



26th June 2026

This Week at St Mary's...

We are very proud of the way the children have coped with the intense heat we have experienced this week ☀️. They have listened carefully to advice, such as staying in the shade wherever possible 🌿, and have shown great maturity and resilience.

Thank you to our parents for your continued support in helping to keep the children safe from the sun, and to our staff for their hard work, care, and dedication throughout this challenging week 💙.

Whole school
attendance this
week...

91.7%

TRANSITION DAY 30th JUNE

On Tuesday children will visit their new classrooms for September. This will give them the opportunity to get to know their new teacher and to spend some time together as a group. Children should be dropped off and collected from their CURRENT classroom door.

ENRICHMENT WEEK

After the success of last years first Enrichment week we are excited to announce this years event.
See poster on next page!

If you are willing and able to join us on walks to the forest on Tuesday 7th July please get in touch with Mrs Bailey as we will require several volunteers for each class.

Are you able to donate any of the following to get us started:

- Newspapers
- Cardboard boxes

Dates and Events

JUNE

30th - Transition Day

JULY

6th-10th ENRICHMENT WEEK

13th- Paralympic Rugby visitor

15th - SUMMER DISCO

14th/15th - Class 4 play

20th-22nd - Class 4 residential

23rd - LEAVERS SERVICE 2pm

Enrichment Week

6th - 10th July



Monday

AMAZING ANIMALS!



Focus on habitats

Tuesday

GROWING

Visit Sherwood Forest



Wednesday

MAKE SOME NOISE

Junk music
workshop



Thursday

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
Art focus



Friday

OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT



An exciting week for all!

SPECIAL VISITOR - 13th JULY



Ayaz Bhuta - <https://www.ayazbhuta.co.uk/>

Ayaz is a Paralympic gold medallist from Tokyo 2020 in wheelchair rugby.

Ayaz will be joining us for a whole school assembly and delivering exciting workshops across school.

Children will need to attend school in PE kit on this day!

Online Safety

[To read the full version click here](#)

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

What Educators Need to Know about INVOICE FRAUD

Invoice fraud, including payment diversion fraud, occurs when criminals deceive you into paying a fake invoice or redirect a genuine payment into their own bank account. Fraudsters may impersonate suppliers, intercept emails, or send convincing invoices to prompt urgent payment into fraudulent accounts. It is one of the most common and costly forms of financial crime affecting individuals, businesses, and schools.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

COMMUNICATIONS CLAIMING URGENCY
Communications that claim to be urgent or highlight late payments may be a key sign. Fraudsters often apply pressure to rush decisions and stop checks, take a moment to verify the request using trusted contacts before making any payment.

CHANGES TO BANK DETAILS
Receiving messages saying a regular supplier has changed their bank account details can be a warning sign. Fraudsters may impersonate contacts to redirect payments. Always verify changes first using known supplier contact details.

DISCREPANCIES AGAINST PREVIOUS INVOICES
Be wary of invoice details that don't match authentic, previously issued invoices, such as amount, reference numbers or contact names. Fraudsters often alter email details to avoid detection. Always query any differences using your supplier's contact details.

MINOR EMAIL CHANGES
Look out for slight changes to a supplier's email address, such as extra characters or spelling differences. Fraudsters often use similar looking addresses to appear genuine. Always check the sender carefully and verify any concerns using known contact details before responding or making a payment.

UNEXPECTED PAYMENT REQUESTS
Invoices or payment requests for goods or services you do not recognise can be a warning sign. Fraudsters may send false invoices hoping they will be paid without question. Check records and confirm with the supplier before processing any unfamiliar request.

UNUSUAL LANGUAGE OR TONE
Messages with unusual wording, grammar or spelling compared to your usual supplier communications may indicate fraud. Criminals often copy legitimate messages but may not match the usual tone or style. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) means errors are no longer as common or obvious. Be cautious and verify the request if anything seems out of place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

VERIFY BANK DETAILS
Always confirm any change to a supplier's bank details before making a payment. Use a trusted phone number or a long-standing contact you have used before, not the details provided in the request. This helps ensure you are dealing with a genuine supplier and prevents payments being redirected to fraudsters.

CROSS-CHECK INVOICES
Compare new invoices with those previously issued by the supplier in question. Check key details such as amounts, bank details, reference numbers and contact information. Differences may indicate fraud, so always investigate and verify anything that does not match before making a payment.

DUAL PAYMENT APPROVAL
Ask a trusted person to review and approve high-value payments. A second set of eyes can help spot unusual details or warning signs that might otherwise be missed. This adds an extra layer of control and reduces the risk of errors or fraudulent payments being processed.

REPORT FRAUD QUICKLY
If you suspect fraud, act immediately. Contact your bank using 183 or their official number and report it to Report Fraud online or by calling 0300 123 4040. Keep all emails and documents. For more guidance, or to register for counter fraud alerts, see [ONE counter fraud guidance](#). You can find the invoice fraud leaflet on the National Crime Agency website.

Meet Our Expert

Evan Williams is a counter fraud manager at the Department for Education. Having led the function there for many years, he now focuses on continual improvement, communication, and innovation. He proudly oversaw the growth of the counter fraud team during the pandemic, having worked in counter fraud for 16 years since starting his civil service career with the National Crime Agency back in 2005.

[See full reference list on our website](#)

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#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**



TAKEHOME



How does every person count?



In the news this week

India has started one of the world's biggest counting projects, its national census. People across the country will be asked questions about their homes and communities to help build a picture of life in India today. The information collected will help leaders make decisions about services and support for more than 1.4 billion people.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Why do you think governments count people?
- > What information might be important to know about a town or place? Why?
- > A census counts people using numbers. What are some ways people count that cannot be measured by numbers?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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A Wave of Awards

"¡Bandera azul!" That's Spanish for "blue flag" – and Spain is flying more of them than anyone else! Blue Flags are special awards for beaches. It shows that a beach is clean, safe and well cared for. This year, Spain received more Blue Flag awards than any other country in the world! Spain received a record 794 Blue Flags. As well as beaches, the award can also be given to marinas (places where boats are kept), and tourist boats that take visitors out on the water, if they are looked after carefully. Some beaches in Spain have done an amazing job of keeping their Blue Flag. Sant Joan Beach in Alicante and La Fossa Beach in Calpe have had the award since 1987. For

nearly 40 years, the people who look after these beaches have worked hard to earn the Blue Flag. To keep a Blue Flag, beaches must be checked every year. Dr José Palacios Aguilar, from Spain's Blue Flag programme, said the country's success was the result of lots of people working together. Now that's a *shore* thing to celebrate!

Did you know? Every grain of sand on a beach is unique, just like a fingerprint!



Pictured: Sant Joan beach in Alicante has held a blue flag for almost 40 years! **Source:** Canva.

Plum-believable!

We often hear about eating our five a day, but did you know that fruit and vegetables have different benefits? Tucked inside some plants are extra high amounts of nutrients called flavanols. They are found in foods with deep, bright colours such as dark plums and blackberries, crimson cranberries, bright red cherries, and deep blue blueberries. Green tea and green broad beans contain lots of flavanols too! A recent study of 30,000 people looked at exactly what they ate and drank. The study showed that even those who regularly had their five a day



Pictured: Plums, blackberries, cherries and blueberries contain a high number of flavanols. **Source:** Canva.

could still miss out on flavanols. This is because some fruits and vegetables contain a lot of these nutrients, while others have less. Professor Gunter Kuhnle, from the University of Reading said, 'Five-a-day is the right message, but we may need to think more carefully about which five'. How *berry* interesting! **Do you enjoy any of the foods on the flavanol list?**

How can we protect the oceans?



Don't throw rubbish around. Put it in the bin.

Skye

Let us know what you think about this week's news

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help@picture-news.co.uk

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Nature News Reporter

We're very excited to let you know about the Guardian's Young Country Diary competition! It's free to enter, open to children aged 8-14, and you could see your piece published in The Guardian newspaper and online. The Young Country Diary is a monthly column in which young people write about their encounters with nature. To be involved, all you need to do is submit a 200-250-word article about a recent experience of nature. Entries must be submitted before noon on 1st July. So, if you would like to see your



Pictured: Children exploring in a forest. **Source:** Canva.

work in the famous newspaper, it's time to start thinking of what nature experiences you could write about! The Guardian has tips and suggestions on its website. It suggests going out to local woods or beach, your garden, a farm, or the nearest park. You could report on a thriving rock pool, a field of flowers, a nest-building bird, a pond full of frogspawn, a day fruit-picking, or a compost heap full of bugs. There are so many options! The Guardian website says, 'Crucially, it doesn't matter if the child is a nature expert or not – we are especially keen to reach teachers who might like to get their class outside and noticing nature. Note that any child who has their article published will be paid!' **Do you enjoy being in nature? What would you do a news report on?**



Pictured: Child looking through binoculars. **Source:** Canva.

Miles Without Stiles

The Lake District National Park Authority has unveiled five new accessible walking routes. The new routes, called Miles Without Stiles, are designed as walking routes for everyone to enjoy. Lake District National Park posted, 'Need a new route? Good news, we have five new ones 🗺️ Five new Miles Without Stiles routes have opened in the Lake District. They're accessible walks for people with limited mobility such as wheelchair users, families with pushchairs, the visually impaired, and anyone who wants an easier walk with no scrambling, climbing or steep hills.' The authority in Cumbria has worked with partners to improve surfacing, install bridges, remove stiles, and upgrade gates. 'The Lake District, like



Pictured: Part of the new Miles Without Stiles routes. **Source:** Lake District National Park on Facebook.

all national parks, should be accessible to all,' said Will Clark, from Westmorland and Furness council. He continued, 'Throughout my own life I have found spending time outdoors enjoyable and beneficial to my own mental health, and this is still the case since my spinal injury. These new routes provide more opportunities to experience time in the outdoors.' **Do you think your family would like to try one of these new routes?**

How can we protect the oceans?



I think we can help by putting lids on all bins, so rubbish doesn't fly away, and having more bins for people to use. I also have a water bottle that I reuse so I don't use as many plastic bottles. **Daisy**

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