

Whitchurch Weekly



18th July
2025
Issue 39

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Whitchurch Families,

As we reach the end of the Summer term, I want to take a moment to thank you all for the warm welcome and support you have shown me throughout my first year at Whitchurch Primary School. It has been a truly rewarding year, filled with memorable moments, strong community spirit and a shared commitment to providing the very best for our children.



This term has been especially vibrant, with a wide range of events and activities that have showcased the enthusiasm, creativity, and talent of our pupils. Sports Day was a wonderful celebration of teamwork and perseverance, and it was lovely to see so many families cheering on our young athletes. The Summer Fair brought the whole school community together, and we are so grateful to the Friends of Whitchurch for organising such a great event. Our Summer Music Concert was a highlight for me personally, as I had the pleasure of performing alongside our talented pupils in the orchestra.

Pupils across the school have enjoyed a rich variety of visits that brought learning to life. Reception had an exciting day at Hertfordshire Zoo, Nursery explored Woodside Animal Farm and Year 1 discovered the wonders of the ocean at the London Aquarium. Meanwhile, Year 2 enjoyed a scenic and educational river cruise, Year 3 stepped back in time at the Verulamium Museum and Year 4 experienced adventure and independence at Woodrow High House. These trips are such an important part of our curriculum, creating lasting memories and deepening children's understanding of the world around them.





We were also proud to mark the grand opening of the Whitchurch Woodland with a special visit from the Mayor of Harrow. This beautiful outdoor space will offer many opportunities for exploration, play, and environmental learning. Starting next year, all pupils will take part in Forest School sessions, making full use of this natural setting to build confidence, curiosity and a love of the outdoors.

A special mention must go to our wonderful Year 6 pupils, who brought the house down with their lively production of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'. Their celebrations and achievements have been truly heart-warming, and we wish them all the best as they move on to their next exciting chapter.



I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all the dedicated staff members across the school for all their hard work over the year. For those staff who will be leaving us at the end of this term, we are incredibly grateful for all they have contributed to Whitchurch and the positive impact they have had on our school community. We wish them every success and happiness in their future endeavours.

My sincere thanks go to the parent representatives who attended our recent coffee morning. Your thoughtful feedback, questions, and ongoing support are appreciated. We were also pleased to receive such positive responses in our recent parent survey. Your views are incredibly valuable and we are already planning further improvements for the year ahead based on your suggestions.

Looking forward, we are excited to launch our OPAL playground scheme next year, which will transform playtimes into more active, inclusive, and imaginative experiences. If you haven't already, please make sure you are following us on Instagram. This will give you a real insight into what happens across the school over the year.

Follow us on
Instagram:
WhitchurchPS





Thank you once again for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. I wish you all a restful, safe and sunny Summer holiday, and I look forward to welcoming you back in September for another exciting year ahead at Whitchurch.

Ms Rachel Inniss
Headteacher

**Last day
of term
Tues 22nd July
(2pm finish)**

**Children
back to school
Tuesday 2nd
September
(gates open
8.40am)**



This morning we had a special visit from MP Bob Blackman, who came to see the school and the work we have done on developing our own Woodland and sustainability!

Music Achievements



Music Achievements

We are thrilled to share that Anika and Nkurika in Year 6 successfully auditioned and secured places in the Youth Opera Programmes of the Royal Ballet and Opera. Anika has been performing this year with the children's chorus in the Royal Opera production of Carmen, and Nkiruka will begin her training in September, which will also give her the opportunity to perform in Royal Opera productions.

Aarna, in Year 3, has also been offered a place in the ROB Young Voices Programme. Her training will start next term, allowing her to perform at events at the Royal Opera House and begin building a foundation to progress into the older ensemble.

Aaron, in Year 6, has also been successful in his recent audition for a place on the Full Programme of the Guildhall Young Artists at the Centre for Young Musicians. He will be studying piano and participating in choir and ensemble playing, as well as attending concerts, aural classes, workshops, and performances by visiting artists. Many congratulations to our young musicians on these exceptional musical achievements!



Music Achievements



Recorder Festival

At the final HMS festival of the year, Whitchurch was once again represented - this time by our recorder players - alongside the Baroque 'Orchestra of The Age of Enlightenment' and six other Harrow schools. Well done to Reeva and Karishma in Year 5, who rehearsed throughout the day and performed beautifully in front of a large audience of parents at the end of the day.

Instrumental Exams

We are very proud of this term's music exam results - *these can be viewed on the next page* - and another fantastic term of music-making, including the performance of the Percussion Ensemble and the solo performances by Emily (saxophone), Mila (flute), Reyansh (guitar) and Aaron (piano), which they have been preparing for the upcoming Year 6 Leavers' Assembly.

Well done to our young musicians, and best of luck to all our Year 6 leavers - keep practising and make the most of every music opportunity at your secondary schools!

With many more pupils committed to their musical learning and showing promising potential, the ceiling will no doubt be raised yet again next year!

Mrs Leutfeld
Director of Music



Music Achievements

Instrumental Exam Results



Singing Nkurika 6CM - Grade 3 with Merit;
Mila 6CM - Grade 3 with Merit; Anika 6HA - Grade 3

Clarinet Ayesha 5RC - Grade 1 with Distinction;
Kian 5SC - Grade 1 with Merit; Alexis 5SC - Grade 1 with Merit

Saxophone Emily 6HH - Grade 5 with Merit; Saavir 6HH - Grade 5

Trumpet Martha 6HH - Grade 1

Flute Anahi Lily 5TG - Grade 1 with Merit;
Ella 5RC - Grade 2 Merit; Mila 6CM - Grade 4 Distinction

Violin Jia 4XL - Grade 2 with Merit; Summer 4XL - Grade 1 with Merit;
Siyana 4BS - Grade 1 with Merit; Maya 4BS - Grade 1 with Merit;
Ava 4ND - Grade 1 with Merit

Guitar Reyansh 6HA - Grade 4 with Merit; Yashvir 6ET - Grade 2 with Merit;
Anaiya 6CM - Grade 1 with Merit; Param 6CM - Grade 2 with Pass;
Elliott 5TG - Grade 1 with Distinction; Kian 5TG - Grade 1 with Merit;
Mia 5TG - Grade 1 with Pass; Alexander 5SK - Grade 1 with Merit;
Ziyan 4BS - Grade 1 with Distinction; Kiaan 4PC - Grade 1 with Merit

Piano Kahini 6HH - Grade 6 with Pass; Meera 6HA - Grade 4 with Pass;
Saara 6ET - Grade 3 with Distinction; Niah 6HH - Grade 3 with Merit;
Lara 6CM - Grade 3; Preesha 6HA - Grade 1 with Distinction;
Nkurika 6CM - Grade 1 with Merit; Amiya 5RC - Grade 1 with Merit;
Anahi Lily 5TG - Grade 1 with Merit; Reyansh 6HA - Grade 5;
Isai 6HA - Grade 2 Merit

Hindustani Classical Vocal Anahi Lily 5TG - Grade 3 with Merit

Music Theory Reyansh 6HA - Grade 5 with Distinction

Enrichment Highlights



Year 4 visit to Woodrow High House

Year 4 spent the day at Woodrow High House in Buckinghamshire. The children embraced a variety of activities included a scavenger hunt, multiple challenge courses and pioneering. They had a wonderful time working towards improving communication and problem solving skills as well as their resilience and independence. It was the best trip so far and they cannot wait to return!

Mrs Solanki



Enrichment Highlights



Sports Day

All children have now taken part in Sports Day - showcasing athletic skills, teamwork spirit and plenty of smiles! From shuttle runs and egg-and-spoon races to relays and obstacle courses, every child gave their best effort and cheered each other on throughout these mornings. Thank you to everyone who came along to support and encourage the children. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying the sunshine and celebrating the importance of staying active and having fun!

Miss Wong



Reception visit to Hertfordshire Zoo

Reception visited Hertfordshire Zoo to bring their learning about animals to life. The children saw a variety of animals including lions, monkeys, zebras, meerkats and tigers. They especially enjoyed watching the penguins being fed and learning about how different animals live in the wild. Children also the chance to explore dinosaurs and the play area!

Mrs Patel



Enrichment Highlights



Year 1 visit to the SeaLife London Aquarium

Year 1 visited SeaLife London Aquarium this week as part of their 'Plastic is not Fantastic!' topic. They saw a variety of sea life from different parts of the world including the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans. The highlight of their trip was seeing the sting rays swimming gracefully and the large Tiger shark with rows and rows of teeth! It was delightful watching the penguins swim and dive into their mini pool!

Mrs Ahmed



Year 6 Production - Pirates of the Curry Bean

Year 6 wowed us all with their hilarious and high-energy performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean.' Pupils immersed themselves with acting, singing and dancing, as well as designing and creating their own costumes and props, with enthusiasm and talent. Their hard work, creativity and teamwork made for an unforgettable production - we couldn't be prouder!

Miss Hogberg



General Notices and Highlights



Book Fair Sales

Thank you to everyone who purchased books at the Scholastic Book Fair during Parents' Evening. With your support we made £911 from the sale of books, giving us a reward/value of **£455** to spend on books for the school!

Class Parties

A reminder that class parties will take place on Monday afternoon. Children should bring their contributions of food and other items requested to school with them on Monday morning. Thank you for your support.

Non-Uniform Day and Toy Day

- **Monday** will be a **non-uniform day for Years 1 to 5**.
Year 6 should wear school uniform as they have their leavers' assembly in the afternoon (they will be able to wear non-uniform for their party in the evening).
- **Tuesday** will be toy day (no electronic toys please).

Last day
of term
Tues 22nd July
(2pm finish)

Summer Reading Challenge: Fantastic Summer Club

The Fantastic Summer Club is a brand new adventure for children in Harrow **aged 4 to 11!** Explore a world of stories, creativity and imagination this Summer at your local library (Greenhill, Kenton, Pinner, Stanmore, Roxeth or Wealdstone). This event runs until **Saturday 6th September**.

View more
information
here



FoW Summer Fair Survey

We hope you and your family had a fantastic time at the Summer Fair. To help us to make future events even better, please take a few moments to complete our short feedback survey **by Tuesday**.



Complete
survey here

Recommended Reading



Whitchurch Recommended Reading List

At Whitchurch, we are committed to nurturing a love of reading. From September, each year group will have a Whitchurch Recommended Reading List which consists of a selection of high-quality books that children can enjoy in class, take home and celebrate reading through fun activities and certificates.

To help bring this to life, we have created Amazon Wish Lists for each year group (from Early Years through to Year 6). If you are able to support, we would be incredibly grateful for any book donations, either via the links below or by purchasing the same titles from elsewhere. Books purchased elsewhere can be dropped off at the school office or brought into school with your child.

We are already so grateful for the generous donations we have received! Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. Your support is helping us create fantastic reading spaces and inspire a lifelong love of reading across Whitchurch.

Early
Years

Year 1

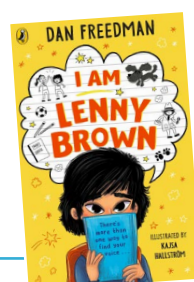
Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6



Summer Reading - First News

Whitchurch children have free access to First News until 5th September. To take advantage of this offer, please register for a digital subscription via the link.

Subscribe
here

Dates for your Diary

Summer 2



Monday 21st July

Non-Uniform Day (Years 1 to 5) and Class Parties
Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (2pm-3pm)
Year 6 Leavers' Party (6pm-8pm)

Tuesday 22nd July

Toy Day (no electronic toys)

Last day
of term
Tues 22nd July
(2pm finish)

2025-26 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

Autumn 1st Tuesday 2nd September to Friday 24th October
Half Term Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October
Autumn 2nd Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December (2pm finish)
Staff Training Days Monday 1st September and Friday 3rd October (no children in school)

Holidays
during term
time are not
permitted

Term dates
can be viewed
on our website -
click here

Spring Term 2026

Spring 1st Tuesday 6th January to Friday 13th February
Half Term Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February
Spring 2nd Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March (2pm finish)
Staff Training Day Monday 5th January (no children in school)



May Day
Bank Holiday
Monday
4th May

Summer Term 2026

Summer 1st Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May
Half Term Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May
Summer 2nd Tuesday 2nd June to Friday 17th July (2pm finish)
Staff Training Days Monday 1st June and Monday 20th July (no children in school)



Spotlight on Physical Education

Year 6
have been
exploring net
and wall
games



Tennis

This half term, Year 6s have been developing their understanding of the principles of tennis. Whilst revisiting the different strokes and serving, they have had to think about how they use their skills, strategies and tactics to outwit their opposition under pressure. The children have been given the opportunity to work co-operatively with others as well as working independently and have learning to lead and officiate showing honesty and fair play whilst abiding by the rules.

Miss Wong

Year 6 views

"I really enjoy the opportunity for mini matches in our PE lessons where we have been learning the skills for tennis: forehand, backhand and to serve." Emily

"Each week we focus on new skills with lots of different activities which I really like." Veer

"We also got to go on a trip to the Elms tennis club where we got to put our skills to the test with different tennis coaches."
Niah and Luca



Whitchurch Star Pupils



Well done to our stars of the week, who have been selected for excellent work and demonstrating our school values

Tigers Imran, Isa N, Khalilah and Denis
Leopards Aleena, Ali, Anita, Ayden, Debora, Ezra, Ivaan, Luca and Saba
Lions Vivaan and lorenzo
Jaguars Whole Class

1RA Aarushi
1SM Whole Class
1PD Maheem and Adnan
1IN Whole Class

2ST Whole Class
2KK June
2DN Whole Class
2SA Whole Class

Respect
 Responsibility
 Resilience
 Honesty
 Generosity
 Aspiration

3NL Keren
3SH Kevin
3LA Sarah
3SM Whole Class

4BS Whole Class
4XL Jayden and Aanya
4PC Whole Class and Sahar
4ND Whole Class

5SK Ankush, Riu, Rose and Alex
5SC Whole Class
5TG Whole Class
5RC Dayan

6HH Whole Class
6ET Whole Class
6HA Whole Class
6CM Whole Class

Attendance Stars

This week's attendance stars are
6HA (99.3%)

Whole School
94.1%

Did You Know?

Forming good habits and routines early on can be crucial to success later in life.

Support for Families

Online Safety



Water Safety

Whether it's sunny days at the beach or fun in the paddling pool, spending time in or around water is a brilliant way for children to stay active and make memories. However, it is vital to understand the dangers and how to keep safe around water - at home, school and further afield.

Please refer to the guide attached to this newsletter for clear, practical tips to help protect children and young people around water - that includes knowing what beach flags mean, avoiding inflatables in open water and learning to 'float and call' in an emergency. With a focus on prevention and supervision, this guide is a must-read for summer safety and beyond.



#WakeUpWednesday

Book activities here

HAF in Harrow

Bookings for the **Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) scheme in Harrow** are now open. There are thousands of free places for school-aged children at participating holiday clubs across the borough. To be eligible, families in receipt of income-related free school meals.



Book
Magna Camps
10 day HAF
places here

Visit
Magna
Camps
website

Canons Park
Summer Fun Fair
Sun 3rd August
11am-6pm
(free entry)

Kenton Rec
Junior Parkrun
Sundays at 9am
- view here

Support for Families



Schools
Counselling
Partnership



How to enjoy a great Summer as a family

The Summer break is quickly approaching! This is a great opportunity to build memories together and to connect with your children. The key is to find the balance between having just enough activity without over-scheduling your days. Also be aware that transitions take time: after a year of built-up stress or tension from school, your child may decompress into a meltdown or a few tantrums before they can fully settle into a new rhythm.

Find some time every day to have some fun with your child: real belly laughs and some safe rough and tumble together are great decompressors. Remember that they will also still need some structure: make sure their day/week has a shape and a routine so that they know what to expect. It is equally as important for children to have some downtime once in a while so that they can practice getting creative with their time: start making a 'boredom buster jar' with ideas of things they can do when they feel bored. Limit technology use to certain times of the day. You could also reflect on the Summer at the end of August by either making a photo album or drawing pictures of your favourite memories in a book?



Reach Out - Schools Counselling Partnership

Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet Tom for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, he is available on **Wednesdays at 9-10am**.

You can call/text Tom on **07799 028 461** or email him at **tom@schoolsounsellingpartnership.co.uk**

Reading Corner

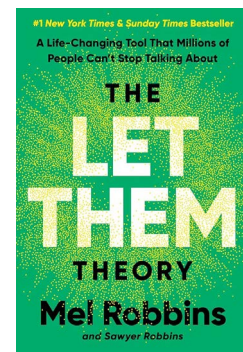
reading for parents
and carers

Our staff
share some of
their favourite
books for parents
and carers to
enjoy



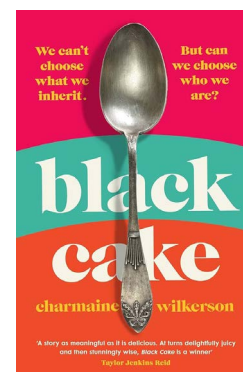
'The Let Them Theory' by Mel Robbins *Ms Inniss*

If you're looking for a quick, powerful read that can shift your mindset, 'The Let Them Theory' is a great read. Her clear, direct style offers a simple but transformative message: let them and let me. The book encourages us to stop wasting energy on things outside of our control and instead focus on the things we can actually change. It's a reminder that calm and confidence often come not from doing more, but from letting go. Whether you're facing challenges at work, in relationships, or within yourself, this short read, I believe, has a surprisingly lasting impact.



'Black Cake' by Charmaine Wilkerson *Miss Francis-Dottin*

As someone of Caribbean heritage, I was immediately drawn to the title - 'Black Cake', which is a staple dessert in many Caribbean households. But this book isn't just about a dessert; it's a powerful symbol of tradition, identity, and the stories we carry through generations. The story follows two siblings who uncover their mother's hidden past through voice recordings she leaves behind. As her secrets unfold - spanning continents, decades, and a dramatic escape from an arranged marriage - we're taken on a powerful journey through love, loss, reinvention, and family legacy. What I especially loved was how the author used the black cake itself - rich, layered, made ahead and passed down - as a beautiful metaphor for memory, migration, and cultural pride. It reminded me of the way food holds stories in Caribbean families, and how traditions connect us to those who came before us.



Reading Corner

reading for parents
and carers

Our staff
share some of
their favourite
books for parents
and carers to
enjoy



'The White Tiger' by Aravind Adiga *Mrs Supeda*

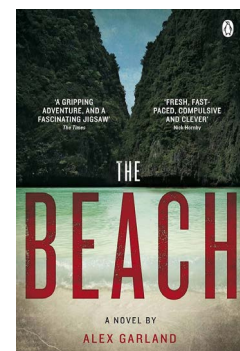
I really enjoyed reading 'The White Tiger.' It's a gripping and thought-provoking story that had me hooked from the start. The main character, Balram, tells his life story in a way that's both funny and shocking. He's clever, bold, and doesn't hold back when talking about the challenges he faced growing up poor in India.



What I liked most was how honest and unique Balram's voice was. He has a dark sense of humor and shares his thoughts in a very direct way, which made the story feel real and raw. His journey from being a poor village boy to a successful businessman is full of twists, and even though some of his choices are questionable, you can't help but understand why he made them. Overall, The White Tiger is a powerful and eye-opening read. It made me think about class, power, and what people do to survive and succeed. I'd definitely recommend it to anyone looking for a book that's both entertaining and meaningful.

'The Beach' by Alex Garland *Mrs Portou*

'The Beach' tells the story of Richard, a young Englishman traveling in Bangkok, who is searching for an authentic experience in a place untouched by tourists. I couldn't put this book down and read it all in one go! I loved the descriptions of when Richard and his friend were swimming through the secret underwater tunnels and I could literally feel myself holding my breath as I was reading! This is a great holiday read!



2025-2026

Class Allocations



Current Class	New Class	Class Teacher
N/A	Nursery	Ms P Szabo
	RLW Jaguars	Miss N Ward / Mrs P Leigh
	RTP Tigers	Mrs T Patel
	RJP Lions	Miss J Patel
	RDW Leopards	Mrs R Dodia / Mrs J Whittingham
RNW Leopards	1TG	Miss T Goldsmith
RLS Lions	1RA	Mrs R Ahmed
RBP Jaguars	1RS	Miss R Syed
RTP Tigers	1KB	Mrs K Bainbridge
1IN	2DN	Ms T Doshi / Ms M Nickson
1SM	2KK	Miss K Karia
1PD	2JJ	Mrs J Jain
1RA	2NT	Ms A Nicholas / Mrs S Tezel*
2DN	3MD	Miss M Daniel
2ST	3MS	Miss M Shameem
2KK	3SA	Mrs S Akhund
2SA	3NN	Miss N Nami
3LA	4HH	Miss H Hogberg
3SM	4XL	Miss X Liu
3NL	4AK	Miss L Aid / Ms S Khan
3SH	4RS	Miss R Samji
4BS	5NL	Miss N Lakhani
4XL	5PS	Mrs P Shah
4ND	5RP	Mrs R Price
4PC	5RC	Miss R Chauhan-D'Souza
5RC	6BS	Mrs B Solanki
5SK	6CM	Mrs C Marin
5TG	6ET	Miss E Thomas
5SC	6ND	Mrs N Darr

* on maternity leave during Autumn term



Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Absences

2024
updates:
what you
need to
know

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for unauthorised absences that occur after 19th August 2024.

5 consecutive days of Term Time Leave

Fines
will be
issued
for:

Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days *(or for fewer days where this has happened before)*.

10 sessions of Unauthorised Absence in a 10 week period

Penalty Notice fines will be considered where there have been 10 sessions of absence in a 10 week period.

Each parent/carer - for each child

Fines
will be
issued
to:

Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent/carer, for each child who was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave will result in each parent/carer receiving 3 separate fines.



First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

***£160 per parent/carer,
per child when paid
within 28 days.***

***(reduced to £80 per
parent/carer, per child
if paid within 21 days)***

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

***£160 per parent/carer,
per child when paid
within 28 days.***

***(no option to pay
at £80 level)***

Third Offence (and any further offences within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued. the case will proceed to the Magistrates' court.

***Magistrate's fines can
be up to £2,500 per
parent/carer, per child.***

Please refer to our Attendance and Punctuality Policy and speak with the school if you are thinking of taking your child out of school during term time. You will need to make a written request to take your child out of school and any leave of absence will need to be agreed by the Headteacher before it is given.

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

STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS

It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.



2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS

When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.



3 STOP AND THINK

Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.



4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE

Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.



5 INFLATABLE SAFETY

Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.



6 SUPERVISION IS KEY

For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.



7 DON'T GO TOO FAR

When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Share advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.



8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED

For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.



9 FLOAT AND CALL 999

If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.



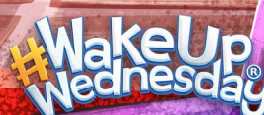
10 TEACH WATER SAFETY

Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.



Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.



The National College®

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@wake.up.weds

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