



Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 23rd JUNE 2023



Loving Learning Together



Latest News

Dear Knotty Ash families,

What a week we've just had! There's been so much going on that I'm not sure I'll be able to capture it all here—please bear with me if I forget anything!

Dot Art art competition

On Tuesday, Chloe, Amy and Jack from year 5 went to the Walker Art Gallery with their parents and Mrs Cartwright and Miss Ratcliffe. They had been shortlisted from all of year 5's entries to the competition. In a public vote, Chloe had been awarded first place in the school—the prize being that her work is displayed in the Walker Art Gallery. At the event on Tuesday there was even bigger news: Chloe was overall runner-up in the competition from all the Primary School entries—what an amazing achievement!



Chicago Bears

Some very lucky Year 4s went to an American football training session with the Chicago Bears on Friday! The children represented the school brilliantly. Super Bowl winner Shaun Gayle and Coach Gustavo Silva were so impressed with our attitudes and determination!

Athletics—Liverpool small schools competition

Both our boys' and girls' teams had amazing success here on Wednesday... more details and pictures to follow next week after we've had an awards assembly.

Year 5 and 6 residential

The children had a day playing team games at YHA Chester Trafford Hall, followed by a campfire and overnight. The next day, they had a boat trip and tour of Chester. Lots (and I mean lots!) of photos later in the newsletter.

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Knotty Ash Signing Choir at the Ashes...again!

Last week the Signing Choir travelled to Edgbaston; this week it was Trent Bridge, for the opening game of the Women's Ashes. Again they performed the Australian and English national anthems in BSL, alongside the soprano, Laura Wright, and again they did us proud! Well done to children and staff!

Little Princess Trust

Hopefully you've seen on our Twitter page, that two kind-hearted Knotty Ashers have committed to having their hair cut in support of

the Little Princess Trust. If you can make a donation of any amount, please follow the links below:



Amelia's donation page: https://www.justgiving.com/page/holly-lee-croll-1685799725134?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=one_page&utm_content=page/holly-lee-croll-1685799725134&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=369b5e04e57e411f99b6798cd9cc83c2

Oliver-Miles donation page: https://www.gofundme.com/f/olivermiles-first-hair-cut?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=customer

Strikes on 5th and 7th July

You'll already have seen that the NEU have called two days of strikes on 5th and 7th July. The action is being taken in support of better pay and conditions and better funding for schools, which has been declining in real terms for many years now.

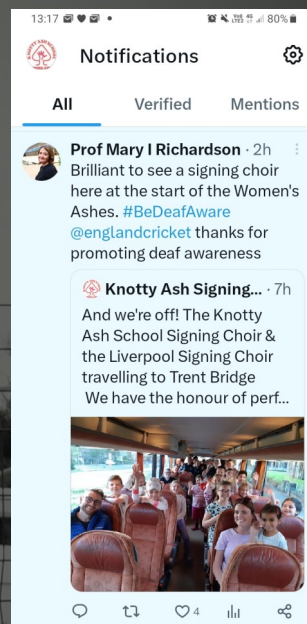
These dates have meant we've had to change things that we had planned...

- Year 6 transition day will now take place on 6th July (for most schools—more detail will be sent to y6 parents)
- Knottyashonbury Summer Festival will now take place on 6th July. For tickets:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1b0x97yaGfPs-lkC2tO2xldwFJ6yMaY-DU8ljW87uQdA/edit>

Please book in advance because we may need to cancel if we don't get enough interest.

- Houses Week fun events have been rescheduled, either within the week or in the following week.



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Knottyashtonbury

6/7/23

3:30 - 6:00pm

Ice-cream
Van

Bouncy
Castles

Live
Music

Stalls and
Car-Boot
Sale

Food and
Drink

All
tickets
£2

You can bring and pitch your tent but please no BBQ's, alcohol or smoking on site.

Festival gates open at 2:30pm if you have a tent or car-boot stall.

Let us know if you can help set up or at event!



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What have we been learning?

Nursery



This week in nursery we have been enjoying playing outside in the sunshine. We have been climbing and jumping, washing the cars and bikes, digging in the mud kitchen area and drawing treasure maps.

We have been making up sentences using colourful semantics, some about Peppé Pig and some about our friends. We have been doing lots of rhyming activities and learning all about the letter u.

In maths we have been recognising, ordering counting numbers 0-10. We have enjoyed playing lots of subitising games like dominoes. We have been looking for 2D shapes in the environment.

We have been practising writing our names.

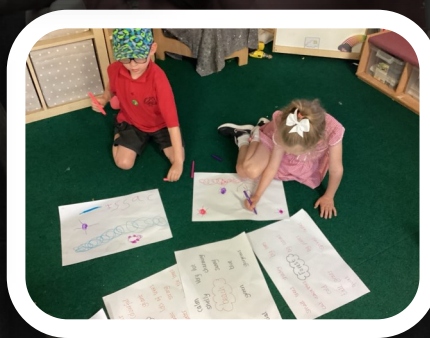
To celebrate Pride Month, we have been thinking and talking about how we are all different and we are all special. We passed round a rainbow heart in circle time and talked about our favourite food and our favourite games etc.

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What have we been learning?

Reception



Reception have continue with their topic about the 'Big Wide World' this week. We have looked at different habitats and talked about where we would like to live and why. They had a go at coming up with describing words for each habitat then had a go at drawing their favourite one and using some of those words. They came up with some brilliant vocabulary such as 'charming', 'colourful' and 'calm'.

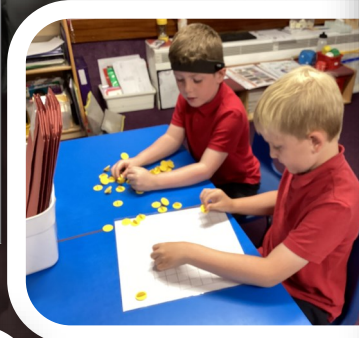
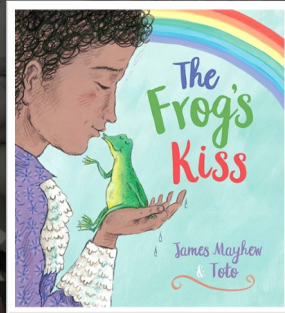
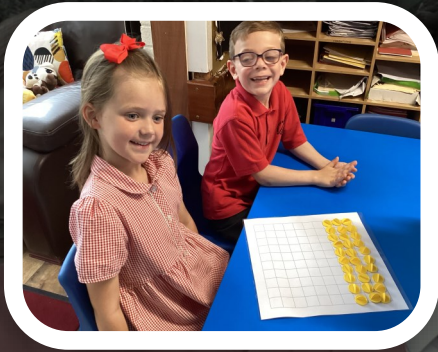
We have also been developing our space outside of Reception class where the children helped decided what they would like to have in that area. They have loved playing in the water and painting and drawing outside. We like to use this space more at the end of the year to help with the transitioning to Year 1 and the children have loved being involved.

Thank you for another lovely week 😊

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What have we been learning? Year 1



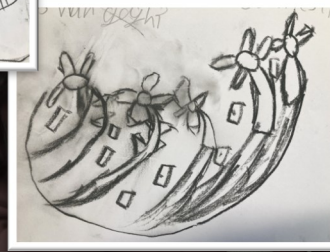
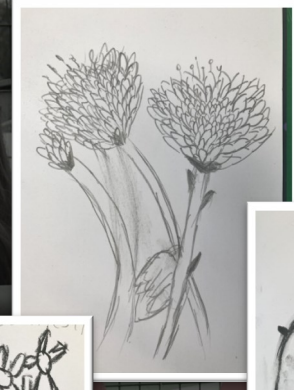
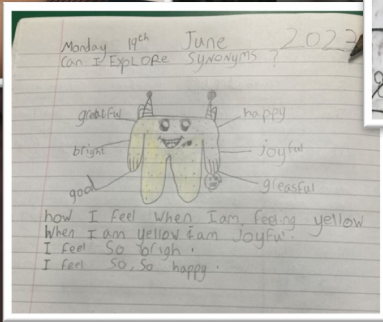
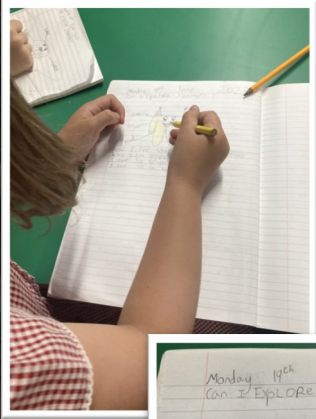
Year 1 have had a busy week. In PE we have been building our core muscles and balance skills making three limbed balances. We joined a meet the author event that talked about embracing differences while challenging stereotypes entitled; the frogs kiss. We have also completed some English and Maths assessments this week before starting our new book, The Artist and continuing with multiplication in Maths. All of the children have been learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. In Science they have continued their work on beach habitats while drawing on their knowledge from our beach trip. In IT they have made some word art for their Book Art. We even ended the week with some lovely cool ice pops.

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What have we been learning?

Year 2



In English, Year 2 have been reading the book 'The Artist' by Ed Vere which tells the story of a brave artist who goes on an adventure to share her creativity with the world, passing through a rainbow of emotions along the way. We looked at which emotions we might associate with different colours and the students designed their own colour monsters, using emotive words to describe them. Later in the week, we planned and wrote acrostic poems using some of the words we had come up with to design our colour monsters. Year 2 came up with some great ideas!

In Art this week, we were looking more closely at the artist Van Gogh, focusing particularly on one of his most famous paintings – 'Sunflowers'. Year 2 had a go at sketching some daisies and roses in the style of Van Gogh. We discussed how we should use our sketching pencils and whether we should use fine or forceful strokes on the page. The children produced some brilliant work and impressed us all with their artistic skills!

In Spanish, Year 2 worked really hard to remember all of the ten colours they had learned during the previous lesson. We played different games to help us remember them, including 'Splat!' and another game of '¡Sorpresa!' to finish off our lesson! The children have been pronouncing the Spanish words excellently and have a really good ear for the language.

This week in PE, we have been continuing with our football skills. The children practiced passing and stopping the ball and we talked about which parts of our feet we use to carry out each of these actions. We finished the lesson with a slightly different game of musical statues whereby the students needed to pass the ball to each other whilst jogging around the pitch to the sound of a tambourine. The children had to work hard to maintain ball control and listen closely to notice the tambourine stopping. We talked about how in a football match, it is equally as important to listen so that we can communicate with our teammates.

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What have we been learning?

Year 3



We are going to start with the end of the week this time, telling you about some of the wonderful things our class have been up to. On Friday, 4 of the Y3 girls attended a football festival during the morning and had a wonderful time. They competed in many different games, including football, and even got to take a penalty against an LSP coach, as well as make friendship bracelets. They all came back to school with huge smiles, wearing a medal around their neck. A well spent morning. Also on Friday, we teamed up with our friends in Year 4 for some games and fun in PE. The children all had a great time, taking part in different events, with the eventual winners being Narnia.

Back in the classroom, we have accelerated our work on our book art projects. The children have been learning about the importance of recycling and keeping our planet clean and tidy. They are really enjoying the book (which is at the heart of our topic) 'One Plastic Bag, Isatou Ceesay and the recycling women of The Gambia.'

We wish you all a restful weekend. Thank you for supporting us in Year 3.

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What have we been learning?

Year 4

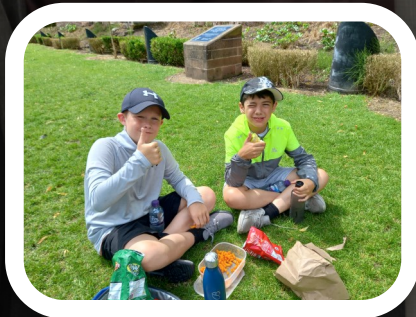


Another week in sunny Costa Del Liverpool! The children have been very busy throughout the week. They have begun a story called One Plastic Bag which they have really enjoyed! It tells the story of Isatou Ceesay who inspirationally turned plastic bags, that were littering the village, into purses. Isatou and her friends sold these purses to make money for her for her village. It also helped clean up her country and get rid of dirty places where mosquitoes would grow! In Maths, the children have been adding and subtracting fractions. Ms James came in again this week to teach the children more singing skills and also brought in some percussion instruments! Charlotte was epic on the gong while Priya and Paige played the tambourine brilliantly! We also began the week by sketching a woolly mammoth using a variety of pencils with different shades and tones. Chess was also superb because we played games the whole time! Year 4 have done so well!

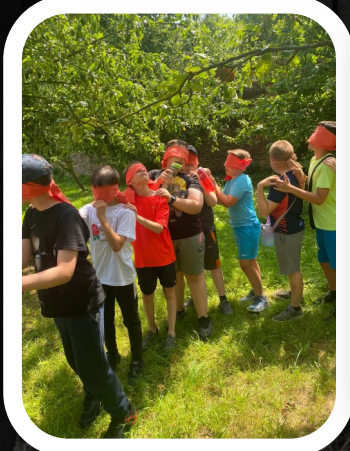
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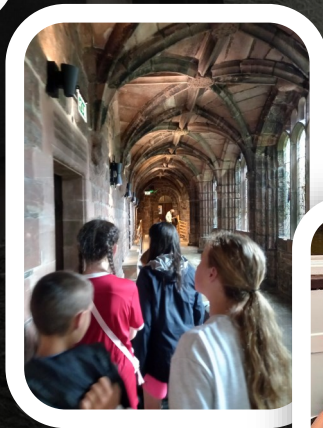
Y5&6 Chester Residential



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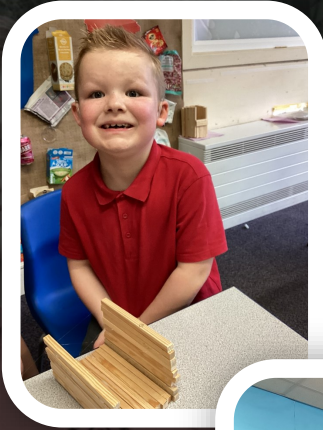


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What have we been learning?

DRB 1



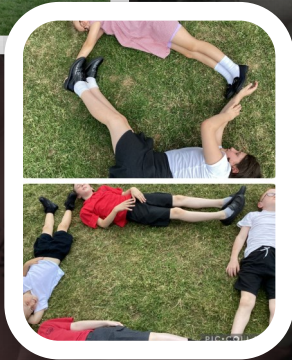
This week in infant DRB, we celebrated International Day of Yoga by taking part in our daily yoga in class. We did lots of stretching and this helped our minds relax too. During the week we looked at different habitats in our local area. We looked at the life cycle of a frog and where birds live too. We took on a project to create our own bird house, linking this with our language lessons focusing on being able to answer the questions 'who?', 'what?' and 'doing what?' Whilst building our birdhouse we learnt how to measure, saw and glue the wood. We cannot wait to put the roof on them and decorate them all next week. What this space! We had the best time ever with Mr. Mills this week. We were filmed by a drone flying above the field as we made fun shapes on the grass.

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What have we been learning?

DRB 2



We are starting off our weekly news by celebrating news from last week! Last week, our DRB children attended the North West England Deaf Schools Kwik Cricket Tournament at Alder Cricket Club. The children played their socks off and we walked away with gold and bronze medals!

In our English/Language lessons this week we have been continuing to explore letter writing. The children designed, wrote and edited a card that they would post to a family member or friend. This process was started off in English books and final copies were made on the iPad. The final products were fantastic – we hope the people receiving the cards enjoy reading them!

This week in maths we have been learning about the difference between 2D and 3D shapes; we decided that 2D are flat and 3D we can see around (or it looks like we can see around them). We learnt the names and signs for some common 2D and 3D shapes in class and spent some time learning how to accurately draw shapes.

Mr Mills' session on Thursday followed on from our maths topic of 'shape'. The children used the 'Isometric' app and 3DC.io website, where they selected 2D shapes to make 3D shapes. These 3D shapes were then manipulated and edited to make everyday objects such as; stairs, chairs and beds. The highlight of the session was going outside to make shapes with our bodies and this being recorded on Mr Mills' drone!

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Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	99.3%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	96.3%
Year 5	92.3%
Year 6	95.0%

Whole school attendance this week **95.9%**

Class attendance winners **Reception 99.3%**

Well done to all the children who were in school every day. Especially big well done to Reception!

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I'm pleased to share news of a training event at The Brain Charity on Thursday 13th July 5-6:30pm. This informal evening session is for parents of young people with neurological conditions who might be concerned about the risks they face from YouTube and online gaming.



BE ONLINE AWARE

with The Brain Charity's SafetyNet course

Free media literacy and digital awareness training covering:

Fake news and how to spot it

The basics of Google Documents, printing and email

Online safety, fraud and scam awareness

Using the internet to save money

Conspiracy theories and misinformation

Improving online confidence

Finding reliable online news

Safe use of social media

Free for anyone who has a neurological condition or cares for someone who does. We provide devices to use – just bring yourself!



At
The Brain Charity
(Norton Street, Liverpool)
and venues across
Merseyside.

SAFETYNET

Be Online Aware

To book

Email safetynet@thebraincharity.org.uk
or call 0151 298 2999 and ask for Suzanne or Ali.

Ofcom



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A letter from Liverpool City Council...



Liverpool
City Council

Dear Parent or Guardian

The May "Eat to Meet 2" Half Term programme starts on the 29th May and there are lots of great activities happening over the school holidays. Children and young people, from reception to age 16, who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the half term holidays including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at no cost. There's a great range of activities across the city including boxing, football, music, dance, cycling, cooking, discos, films, bowling, arts and crafts, drama, a make up course, trips out and much more! Every day there will be a range of fabulous meals available with many schemes holding family events as well.

To find out where your nearest scheme is click on this link <https://merseyplay.com/may-half-term-eat-to-meet/> or go to <https://www.merseyplay.com> and click on the May half term activities link.

When you have chosen the activity/scheme you will need to contact that organisation to book a place. Each organisation will have either a telephone number, email address or online booking system. If your child has any additional needs or dietary requirements then please discuss this with the organisation when you book. There is no central booking system so please read the details of the programmes on the website and contact the providers directly.

- If you want to know how to register or how to check if your child is eligible for free school meals then please click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>
- You will need your national insurance number or an asylum seekers support number.
- If you are struggling with the cost of living then please click: <https://www.liverpool.gov.uk/cost-of-living/>
- If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Click on the link to find out how to register <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Liverpool City Council is working with Mersey Play Action Council, Sutton Croft and the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to deliver the Half Term Activity programme.

The Family Information and SEND Directory also provides a wealth of useful information and support for families - [FISD](#).

Regards

Sally Dobbing

Sally Dobbing - HAF Project Manager



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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SOLUTIONS

AI solutions are becoming increasingly popular. Trained on vast datasets of text (such as books, articles and websites) in order to learn patterns and relationships, AI solutions can generate text, images, audio, video, code or synthetic data, and can be used for things such as crafting poems or books, creating digital imagery or delivering video content. Recently there's been significant discussion in relation to the benefits and risks of AI solutions, with many undecided on whether it will be a force for good or potentially reduce the need for some job roles.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ROOM FOR INACCURACY

AI solutions, such as language models, generate their responses purely based on the data they've been trained on, which often comes from sources on the Internet. Whilst questions will often illicit relevant responses, if some of the information they've been 'fed' is incorrect, it follows that the answers too may contain factual errors or inaccuracies.

REINFORCING BIAS

AI solutions, such as those generating content or images, can perpetuate existing biases present in the data they were trained, whether through the algorithms written by humans or the content taken from the web. This could easily lead to biased responses and potentially reinforce existing stereotypes, such as those around gender, race or disability.

IRRELEVANT INFORMATION

AI solutions don't have the ability to understand the context or meaning behind a question or a user request. Although highly advanced, the AI relies entirely on the data it's been exposed to and is devoid of independent thought or reasoning, which could lead to irrelevant or even nonsensical responses to queries.

LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Fundamentally, AI solutions are machines or technology programmes that don't have the ability to take responsibility for the responses they generate. This could lead to confusion or misunderstandings in certain cases if the answers are taken as given. For instance, image-generative AIs can lead to output clearly derived from other peoples' content but without any attribution to the original source artist's work.

STIFLING CREATIVITY

One of the potential risks of children and young people continually using AI solutions for things (such as their homework) is that eventually, they might become reliant on it. In the long term, this could potentially impact their development and hamper their ability to think creatively or solve problems independently without the aid of an AI tool.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If possible, try to be around when your child uses any type of AI solution and employ content filters to try and reduce the chance of profanity or age-inappropriate subjects appearing in responses. As with any kind of technology, it's important to ensure that children are using AI solutions responsibly and to be there to enable opportunities to discuss their use as part of a safe environment.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Explain to your child that AI solutions can be used as one of many tools to help them research and learn, but that they shouldn't simply accept the responses they receive as the truth. Encourage them to question, verify and think critically about the information they get back – all of which apply equally to any website or platform they use.

DISCUSS BIAS

Talk to your child about the potential biases that may be present in the data that AI solutions are trained on, and how these viewpoints might find their way into the responses that AI generates. Again, with many things children might read online, it's healthy for them to consider whether the information is factual and presented fairly.

ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION

Not only should children supplement any use of software like AI with additional resources such as books and reputable internet sites, but they also should remember what they can learn from interaction with other people. Discussing things with teachers, relatives and friends isn't just an important and often invaluable aspect of learning – it's an essential part of life, too.

CHECK SCHOOL RULES

Make yourself aware of any rules or guidance your child's school might have about the use of AI solutions. Most software is still extremely new, so many schools may not yet have a policy, however, it's important to make sure your child is aware of how to use it appropriately and will be using it for the right reasons.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://openai.com/blog/chatgpt/> | <https://generativeai.net/> | <https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights/mckinsey-explainers/what-is-generative-ai>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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Term Dates and Events

28th June	Whole-school photograph and individual photos
30th June	Official opening of the Sports Pitch with Lady Anne Dodd
3rd—7th July	Houses Theme Week
Wed 5th July	Partial closure for NEU strike action
Thurs 6th July	Y6 Secondary transition day (most schools)
Thurs 6th July	Knottyashtonbury Festival!
Fri 7th July	Partial closure for NEU strike action
Tbc	Nursery Intake evening
Wed 12th July	Reception Intake evening
Fri 14th July	Y6 Leavers' Evening : play and awards
Wed 19th July	End of Term

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Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

<https://sway.office.com/yaQ6W3itHm4L9gTU?ref=Link>

you will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here:

<https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/family-information-and-support/>

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Easter break, all of which are free and include a meal:

<https://merseyplay.com/easter-haf-holiday-activities-food/>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

<https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community>

There's also a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

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Help and Advice

For a range of local services - info@localsolutions.org.uk

Parenting

Solihull Free Online Parenting Courses are now available on a mobile app. Go to the website: <https://inourplace.co.uk/> and enter the access code PURPLEBIN to register for any of the FREE parenting programmes Or download the Free app and do a course on your mobile device at your own pace.

Early Communications—a language enrichment group (Wednesday mornings) for 2-3 year-olds at Stoneycroft Children's Centre. www.stoneycroftchildrenscentre.co.uk/

The Drive is a local community centre offering a range of activities for family members, old and young. They also run weekly food clubs and provide breakfast/lunch to families during school holidays. <https://www.the-drive.org/home>

Domestic Abuse

For support around domestic abuse - <https://worstkeptsecret.org.uk/>

If you are worried about anything affecting your own or your children's safety or wellbeing, please get in touch in confidence and we'll be able to signpost you to support.

For more advice and support, follow us on Twitter @Knotty_Families

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