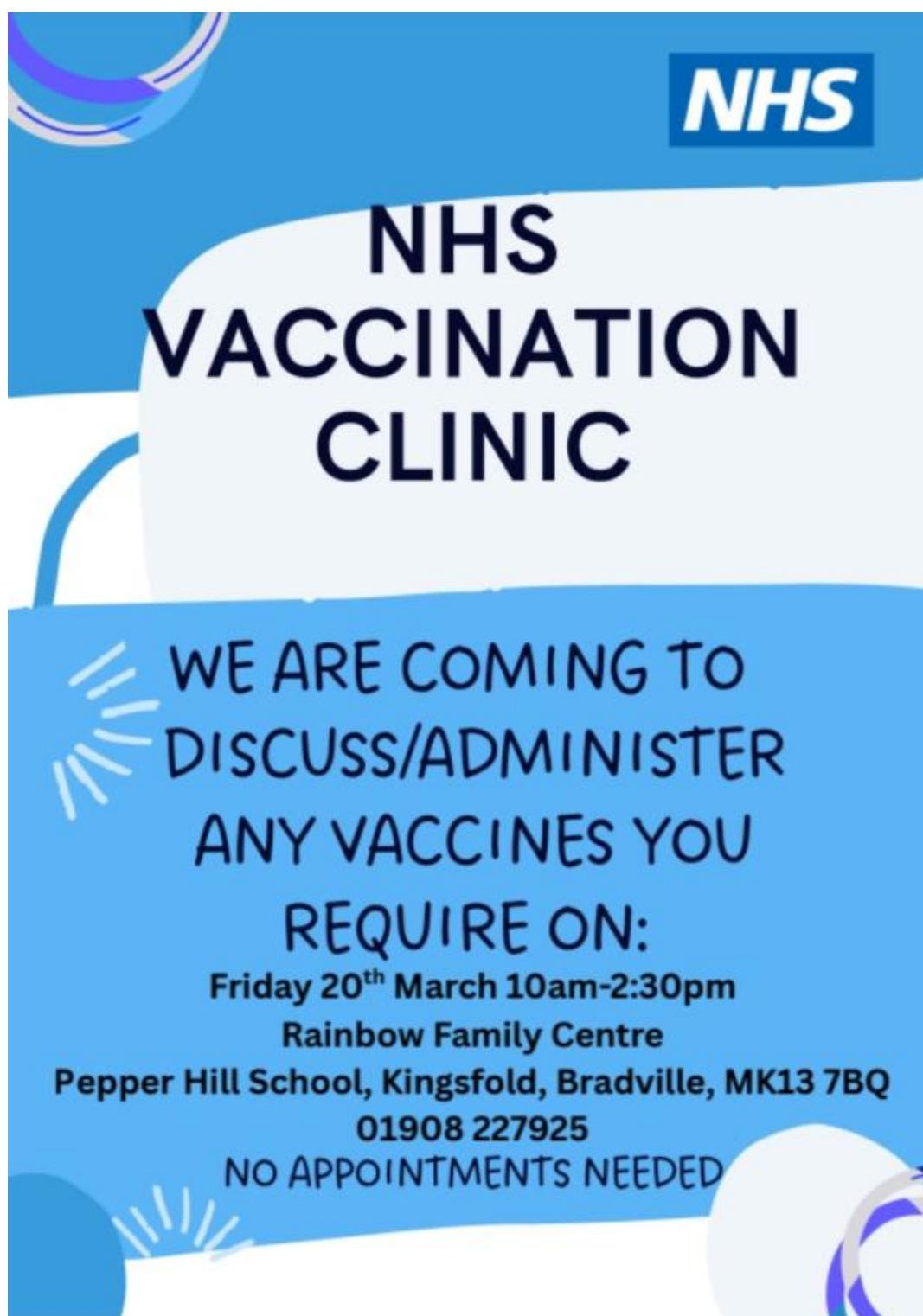
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#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

News from Rainbow Family Centre Facebook page

A poster for an NHS Vaccination Clinic. The top right corner features the NHS logo. The main title 'NHS VACCINATION CLINIC' is in large, bold, dark blue letters on a white background. Below this, on a blue background, is the text 'WE ARE COMING TO DISCUSS/ADMINISTER ANY VACCINES YOU REQUIRE ON:'. The date and time are 'Friday 20th March 10am-2:30pm'. The location is 'Rainbow Family Centre, Pepper Hill School, Kingsfold, Bradville, MK13 7BQ'. The phone number is '01908 227925'. At the bottom, it says 'NO APPOINTMENTS NEEDED'. The poster has decorative blue and white curved shapes and sunburst icons.

News from Great Linford Parish Council Facebook page

what's on:

March

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council Meeting: 25 March

Finance, Governance & Asset Committee: 9 March

Meetings begin at 7 pm and are held at the Parish Office.

Visit our website for more details.

ADVICE

Citizens Advice
Every Tuesday at Conniburrow Community Centre
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Every Thursday at Great Linford Parish Office
10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Coffee with Cops
17 March at Cross and Stable Larder & Cafe
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Milton Keynes City Council Housing Drop-In
30 March at the Parish Office 9:30 - 11:30 am

YOUNG PEOPLE

Youth Cafe
Every Friday at Conniburrow Community Centre
Ages 11 - 17 6:30 - 8:30 pm
*Term Time Only

EVENTS

Community Litter Pick
7 March meeting at Parish Office, Great Linford
10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Annual Parish Meeting
11 March at The Parish Office
Doors Open 6:00 pm for refreshments
Meeting 6:30 - 8.30 pm

COMMUNITY FOOD

Conniburrow Top Up Shop
Every Tuesday at Conniburrow Community Centre
10:00 - 11:30 am

Great Linford Top Up Shop
Every Thursday at the Parish Office
11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Downs Barn Community Larder
Every Tuesday at Cross & Stable
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Great Linford Community Fridge
Every Monday at Great Linford Community Hub
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Conniburrow Community Fridge
at Conniburrow Community Hub
Every Wednesday 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Every Friday 1:00 - 2:30 pm


ACTIVITIES

Creative Space - Arts for Health
Every Saturday at Conniburrow Community Hub
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Cooking Classes
Tuesday at Conniburrow Community Hub
10:30 - 1:30 pm

social spaces

community cafes
open to all

Social Space			
Breakfast and Banter	Monday	9:30 am - 11:30 pm	Great Linford Parish Office MK14 5HA
Great Linford Community Hub	Monday	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Great Linford Community Hub MK14 5HA
Conniburrow Social Space	Tuesday	9:30 am - 1:00 pm	Conniburrow Community Centre MK14 7DX
Downs Barn Café	Tuesday	10:15 am - 12:15 pm	Cross and Stable Downs Barn Blvd MK14 7RZ
5 Ways Café	2 nd and 4 th Tuesday	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	St. Andrew's Church Great Linford, MK14 5AU
Great Linford Social Club	Tuesday	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Great Linford Parish Office MK14 5HA
Conniburrow Community Cafe	Wednesday	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Conniburrow Community Hub MK14 7DX
Coffee on the Corner	Wednesday	10:30 am - 12:30 pm	21 Ramsons Ave, Conniburrow MK14 7BA
Downs Barn Social Space	Wednesday	11:00 am - 2:00 pm	76 Pannier Place Downs Barn MK14 7QP
Conniburrow Community Café	Thursday	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Conniburrow Community Hub MK14 7DX
Great Linford Community Hub	Thursday	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Great Linford Community Hub MK14 5HA
Downs Barn Social Space	Friday	11:00 am - 2:00 pm	76 Pannier Place Downs Barn MK14 7QP
Great Linford Community Hub	Friday	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Great Linford Community Hub MK14 5HA
Youth Café	Friday	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Conniburrow Community Centre MK14 7DX