

11 July 2025

# NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

This week was packed with fantastic achievements and inspiring events! From our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students celebrating their Bronze awards to Year 7 Drew shining at the Kent County Show, it's been a testament to our students' hard work and dedication. Read on for more details and highlights!

## Key Dates:

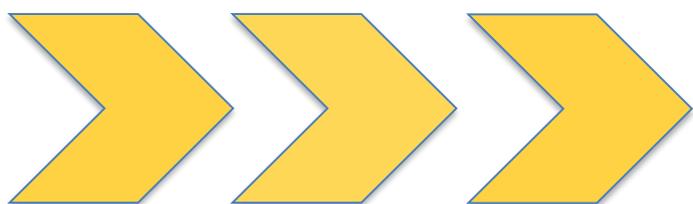
- 18 July 2025- Sports day
- 22 July 2025 - Term 6 Ends and Non-Uniform day. Students finish at 12:45



## Uniform Update

Students can continue to wear their PE kits until **Monday, July 21st**.

On Tuesday, **July 22nd**, students are welcome to wear non-uniform and will be dismissed early at **12:45 PM**



## NEXT WEEK IS WEEK A TIMETABLE



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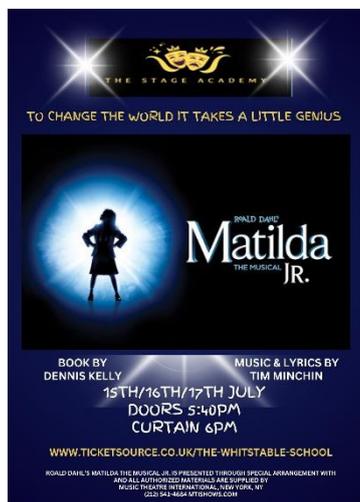
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## UPCOMING EVENTS



### \*\* TWS Matilda the Musical \*\*

Come and support our incredibly talented students in our school's fantastic production of Matilda!

Tickets are now on sale for performances on **July 15th, 16th and 17th**. Doors open at **5:40 PM** each night.

We can't wait to see you there!

Tickets are now on sale via [Ticket source](#)

## SIXTH FORM UPDATE

### \*\* Important Information: Examination Results Collection \*\*

#### A Level and BTEC Results

- **Date:** Thursday, August 14th, 2025
- **Time:** 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
- **Location:** The Stage

**Contact:** Results will be available from Ms. Simons.

#### Support on A Level Results Day

We understand that results days can be an anxious time. To ensure all students receive the support they need, our **UCAS Adviser** and **Careers Adviser** will be available on A Level results day. They will be on hand to provide guidance, support, and advice on:

- University applications
- Clearing
- Future career pathways

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Mrs. Simons, Head of Sixth Form and IB Coordinator**, at [tws\\_sixthform@swale.at](mailto:tws_sixthform@swale.at)



## THIS WEEK SO FAR...

### \*\* TRACK Excellence Raffle Winners Announced! \*\*

Each Wednesday, the school will run a 'TRACK Excellence' raffle with two prizes for students. To enter, students just have to have seven or more positive signatures over the two weeks. Students with negative signatures are still able to participate.

This week's winners are:  
**Oliver and Henry (Year 9)**

We've teamed up with local businesses for amazing rewards.  
This week's prize is vouchers for local café: **Revival**.



Students with their prizes in the TRACK Excellence raffle.

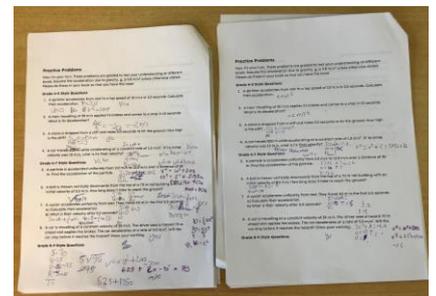
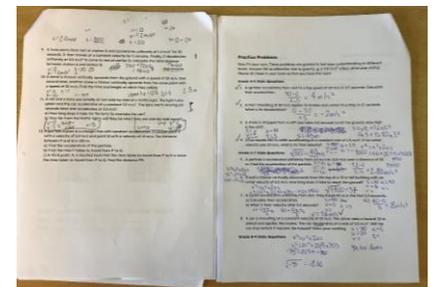


### \*\* Book of Commendation- Celebrating Student Success! \*\*

We are pleased to announce the following students have been recognised for their exceptional work and have been added to the Book of Commendation.

#### Science:

- **Hayden, Gabi, Georgina and Nathan (Year 9)** for their excellent science work.



#### Art:

- **Hary (Year 9)** for beautiful charcoal painting in art.



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## \*\* Class of '25 Prom: A Night to Remember! \*\*

What a fantastic night it was seeing so many of our Year 11s turn up for the **Class of '25 Prom** – everyone looked absolutely fantastic! Despite the very hot weather, it certainly didn't stop staff and students from having an incredible time and dancing the evening away.

The photobooth was a huge hit, creating some brilliant memories for the future. The party truly culminated with everyone on their feet, singing along to "Sweet Caroline."

What an unforgettable night – a truly memorable evening for all!



## \*\* Our Latest Swale Academies Trust Video! \*\*

Experience the excitement of our recent **SwaleSport** Trust event! Check out the video showcasing all the action and fun. A huge well done to every student who attended and a massive thank you to all the staff who worked tirelessly to organize such a fantastic day. It's clear from the video that students had an absolutely fantastic time!

[SwaleSport](#)



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**\*\* Vote for Our Sixth Former Megan in Undiscovered Talent UK! \*\***

Get ready to support our very own Megan from Sixth Form! She's showcasing her amazing talent on Undiscovered Talent UK and voting closes today.

Here's how to vote:

Head over to the [Undiscovered Talent UK Instagram](#) profile:

1. Watch Megan's audition video on their profile.
2. Vote for her on their Instagram story poll!
3. Voting goes live from 8 PM tonight.

Instagram: [megan.does.magic](#)

TikTok: [megan.does.magic07](#)

Let's rally behind Megan and help her shine!  
Good luck, Megan!



**\*\* A Star at the Kent County Show! \*\***

A huge well done to Drew, our brilliant Year 7 student, who absolutely shone at the recent Kent County Show! His hard work and passion for agriculture paid off with an impressive collection of awards.

Drew secured first place in sheep handling and knowledge with his ram, Jeremy, demonstrating exceptional skill and understanding. He also earned second place in the fancy dress competition (dressed as a butcher!) and third place for both confirmation and turnout.

We are incredibly proud of his success and can't wait to see what he achieves next! Well done, Drew!



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**\*\* Year 10 GCSE Food Prep & Nutrition: Italian Culinary Success! \*\***

Our Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition students wrapped up their year with a fantastic 3-hour session, tackling their mock NEA2 project! Based on the theme of Italian cuisine, students independently selected their recipes and meticulously planned their production with impressive dovetailing. The results were a wide variety of successful and delicious dishes, ranging from comforting macaroni cheese and hearty lasagne to delightful panna cotta and tiramisu.

A huge well done to all students who persevered through the increasing temperatures! A special shout-out goes to Tyler R, who demonstrated incredible resilience and didn't give up, even when his cooker broke down halfway through the session. Fantastic effort, everyone!



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**\*\* STEM Day Inspires Swale Academies Trust Students! \*\***

The Whitstable School recently hosted an exciting STEM event, bringing together around **60 Year 7-9 students from across Swale Academies Trust**. The day, part of Engineering UK's Big Bang at Schools programme, featured an inspiring talk from the Manta Trust about marine life and deep-sea exploration, followed by a hands-on **LEGO engineering challenge** where students designed and coded underwater models.

Students loved the day, with many inspired by new career possibilities like marine biology and discovering the fun of engineering, problem-solving, and teamwork. It was a fantastic day for learning and making new friends!

Here's what some of the students had to say about their inspiring day:

- "Today was an amazing day. I've learnt about new careers and I am very inspired to one day think about becoming a Marine Biologist."
- "I have learnt new skills today. I have realised Engineering could be so much fun. I have solved problems and had to work well in a team. Can I come back for the event next year?"
- "I've made new friends today. We are going to stay friends when we go back to school."

It was truly a day of discovery, collaboration and inspiration!



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**\*\* Year 10 & 12 Celebrate Incredible Work Experience Success! \*\***

We are thrilled to announce the outstanding success of our Year 10 and 12 students in their recent work experience placements! An incredible **92% of Year 10** and **84% of Year 12** students successfully completed their chosen placements, diving headfirst into the world of work. Students engaged in a diverse range of activities, gaining invaluable first-hand experience and developing a wealth of transferable employability skills. We've been absolutely blown away by the feedback from employers, who consistently praised our students for being polite, hardworking, punctual and incredibly keen to get involved. A massive well done to all our Year 10 and 12 students – your dedication and professionalism truly shone through!



## YEAR 10&12 WORK EXPERIENCE 2025



**Well done  
to all  
students!**



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## \*\* Team Bronze 2025 Celebration Evening: A Year of Achievement! \*\*

What a fantastic turnout we had for our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh celebration evening! It was truly inspiring to look back at everything our students accomplished throughout the year. Their incredible journey included:

- Two thrilling watersports trips
- An exciting Lazertag team building adventure
- Earning a nationally recognized First Aid qualification
- And, of course, successfully completing their all-important expeditions!



We're incredibly proud to announce that we had the **highest percentage of students complete the Bronze Award within an academic year!** Our Year 9s showed immense **resilience, commitment and perseverance** every step of the way, and they absolutely deserved their well-earned awards.

A special mention goes to 'B', one of our outstanding students, whose volunteering efforts truly made us proud. Here's what a volunteering organization had to say:



*'B made excellent progress toward his goal of helping the community through consistent and reliable volunteering. He took on responsibilities with maturity, showed initiative, and developed greater confidence when working both independently and as part of a team. B's understanding of community needs grew as he engaged with a diverse range of people and tasks. His enthusiasm and willingness to help made a real difference, and he consistently approached volunteering with a thoughtful and positive attitude.'*

Well done to all our Team Bronze 2025 awardees!

## \*\* Summer Reading Adventures! \*\*

Whether you're jetting off for a summer break abroad or enjoying a relaxing staycation, make sure your young person has a couple of fantastic books to keep their brains buzzing! Our library is packed with options, from rom-coms and Manga to thrilling adventures and fascinating non-fiction, ensuring there's something for everyone.

For even more inspiration, check out these great sites offering brilliant reads for the summer months:

- <https://www.readbrightly.com/summer-ya-books/>
- <https://www.waterstones.com/category//childrens-teenage/teen-and-young-adult>



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## NOTICE BOARD

THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB



# Start Your Day Right

Come to the Restaurant from 8:20 - 8:35 everyday  
 Bacon or sausage rolls, croissants, waffles, pain au chocolate and pain au raisin Prices from £1.55  
 Free porridge available to all students everyday



## Would you like to support teenagers with Oral Health?

**An Oral Health Champion is some on who advocates good Dental Health within the setting to share with your colleagues and teenagers**

- You will receive updates and information from the Oral Health Team at Kent Community Health Foundation Trust
- You will have the opportunity to attend **free** webinars with up to date tips and information to support teenagers with topics such as advice on the dangers of high sugar diets and vaping.
- You will be the first to hear what exciting things the Oral Health Team are getting up to



To sign up email  
[kentcft.oralhealthkent@nhs.net](mailto:kentcft.oralhealthkent@nhs.net)




Please visit our resources page for lots of useful tips and information  
[www.kentcft.nhs.uk/happyteeth](http://www.kentcft.nhs.uk/happyteeth)






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](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-ENABLED SCAMS

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**  
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

**PHISHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER**  
Phishing scams – emails designed to trick people into handing over login details or money – are not new, and do not rely on AI; however, AI has made them far more dangerous. Criminals can now generate highly convincing emails at speed, mimicking an organisation's tone, branding and language with ease. This makes phishing attempts harder to spot, especially for young people who may not yet know what to look out for.

**ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD**  
Online marketplaces are now a common way to buy and sell everything, from second-hand clothes to cars. Criminals are exploiting this by using AI to enhance or completely fake product photos and videos, and pressure buyers into paying deposits or full amounts upfront. These tactics are becoming more advanced, making it vital to pause, check, and verify the sale before parting with any money.

**VOICE IMPERSONATION**  
AI can now realistically impersonate a person's voice when given a small sample of someone's speech patterns. This is especially concerning where voice has been enabled as an alternative to password-based logins. One such example was the use of AI deepfake audio as part of a fake kidnapping scam: the criminals used an AI voice clone of a 15-year-old to convince her parents she had been kidnapped and elicit a ransom.

**EMPLOYMENT SCAMS**  
Using AI, criminals can create fake online profiles that seem completely real. These synthetic identities can chat with young people about fake job offers, asking for money to secure a visa or paperwork. In 2025, The Guardian reported a scam targeting young people with promises of quick cash, posing as TikTok staff.

**INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS**  
AI tools now make it easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content using the likeness of celebrities or influencers. Criminals are using this to create convincing videos of well-known figures promoting fake products or services, which young people can be particularly susceptible to. Cryptocurrency scams are a common tactic, luring people into investing in schemes that do not exist. Once payment is made, the criminal simply disappears with the money.

**ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION**  
AI chat bots can now mimic real conversations, often accompanied with realistic fake photos and videos, which makes it easier for criminals to build trust with young people – among other things, this can lead to fraud or sextortion. In 2024, the NCA's CEOP Safety Centre received 380 reports of sextortion. Alarmingly, in the first five months alone, police received an average of 117 monthly reports involving under-18s, showing how serious and targeted this threat has become.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

**THINK CRITICALLY**  
The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically and show caution. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and reading before taking any action. For example, if a social media post expresses urgency, proceed with caution; if content seems unusual, even from a known person, it may be that their account has been hacked.

**USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES**  
Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items; however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their online shopping sites. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated cyber-security safeguards in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traced on their sites.

**SEEK TO VERIFY**  
Criminals may breach an influencer's account or spread misinformation and fake content; however, their approach will generally be limited to a single account, site or service. Where possible, show children how to verify information to check its legitimacy before proceeding. Small actions, such as phoning the person who is the subject of a suspicious email, or checking content via an individual or company website or social media sites can make the difference. The greater the risk, the more effort we should expend to confirm whether the information presented is true or false.

**REPORT IT**  
As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention or acting quickly. It is important that young people know how to report incidents as they happen. Show children how to report their concerns to the social media site, Action Fraud, banks, and other individuals or organisations linked or involved. If you are unsure of the most effective reporting channel, contact Action Fraud.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Futures Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.

#WakeUpWednesday  
The National College

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## REMINDERS

### **\*\* Respecting Accessible Parking Spaces \*\***

We kindly remind all parents and visitors to respect our designated accessible parking spaces. These spaces are reserved for individuals with disabilities who require close proximity to the school entrance.

Please remember:

- **Not all disabilities are visible:** Please remember that many individuals with disabilities may not show outward signs.
- **Permits must be displayed:** If you have a valid permit, please ensure it is clearly visible in your vehicle's windscreen. Some individuals may have valid permits that are not always displayed.
- **Cooperation is key:** We rely on everyone's cooperation to ensure these spaces are available for those who need them.

We understand that parking can be challenging, but we ask that you be considerate of others and refrain from parking in accessible spaces unless you have a valid permit.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in making our school accessible for everyone.

### **\*\* Engines Off \*\***

To help reduce air pollution, noise levels, and respect our neighbour's, please remember to turn off your engine while waiting to drop off or pick up your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

For more updates and events, please visit our website and follow us on X and Facebook.

<https://www.thewhitstableschool.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheWhitstableSchool>

<https://x.com/TheWhitSchool>

Best Wishes

The Whitstable School Team



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