

Newsletter 31 Term 5
24th May 2024



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Exciting News!

Northampton Primary Academy Trust's very own **Zoe Hall (our Trust Maths Lead) and Sarah Whitlock (a former UMPS teacher)** have shared the exciting news that they have appeared on **ITV's Britain's Got Talent!**

They are both part of the fantastic **'Northants Sings Out'** Choir (NSO) who auditioned in Manchester, winning support of all four judges and a standing ovation from the crowd.



The Northants Sings Out Choir comprised of 60 singers from across Northamptonshire with choir director Gareth Fuller conducting them through a rendition of the gospel song 'It is Well With My Soul' before switching to the 90's club classic 'Show Me Love.'

There was another very special moment for NSO this week when the Queen of Pop herself, **MADONNA**, shared a reel of NSO singing with her 19 million followers!



Dates

June

- 3rd** Training Day
- 4th** Children return to school
- 6th** EYFS Trip to Gullivers
- 7th** EYFS Stay and Play 9am
- 7th** Y4 National Gallery Trip
- w/c 10th** Y1 Phonics Screening
- 11th** New Reception 2024 Intake Evening 6pm
- 12th** Y6 UoN Steam event
- 13th** Y3 Trip to Evenley Woods
- 21st** Sports Day
- 24th** Great Upton Bake Off
- 27th** Y4 Brass Concert and Showcase
- 28th** Reserve Sports Day

Tech Camp

We have exciting news for you this Summer.... your child is invited to embark on an unforgettable journey at our Tech and STEM Camp!

We'll be hosting a variety of tech filled activities at **Upton Meadows Primary School** from the **12th – 23rd August (9-4pm each day)** for children aged 5 to 11 years old (Year 1-Year 6).

Our mission is simple: **to inspire, engage, and empower** the next generation of innovators. We aim to spark curiosity and foster creativity using cutting-edge technology. Here's a glimpse of what awaits:

Week 1 - Robotics, VR and Tech Fun ☐

Program robots, design video games, model 3D creation, experience VR and laser-tag, plus much more! A week of inspiration and creation with maximum excitement. We encourage children to experiment and challenge themselves, instilling a variety of exciting, real-world skills.

Week 2 - Minecraft Coding and Lego Engineering ☐

Designed for ultimate fun and education. Students learn circuitry workings using Redstone and coding fundamentals in Minecraft Education edition creating magnificent masterpieces. Then take the virtual world to the real work and make LEGO ingenious inventions with sensors and motors. This week is designed to encourage students to experiment and push the boundaries of their imagination, while developing skills that will aid them in their future.

Until June 14th we are offering **1 week bookings at only £175** or **2 week bookings at only £299 (saving £191)**. We also hope to have a number of **HAF spaces** which will become available closer to the event.

Don't miss out and book today.... <https://www.nextthing.education/product/upton-meadows-primary-school-summer-camp/>

We look forward to welcoming you! Next Thing Education Camps

Great Upton Bake Off



MONDAY 24TH JUNE

Please bring in your home made cakes to take part in the Upton Meadows Bake Off on Monday 24th June* There will be prizes for various cake categories on the day Join us at 3:20pm for an outdoor cake party

PLEASE BRING COINS TO BUY

We are on the countdown to our Great Upton Bake Off!

Are you the next Mary Berry or Paul Hollywood?

We would like as many parents, pupils and staff to bake cakes for our Great Upton Bake Off Competition and bring them into school on Monday 24th June.

There will be various prizes awarded and then cakes will be on sale at the end of the day!



SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2024
JULY - AUGUST
NEW ACTIVITIES THEY'LL LOVE!

WEEK 1 ROBOTICS, VR & TECH FUN
Program: robots, design games, model 3D creations, experience Virtual Reality, learn to mix like a Pro DJ, master Videography and Editing - plus MEGA LASERTAG! A week of inspiration and creation with MAXIMUM excitement. Children will experiment and challenge themselves, whilst learning real-world skills.

WEEK 2 MINECRAFT & LEGO ENGINEERING
Designed for ULTIMATE fun and education! Students can dive into Minecraft Education and design game elements, build Redstone circuits and learn the coding fundamentals. Then take a deeper look into engineering using LEGO bricks combined with sensors and motors, to create cool inventions powered by code.

TWO WEEKS OF TECH FUN AT EACH LOCATION

ROBOTICS, VR & TECH FUN (WEEK 1)
MINECRAFT & LEGO ENGINEERING (WEEK 2)

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE

www.nextthing.education

What to bring to camp?
- Personal Lunch and Drink
- Water
- Hat
- Weather Appropriate Clothing

We are in your area!
We have more than 80 camps running this Summer. Find your local camp on our website: www.nextthing.education

RAVE REVIEWS ★★★★★
"Both my son and daughter had lots of fun, made new friends, learnt new skills and will not stop talking about the Robots!"
- Leanne, 38, Essex, Essex, Essex

Only **£175** for 5 DAYS or **£299** for 10 DAYS!

[E: info@nextthing.education](mailto:info@nextthing.education)
[T: 01462 873150](tel:01462873150)

Year 1 News

Here are some of the things that have been keeping us busy this term.



In English we have focused on 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears.' We are now learning how to write instructions so we can create a trap for Goldilocks after she made a big mess in the Year 1 classrooms!

We have been learning to measure length and height in maths over the past few weeks. We have practiced measuring with cubes and then moving onto using centimetres and metres. We had great fun getting outside and using our measuring skills.



Our science topic this term has been all about plants. We planted our own seeds at the beginning of term and have loved looking after them and watching them grow. We have also carried out plant surveys and investigated which trees we have growing around our school.

We have loved learning how to use the Scratch Jr app in Computing. We have designed our own sprites, thought about what we want them to do and are looking forward to creating our own programmes this week!



We have also been continuing to work hard in our phonic sessions, practicing our sounds and reading skills. We loved it when all the teachers came dressed up as some of the phonics characters!



Mobile Phones on School Site

Please note that mobile phones cannot be used on the school site.

Please ensure phones are switched off and put away before you come through the school gates.

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

- 1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**
Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.
- 2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.
- 3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES**
Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.
- 4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME**
Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.
- 5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING**
Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.
- 6 EMPOWER THE CHILD**
When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.
- 7 TEACH EMPATHY**
Healthy friendships doesn't always mean perfect. Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship; to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.
- 8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS**
Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.
- 9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES**
One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.
- 10 SPOT THE SIGNS**
We can't always supervise young people; sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert
Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

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Super Stars

Well done to all the children who have worked so hard this week and demonstrated lots of our school values!

RJF: Freya for returning back to school with a smile on her face and working hard on her

RKC: Ali for working really hard on his letter formation!

1AH: Elias for his great vocabulary choices in English.

1KB: Harvey for trying extra hard to use his phonics in his writing this week.

2MF: Beau for working extra hard on his English hot write this week!

2FJ: Ailah for producing some beautiful writing and using some brilliant ideas in her hot write this week.

3EB: Ethan for having a really positive attitude towards his learning and being proud of all the successes he has been having, well done Ethan. Keep up the hard work!

3IH: Eva for making great progress in her reading this term! All of the adults that work with you are so proud, well done!

4LJ: Olly for doing some amazing writing in English!

4SL: Alex for making amazing multiplication progress. We are all proud of her!

5AK: Miriam for challenging herself in our English shared write and producing a lovely story!

5GD: Malachi for demonstrating great focus and fantastic kindness to others.

6LW: Elzira for fantastic attitude to her learning this week.

6GH: George for being an absolute pleasure to teach!

Termly awards

A huge well done to the children who have won the termly awards for this term!

Rosalie in RKC

Rainie in 1KB

Sofiya in 3EB

Eloise in 6GH



Gold Award

Huge congratulations to Joy in 2FJ who has been awarded the first Gold badge for this year. Well done Joy!



Silver Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded their silver badges this week.

Gracie-Mae & Scarlett in RJF

Hunter & Ava in RKC

Maliah and Ariana in 1KB

Ikyra in 2FJ

Shoniah in 3IH

Riri in 4SL

Camden in 5AK



Bronze Awards

Well done to the following children who have been awarded their bronze badges this week.

Harold in 1AH

Karina & Amin in 1KB

Chanze in 3IH

Jake in 5GD



Rainbow Star of the Week



Our Rainbow star of the week is Max in 5GD for applying himself 100% to his learning this week. Incredible English work—I can see a real improvement! Well done Max!

Attendance

