



# PRIMARY WORD

*We should be the best we can be for we are all God's Masterpiece*

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Head Teacher - Neil Tyler

## Events for week beginning Monday 7th October 2024

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Taken By
Mon 7th	9.30-2.40pm 3.30-4.30pm	<b>Bag2School Clothing Donations</b> Guitar YR1-4 Freestyle Soccer	Small Hall School Field	Mr Smith Freestyle
Tues 8th	12.15-12.45pm 12.15-1.15pm 1.45-3pm 3.30-4.15pm 6.15-8pm	Home Learning Club Hotshots Basketball Notivate (Selected Children) YR3/4 Athletics Taekwon-do	Miss Worster's Class Small Hall Small Hall School Field Main Hall	Miss Worster/Miss de Rossi Hotshots John Bowman Mrs Devereux Mr Bonfield
Wed 9th	12.15-1.15pm 1.55-2.55pm	Hotshots Basketball Woodwind	Small Hall Small Hall	Hotshots Miss Retford
Thurs 10th	12.15-12.45pm 12.15-1.15pm 12.45-1.05pm 3.30-4.15pm 5.30-7.45pm	<b>World Mental Health Day</b> YR3/4 Chatty Café Hotshots Basketball Year 2 Choir KS2 Choir Taekwon-do	Mrs Varrier's Class Small Hall Mrs Walters's Class Main Hall Main Hall	Mrs Varrier Hotshots Mrs Walter Mrs Marsh/Devereux/Varrier Mr Bonfield
Fri 11th	12.15-1.15pm 12.30-3.00pm 1.30-3.15pm	Hotshots Basketball Selected YR5 Swimming Violin	Small Hall The Mounts Meeting Room	Hotshots Mrs Pirie / Mrs Roy Mr Ebrahim
Sun 13th	10.30-11.30am	Brixworth Community Church - Informal Service	Main Hall	Rev Andy Lloyd-Williams

## World Mental Health Day



Thursday 10th October is World Mental Health Day. The children of Brixworth Primary School will be taking part in various activities during the day to encourage awareness of Mental Health. We are inviting children to wear **yellow** again this year with thousands of others across the UK to show young people that they're not alone with their mental health. We want young people to know that they don't have to go through struggles alone. **Things can and will get better because we stand brighter, together.**



### Bag2School Clothing Donations - REMINDER

If you are donating any items to Bag2School, please fill the donation bag (and any extra bags) and return to your child's classroom on **Monday 7th October**.

The donations can consist of any good quality, secondhand child or adult clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts or accessories. The more you donate, the more money we raise for new school resources!

### Foundation Tours for New Starters 2025

If you have a child who is due to start school next year or you know a parent who has, we still have spaces available for our tours on the following mornings:

**Monday 14th October at 9.45am**

**Tuesday 15th October at 9.45am**

**Wednesday 20th November 9.45am**

Please call the office on 01604 883900 to book your tour.

**Data Collection Sheets**

If you still have your child's data collection sheet please return it to school as soon as possible. If we do not receive the signed Acceptable use Agreement your child may not be able to use the school technology.

**School Photos**

Photo proofs were sent home with your child on Friday last week. Please place your order by Sunday 13th October for your photos to be delivered to school free of charge. After this date there will be an additional delivery charge for postage to a home address.

**Assembly Theme Week**

Commencing 7th October is **Be The Best That You Can Be - Emotional Bee**

# Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to the following children who have won awards for consistently upholding one or more of the school values.

**Socially**

Piper H

**Academically**

Zachary G  
Teddy S  
Archie S  
Erin G  
Ethan T  
Isla M

**Emotionally**

Henry C



# Waverley Abbey Worship Team Trip

Leah from the Lighthouse Trust invited our Worship Team to join a trip to Waverley Abbey with two other schools. The children had a fantastic day exploring the Abbey ruins and the reflective trail in the Abbey grounds. After lunch they spent some time planning ideas to create an outdoor reflective space that will be set up at Kings Park in Northampton.



"Our trip was amazing, with lots of activities and smiles. We had a brilliant reflective time at the ruins of the Abbey. We saw one of the features of the Abbey that was the Yew tree that is over 500 years old. There was a reflective path with activities on the way round. My favourite part was writing on the tape and sticking it on the Remembrance Tree."

- **Amelie R, Year 6**



# Early Years Foundation Stage

We are delighted to say that our Early Years Outdoor Classroom has been selected by Tesco for the Stronger Starts programme. This means that from the beginning of October until the beginning of January, every time you shop at one of the following stores, you will be given a token which you can then use in-store to vote for us. Please support us if you shop with Tesco at one of these locations:

Kingsley Park, Northampton Link Rd, Buckton Fields, Spinney Hill, Weston Favell, Limehurst Square Duston and Duston Alsace Park.

During January the votes will be counted and money will be provided towards improving our Early Years Outdoor Area.

Please do vote for us!

# House Award

Last week the winning house award was awarded to

**Purple House**

**With 50 points!**



# The Song of the Week this week

**Blame it on the Boogie by The Jackson Five**

Parents Evening Appointment Locations

All Parents Evening meetings are now available to book on ParentMail.

All meetings will take place in the Key Stage 2 classrooms (upper part of the school) on the following dates:

**Monday 14th October between 3.45 - 6.15pm**  
**Wednesday 16th October between 4.00 - 6.30pm**

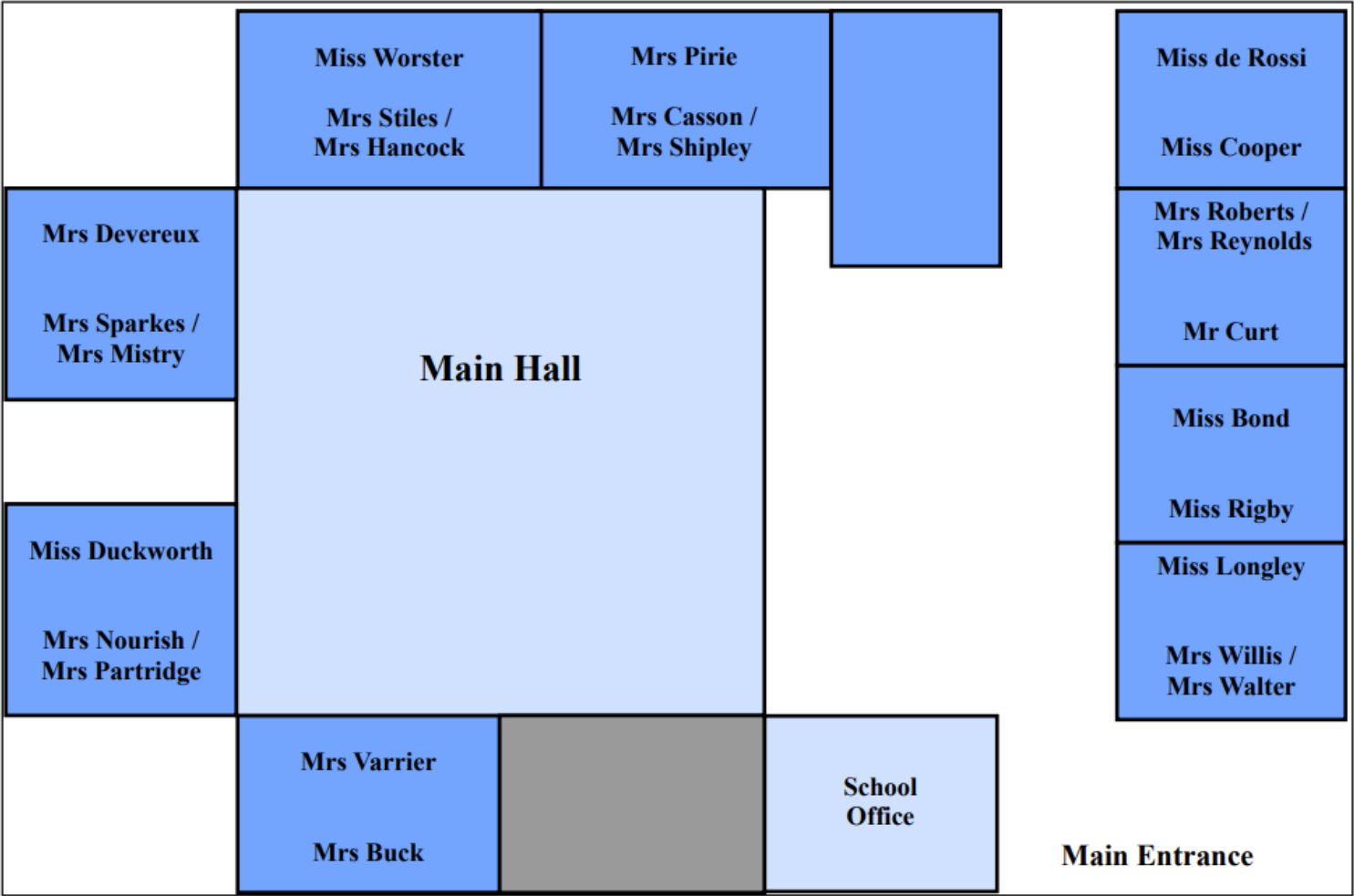
Below is a plan of the upper school and the classroom where each teacher will be based.

Access to and from the school will be via the main office door only. There will be signs to point you in the right direction from the office and signs on each classroom door so you know where to go.

Please note, there will be at least two teachers in each classroom.

Your child’s English and Maths books will be with the teacher who will give them to you should you wish to browse through them after your meeting. Please return them to the allocated box outside your child's classroom before leaving.

It is advised, where possible, not to bring your child/children with you but if you have no choice, please can you ensure they remain well behaved so as not to disturb other appointments. They will have to wait outside during your meeting therefore if you could provide a quiet activity for them to engage in this would be beneficial.



Mrs Marsh (Inclusion Manager) will be offering additional appointments during both Parents Evenings to discuss any ongoing concerns or questions you may have about your child’s additional needs.

To book an additional appointment with Mrs Marsh, please call the school office on **01604 883900.**



## **Harvest Festival**

**Year 1** children will be going to **All Saints Church** in Brixworth on the morning of **Friday 25th October** to celebrate Harvest.

The remaining year groups will celebrate Harvest in the school hall on **Tuesday 22nd October.**

We plan to distribute harvest gifts to senior citizens in the village or to any family who may benefit from such a gift. If you would like to make a contribution please can you kindly ensure that your donation is in a form suitable for use by a Senior Citizen.

Made up boxes/baskets are most welcome as are individual items that we can then make up into boxes at school.

(Please avoid large, perishable items, and check use by dates of food donated.)

**Donations should be taken to your child's classroom by Tuesday 22nd October.**

Year 6 children, supervised by members of staff, will then deliver the donations to the individuals concerned during the latter part of the Harvest week.

Using information from yourselves and the Wardens of the Senior Citizens' establishments in the village, we have compiled a list of persons to receive your harvest donations.

**Further additions and amendments to the list may be made by contacting the school office. Please note this year we would also welcome details of any families who may benefit from a harvest parcel.**



**Light Party**  
Children's Club

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October**  
**9:30am - 12:30pm**

**At Brixworth Primary School,  
Froxhill Crescent NN6 9BD**

**FREE!**

Brixworth Community Church are running a free morning club of fun, games and craft at the school for primary aged children.

Pick up your registration form at the Olive Branch Coffee Shop in the Library and Community Centre on Spratton Road or from Dynamites Childrens Group.

For further information contact Mark on 07917 573784

**BRIXWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Following Jesus together

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No. 1188559



West Northamptonshire Council

**Is your child currently in Year 6?**

**Apply for Year 7 at Secondary school**

**Application Deadline: 31 October 2024**

[www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/school-admissions)



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).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IN-GAME CHAT

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF CHAT

There are a number of ways that gamers commonly chat with one another online. As the name would suggest, in-game chat happens within the game itself. There's also party chat: a group voice conversation that console users can have with anyone on the same platform. This tends to be more commonly used by players who already know each other. Finally, many gamers – especially on PC – will chat via a third-party app such as Discord.

## CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Whether it's text- or voice-based, in-game chat is frequently open to all players to use. Many games default to making it an opt-in function, but some don't: meaning a child could start seeing messages within the game from people they're playing with, regardless of whether they know those individuals or not. While most strangers won't necessarily have ill intent, there are some who may behave inappropriately when chatting to a child – intentionally or otherwise.

## DANGER OF GROOMING

It's been reported that some young gamers have encountered older players online who pretend to be a lower age to manipulate children, sending gifts in exchange for chatting and sending photos. Just as on any messaging platform, it's good to advise young people to avoid speaking to strangers; emphasise that they shouldn't accept gifts from anyone online that they don't know.

## BULLYING AND ABUSE

While some in-game chat can turn toxic because of how a match plays out, others turn that way because of people who engage in trolling – in essence, behaving in an offensive and abusive way simply to cause pain or get a rise out of whoever they're talking to. These 'trolls' often lean on racial slurs, anti-LGBT sentiment and other hateful rhetoric; they normally feel most confident preying on younger, more impressionable gamers.

## POTENTIAL FOR PRIVATE CHAT

If a player would like a re-match with a stranger after meeting them in the game, they can send a friend request, or use the party chat together in the future. For the most part, this is harmless – but it might lead to messages being exchanged in private. This could then escalate to the sharing of private information, and potentially attempts to manipulate or scam younger players.

## COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE

Certain games are very competitive, and players can sometimes get upset if they feel a teammate is underperforming, an opponent won unfairly, or they're just a bad loser. This can lead to unpleasant messages that stray away from playful 'trash talk' and wander into the territory of bullying. Some players have been known to get incredibly abusive in situations like this, and the impact of this on a young gamer's emotional wellbeing could be severe.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LOCK-DOWN IN-GAME CHAT

In-game chat can often be disabled in the game's settings. This allows children to play without risk of contact from strangers – but it will need to be done in each individual game. Text chat appears in the corner of the screen in many titles, so it's normally easy to take a quick glance and see what's being said. With voice chat, explain to children what behaviour is inappropriate, so they can spot the dangers themselves.

### REPORT POTENTIAL OFFENDERS

Most games offer a robust means of reporting other players, so you can flag an account as potentially harmful. This normally leads to the account not being matched with yours in the future and, if that person's conduct breaks any of the game's rules, they may be banned from playing entirely. This is done within the game itself, so each title has a slightly different process, but these tend to be designed for simplicity.

### CONSIDER OTHER CHAT OPTIONS

If a child wants to play with people they know, consider using party chat or a third-party service like Discord. This allows everyone involved to chat on a private server and even enjoy each other's company while playing different games. It's also far more secure, as anyone looking to join will need to request and be granted access – normally by whoever is hosting the chat.

### COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Make sure children understand the differences between being competitive and being abusive. Talk about what constitutes unusual or inappropriate behaviour from strangers online. Be clear that if anything ever concerns or worries them, they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Empower children to identify the risks of in-game chat for themselves and reassure them they won't get in trouble for seeking help if anything goes wrong.

## Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at [nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat](https://nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-chat)

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