

POTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter 27th February 2026



From the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school this week. I hope you all enjoyed a restful half term break. The children have returned to school and have settled back in well to their learning.

This term we there are lots of events taking place, please keep an eye on the dates section of the newsletter for information.

Wednesday 4th March

After school in The Branches Hall the Potton Primary Art Gallery will be open for parents/carers to come in to view their child/ren's art work.

Also as part of our World Book Day, after school children and their families (children must be accompanied by an adult) are invited into school to participate in various book related activities. These will take place in classrooms - further information will be sent out on Monday for locations of each year's activities.

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day where we celebrate all things "reading!" On this day we invite children to come to school either dressed as a character from a book or they can wear pyjamas, or if they would prefer they can wear their school uniform as normal. During the day the children will be taking part in lots of activities centered around reading and books.

Don't Forget

A reminder also that our Mothers Day gift shop will be running in school on the week commencing 9th March. If you would like your children to visit the shop during the week please ensure to send the completed form and money into school by Friday 6th March.

Happening Soon

SEND Coffee Afternoon - Thursday 19th March - We are looking forward to welcoming the Sandy & Biggleswade Children's Centre and Biggleswade and Sandy Mental Health Support Team to join us for this event. Further information will be sent out shortly.

The PTFA Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday 21st March. Please see details below.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards

Miss J Watts

Headteacher

Diary Dates



Wednesday 4th March - 3.30-4.45pm - Art Gallery for parents/carers to view children's art work.

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Week Commencing 9th March - Mother's Day Gift Shop will open

Tuesday 17th March - 10:00am - Rocksteady Performance to parents.

Tuesday 17th March - Parents Evening - More information to follow shortly.

Wednesday 18th March - Parents Evening - More information to follow shortly.

Thursday 19th March - SEND Coffee Afternoon - More information to follow

Friday 20th March - 9:30am Rocksteady Performance to parents

Saturday 21st March - PTFA Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday 25th March - Year 6 Evacuee Day

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April - Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April - Children return to school

Letters Home

EYFS

Health Needs Assessment Form

Year 2

Active Lives Survey

Year 6

Caythorpe Personal Information and consent form

HELP!

We are looking for some bright coloured paints to put on our sheds outside (red, blue, green, orange etc). Also, if you have any cake stands or re-useable cupcake cases that you do not use anymore, we would love these for our mud kitchen.

On Saturday 7th March, 9am until midday, it would be brilliant if you could come into school to help us revamp our mud kitchen. We would really appreciate it if you could spare a few hours to help us get our mud kitchen area up and running so the children can enjoy this space after the Easter holidays. If you could lend a hand with painting or basic DIY, that would be wonderful. Children are allowed to come and help!

This is what we are hoping to achieve!



Awards This Week

In today's assembly, we celebrated...

Class Superstars

Peacocks: Timothy H
Puffins: Teddy B
Mallards: Zaiden B
Moorhens: Jason A
Wrens: Coen C
Woodpeckers: Wynter W
Hawks: Aariah B
Hérons: Sonny S
Swifts: Lilly H
Starlings: Ethan P
Kites: Emilia P
Kingfishers: Megan R

Values Superstars

Peacocks: Josie N
Puffins: Tegan W
Mallards: Mollie S
Moorhens: Esmae W
Wrens: Ralphie G
Woodpeckers: George M
Hawks: Tommy R
Hérons: Charlie W
Swifts: Alice R
Starlings: Tiana C
Kites: Anesu N
Kingfishers: Jackson S

Numbots Star Of The Week

Puffins: Olly W
Peacocks: Matvii H
Mallards: Manraj H
Moorhens: Tobey D

Times Tables Rockstars Star Of The Week

Wrens: Michael B
Woodpeckers: Martha L
Hérons: Khush B
Hawks: George W
Swifts: Alfie C
Starlings: Lia C
Kites: Frazier S
Kingfishers: Chloe W

Housepoints This Week

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Ash: 149 | Birch: 159 | Elm: 133 |
| Oak: 154 | Sycamore: 146 | Willow: 149 |
| Ash: 1 | Birch: 1 | Elm: 1 |
| Oak: 2 | Sycamore: 2 | Willow: 0 |

House Cup Winners This Week are.....



Birch



Safeguarding Information

What should you do if you have a concern?

If you have a worry or concern about the welfare or safety of a child in our school what should you do?

Please contact our safeguarding team via safeguarding@pottonprimary.co.uk

Our Safeguarding Team



Miss Jordana Watts
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr Stephen Boyd
Deputy Head &
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Hazel Desborough
Family Support Worker &
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Christine Ives
SendCo & Safeguarding Office

Mrs S Gurney - Designated Safeguarding Governor

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 DIGITAL DEVICES & WELLBEING

Children aged 7 to 14 now spend roughly 3 to 5 hours a day on phones, tablets, consoles, and computers. That much screen time has parents and educators worried – not just about the hours logged, but about online safety and the knock-on effects on mental health. This guide brings together practical, expert-backed strategies so adults can nurture healthier digital habits and help young people thrive both on and offline.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SLEEP DISRUPTION

Excessive screen time, especially before bed, can interfere with melatonin production and delay sleep onset. Children may struggle to concentrate or regulate emotions due to poor sleep hygiene linked to late-night device use.

ONLINE PEER PRESSURE

Social media platforms expose children to unrealistic standards and peer validation loops. Likes, comments, and follower counts can influence self-worth and lead to anxiety or risky behaviour to gain approval.

CYBERBULLYING EXPOSURE

Children may encounter bullying through messaging apps, games, or social media. This can be persistent and anonymous, making it harder to detect. Victims often feel isolated and reluctant to report incidents.

REDUCED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Time spent on screens often replaces outdoor play and physical activity. This sedentary lifestyle can contribute to obesity, poor posture, and reduced cardiovascular health.

EMOTIONAL DYSREGULATION

Fast-paced digital content can overstimulate young brains. Children may become irritable, impatient, or struggle with boredom and emotional control when not engaged with screens.

PRIVACY AND SAFETY RISKS

Children may unknowingly share personal information or interact with strangers online without guidance. They may not understand the long-term consequences of digital footprints or unsafe online behaviour.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Establish screen-time limits and device-free zones, e.g. classrooms and dinner tables. Use parental controls and co-create a digital use agreement with children to encourage accountability. Try a visual schedule or timer app can help children understand and stick to limits.

MODEL HEALTHY HABITS

Children mirror adult behaviour. Demonstrate balanced device use, take regular screen breaks, and prioritise face-to-face interactions to reinforce positive behaviours. Making a habit of putting your phone away during meals and conversations can show that real-life interactions come first.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DIALOGUE

Create a safe space for children to talk about their online experiences. Ask open-ended questions like, "What did you enjoy online today?" to build trust and awareness. Try setting aside 10 minutes each day for a digital check-in where children can share what they've seen or done online.

PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Teach children how to evaluate online content, recognise misinformation, and understand privacy settings. Empower them to think critically and act responsibly in digital spaces. You could use real-life examples from the news or social media to help children practice spotting fake information.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Parkstone Grammar School and works on a secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provision.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

X @wake_up_weds f /www.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

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Other Information - Events



Potton Primary Art Gallery

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2026
3:30PM - 4:45PM
THE BRANCHES HALL

Your child's picture will be available to purchase for a cost of £8.50 each.

There will be a refreshment stall.

We will also be running a raffle during the event for you to purchase tickets.

We hope to see you there!



Mother's Day Gift Shop

A pop-up gift shop will be open during the week of 9th March 2026 for children to visit during school time to buy a gift for their loved one.

Gifts will be wrapped and ready to give!

Each gift will be £2.50. Payment for this year's shop will need to be made in cash (correct cash only please, no change can be given). Children will be sent home this week with an information form and envelope. If you would like your child to attend the gift shop please complete the form provided and return this and any money in the envelope provided to school. Your child will then be added to a register to attend the shop during the week that is open.

Deadline for purchases will be
6th March 2026



SEND COFFEE AFTERNOON

Thursday 19th March 2025
2:00pm
The Branches Hall

We are really excited to be welcoming The Biggleswade and Sandy Mental Health Support Team and Sandy and Biggleswade Childrens Centre to this Coffee Afternoon.

We look forward to seeing you



Potton Primary School PTFA Event



On Sunday the 21st March the PTFA will be hosting their annual Easter Egg Hunt. This is always a popular event and the PTFA are in need of some volunteers to help on the day. Volunteers will be asked to cover either 12:30–3:00pm (including set-up) or 3:00–4:30pm (including clear-up). This means everyone will still be able to enjoy the hunt with their children. If you are able to volunteer, please email PTFA@pottonprimary.co.uk. Without volunteers, we cannot run these events.

We are also hoping to run a Teddy Tombola at the Easter Egg Hunt. Therefore, if you have any teddies that are in a good condition to donate we would welcome these.

There will be a cake sale at the event and if you are able to make a donation of nut-free cakes these would be very much appreciated.

Any donations can be dropped off at the school office.

Other Information

CHUMS YOUNG PEOPLE & PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS

Our online workshops are designed as a starting point for families with children who have low level difficulties. These are one-off 2-hour sessions conducted virtually via Microsoft teams.

Please note these workshops do not support moderate/severe difficulties and will not address risky behaviours (self-harm, suicidal ideations).

PARENT ANXIETY WORKSHOP

17/2/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of young people aged 5 - 11 years old)

One-off workshop exploring emotional development in children, emotional regulation, psychoeducation around anxiety and anxiety management strategies.

PARENT SELF-ESTEEM WORKSHOP

21/1/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of young people aged 5 - 12 years old)

One off workshop which equips parents with an understanding of self-esteem and ways to promote high self-esteem through parenting style and collaborative activities to try at home with their young person.

11+ ANXIETY WORKSHOP

17/2/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 11+, parents also welcome to attend)

This single psychoeducation session explores emotional development in children, emotional regulation, and focuses on anxiety and anxiety management strategies.

PARENTAL SEPARATION WORKSHOP

3/2/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of young people aged 5 - 12 years old)

One-off Workshop that explores the following topics: Common child responses to separation, emotional regulation, potential disruptive behaviour problems + techniques to manage them and identifying worries in young people and how to work through these.

BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOPS

9/2/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

25/2/26 @ 1PM - 3PM

(For parents of young people aged 5-11 years old)

A one-off workshop that covers the following topics: Emotional development in children, emotional regulation, common behaviour difficulties and strategies to promote positive behaviours.

MENTAL HEALTH AND STIGMA WORKSHOP

12/2/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 12+, parents also welcome to attend)

One off workshop for young people focusing on mental health awareness and stigma. Follows a range of topics including puberty, male mental health, LGBTQ+, ethnicity and social media.

RESILIENCY WORKSHOPS

0-5 YEARS

2/3/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of children aged 0-5 years old)

This single psychoeducation session explores the importance of relationships, healthy attachments, emotional regulation and anxiety. You will learn evidence based behavioural strategies to help your child thrive.

PRIMARY

16/3/26 @ 1PM - 3PM

(For parents of children aged 5 - 10 years old)

This single session explores relevant child development including and provides psychoeducation on mental health vs mental health problems, emotional regulation, anxiety and low mood. You will leave with a greater understanding of your child's needs and armed with strategies to build their resilience.

SECONDARY

30/3/26 @ 5PM - 7PM

(For young people aged 12 - 16 years, parents also welcome to attend)

One-off Workshop that explores the following topics: mental health vs mental health problems, emotional regulation, psychoeducation on anxiety and low mood, strategies for relaxation with strategies to build their resilience.

PARENT SLEEP WORKSHOP

25/3/26 @ 9:30AM - 11:30AM

(For parents of young people aged 4-12 years old)

One-off workshop exploring why sleep is important, what is 'good' sleep, sleep hygiene tips, and strategies for managing worries at night.

EXAM STRESS WORKSHOPS

14/4/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

29/4/26 @ 4PM - 6PM

(For young people aged 12+ and parents)

One off workshop which equips teenagers with an understanding of exam stress, strategies for managing exam stress, revision tips and self-care. The workshop also offers parental tips for supporting their adolescent's exam stress.

To register for any of our workshops, please fill in the standard referral form in the 'Any other relevant information' section, state that the referral is for a workshop and include the workshop date.

<https://chums.uk.com/emotional-wellbeing-service/#workshops>

Other Information



Online FREE talk by Jane Keyworth

Anxiety Based School Avoidance

March 26th 7-8pm



Book online

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

go to PARENTS - Live Talks page

All 16 parent talks **FREE** with our School Membership



Other Information



FUN

April 2026 Football By 4 Corner Coaching



FRIENDS



FOOTBALL

Venue: Sandy Sports Centre (Astro) SG19 1BL

Week 1 Tues 31st March & Thursday 2nd April
Week 2 Tues 7th April & Thursday 9th April

Time – 10.00am till 3.00pm

Costs £18 per person per session. **Ages** 5 - 14

UEFA B coaches – Youth Award Level 3 - Enhanced DBS
Safeguarding – BFAS (Basic First Aid for Sport)

Contact : Mark – 07419764033 - mark@4cornercoaching.co.uk

Natasha – 07957980492 - natasha@4cornercoaching.co.uk

www.4cornercoaching.co.uk

