

# NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Issue 3

13 MARCH 2026

## Key term dates

- 27 March 2026 - End of Term 4

## Stay Up to Date

For a full breakdown of daily activities and club timings, please visit our website.

[!\[\]\(17413706fd4997a1a4bdf85c6864eee1\_img.jpg\) TWS School Calendar](#)

[!\[\]\(faf942dc3e59ce8eb64b4ac481eca7e0\_img.jpg\) TWS Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

Note: For detailed weekly event schedules, please refer to the dedicated section later in this newsletter or check the school website.



## CONTACT US

Email: [tw\\_admin@swale.at](mailto:tw_admin@swale.at)

Telephone: 01227 931300

Option 1 - Attendance

Option 2 - Pupil Admissions

Option 4 - Main Reception

To report an absence or other attendance enquiries:

Email: [tw\\_attendance@swale.at](mailto:tw_attendance@swale.at)

Stay informed, follow us for weekly updates, school news and student highlights.



[@TheWhitstableSchool](#)

**NEXT WEEK - B TIMETABLE**

## Events Schedule (Mar 16 – 20, 2026)

DAY	EVENT
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11: GCSE Drama exam 08:40 - 15:10</li> <li>Year 11: Food NEA practical 08:40 - 15:10</li> </ul>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11: Food NEA practical 08:40 - 15:10</li> </ul>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance Show Rehearsal 1 15:10 - 17:00</li> <li>Shakefest 15:10 - 16:30</li> </ul>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y9 Exploring Career/Options Drop Down Day 08:40 - 15:10</li> <li>Dance Show Rehearsal 2 15:10 - 17:00</li> </ul>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thanet Earth Trip 13:00 - 15:30</li> <li>Dance Show 18:00 - 19:00</li> </ul>

### TRACK Winner: Henry (Year 9)

Congratulations to Henry for his outstanding effort this week!

By following our **TRACK values** and earning numerous positive points.

Are **You** on **TRACK?**

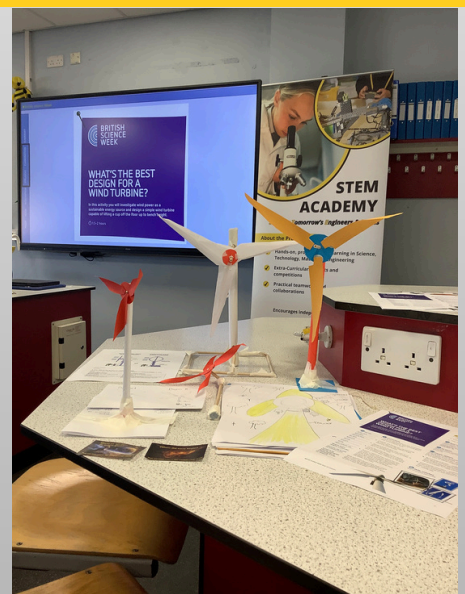


## British Science Week 2026

What an electric Curious Question Week we've had at The Whitstable School! Our corridors were buzzing as students stepped out of the classroom and into the roles of investigators, engineers and philosophers.

### Highlights of the Week:

- **A Culture of Curiosity:** Over 1,000 Curious Question Cards sparked instant debates, while our physical Curiosity Wall and Google Classroom were flooded with deep-thinking submissions.
- **Hands-On Discovery:** From debating AI Intelligence and coding "clean" algorithms to solving "crimes" with Police Forensics, students tackled the heart of modern science.
- **Engineering Excellence:** In the Wind Turbine Challenge, aspiring engineers designed and tested blades for aerodynamic efficiency, proving they are ready to build a sustainable future.



### The Top 3 Curious Questions

Out of hundreds of entries, these three stood out for their incredible depth:

1st Place (Yr 7): "How does the brain produce dreams?"

2nd Place (Yr 8): "Why have we explored space more than our own oceans?"

3rd Place (Yr 9): "How are atoms made?"



We would like to extend a huge thank you to Miss Dash for her incredible hard work in organising this year's British Science Week events.

### Local U15 Rugby Fixture

Our U15 squad continued their fantastic run this week, displaying incredible depth and skills across two thrilling matches. The team's tactical discipline was the highlight of the day; our defensive line remained virtually unbreakable, consistently nullifying the opposition's attack.

Thanks to some lightning-fast work at the breakdown, the turnovers kept coming, allowing the team to maintain control throughout. It was a massive collective effort, brilliantly led by Max and Bruce.

The Results:

TWS 15 – 5 HBH

TWS 10 – 0 Valley

Congratulations to the entire squad on a dominant performance!



**Football Futures**

**WHITSTABLE TOWN** 1885

The Whitstable School

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

**AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP**

### Scholarship Success

Huge congratulations to Alex (Year 13), who has secured a scholarship to play for William Penn University (Iowa) in the NAIA Heart of America Athletic Conference! Joining a top-tier program currently ranked 7th in the nation, Alex's journey is a testament to his incredible development since 2024.

With over 70 goals from midfield for our National League squad and senior experience at Sheppey United, Alex has proven to be an elite talent. We wish him the very best of luck as he takes his game to the States. Go get 'em, Alex!



## Important School Updates & Reminders

### 17 Attendance Rewards

We are proud of our students' commitment to being in school!

Weekly Early Lunch: Every Friday, the year group with the highest morning attendance earns an early lunch break!

Most Improved – Non-Uniform Day: On March 27th, the "Ready to Learn" class in each year group with the most improved attendance since Term 2 will enjoy a non-school uniform day. Keep it up!

### Parking & Student Safety

To ensure the safety of our students and maintain accessibility for all, please do not park in designated disabled spaces or block school parking gates. We kindly ask that parents and carers park further away from the school entrance to keep the area clear and safe for pedestrians.

### Community Respect & Litter

We have received reports of littering and disrespectful behavior toward local residents. The School takes these reports very seriously; any students identified dropping litter, inside or outside of school grounds, will face appropriate sanctions and negative behavior points. We expect all students to represent our school with pride and respect for our neighbours.

### Lost Property

Our lost property cupboard is currently overflowing! If your child is missing any items of uniform or coats, please ask them to check at Reception before the Easter break.

Please Note: After Easter, all unclaimed uniform items will be moved to our pre-loved uniform cupboard and any unclaimed coats will be donated to charity.

### Allergen Awareness

The safety of our students is our top priority. While it is impossible to guarantee a 100% allergen-free environment in a busy school, we strive to be as allergen-aware as possible. We kindly ask for your support by ensuring packed lunches and snacks do not contain:

- Packaged nuts (peanuts, tree nuts, etc.)
- Nut-based bars (cereal, granola or chocolate bars)
- Spreads (Peanut butter or chocolate-hazelnut spreads like Nutella)
- Sauces (Peanut-based sauces like satay)
- Sesame (Seeds, hummus or sesame crackers)

**Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep all our pupils safe.**

## Investing in Excellence: Support The Whitstable School

At The Whitstable School, we are dedicated to providing an outstanding learning environment where every student can thrive. To ensure our pupils have access to the best possible tools for success, we are launching a community investment initiative to modernize our facilities.

Your contributions will focus on three transformative areas:

- **Technology:** Upgrading hardware and software to prepare students for a digital future.
- **Sports:** Enhancing equipment and facilities to promote physical health and teamwork.
- **Literacy:** Expanding our library and classroom resources to foster a lifelong love of reading.

Every donation, regardless of size, directly impacts the daily classroom experience and helps us build a brighter future for our pupils. We sincerely appreciate the generosity of our community.

### How to Donate

If you would like to support our students, please complete and submit our

**TWS Donations Form**  DONATE

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 STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVOD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

**COSTLY**  
Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for 4K-style viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

**EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME**  
Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 10-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

**ILLEGAL STREAMING**  
Sharing passwords or using modified file links to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to log for an additional member or ask the user to verify who they are.

**BINGE WATCHING**  
Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting, with binge watching coming at a cost of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

**AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include content ratings, PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

**HARMFUL STEREOTYPES**  
Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop', whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

**SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS**  
Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles when each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

**TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS**  
Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

**MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN**  
Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay clips or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While scores to shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

**SET TIME RESTRICTIONS**  
Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscriptions such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

Meet Our Expert  
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator, and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government, comparing internet use and texting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

See full reference list on our website

[@wake\\_up\\_weds](#) [/www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.03.2026

## SCHOLARSHIP RECRUITMENT TRIALS

AGES 15-18 · 15.04.26

GIRLS | 10:00 - 11:30AM ·

WHITSTABLE TOWN FC · CT5 4LN

PLAY · TRAIN · STUDY

## SCHOLARSHIP RECRUITMENT TRIALS

AGES 15-18 · 10.04.26

BOYS | 17:30 - 19:00 ·

WHITSTABLE TOWN FC · CT5 4LN

PLAY · TRAIN · STUDY