

NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Issue 4

20 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.

TWS School Calendar

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.

For our new school meals menu, please visit our website:

School Meals



CONTACT US

Email: 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

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



[@TheWhitstableSchool](https://www.facebook.com/TheWhitstableSchool)

NEXT WEEK - A TIMETABLE

Events Schedule (Mar 23 – 27, 2026)

| DAY | EVENT |
|----------------------------|--|
| Monday 23 rd | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 11: Food NEA practical 08:40 - 15:10 • Year 12: UCAS Discovery Fair 09:15 - 18:00 |
| Tuesday 24 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 8: Kew Gardens Trip 07:30 - 18:00 • Sixth Form Geography Trip 08:30 - 16:30 • Year 11: Food NEA practical 08:40 - 15:10 |
| Wednesday 25 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 Rugby Tournament 08:30 -16:00 • Shakefest 15:10 - 16:30 |
| Thursday 26 th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance Fever - The Turing School 08:30 - 18:00 • Year 10&11: WFTP trip County Hall London 10:00 - 18:30 • Stage Academy 15:10 - 16:30 |
| Friday 27 th | End of Term 4 |

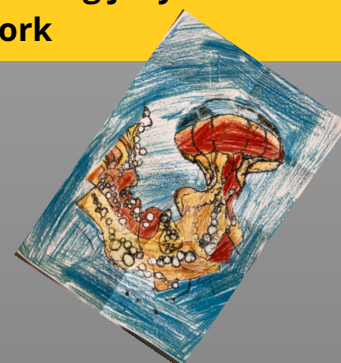
TRACK Winner: Katie (Year 7)

Congratulations to Katie for her outstanding effort this week!
By following our **TRACK values** and earning numerous positive points.

Book of Commendation: This Week's Winners

Year 9

Joseph- for his amazing jelly fish art work



Year 10 Triple Threat!

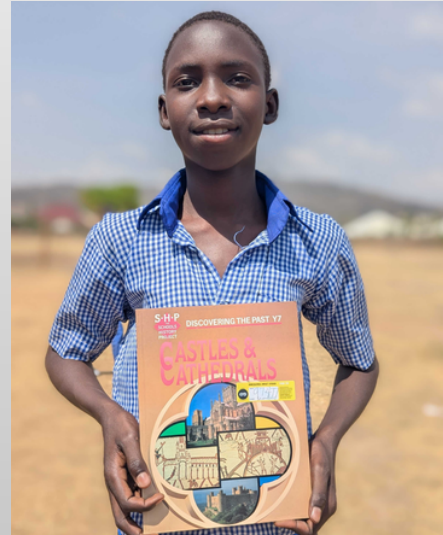
Three cheers for Year 10! For the third week in a row, Year 10 has secured the top spot for attendance, earning themselves an early lunch break today. It is fantastic to see such consistent dedication—can any other year group break their winning streak next week?

As a reminder, every Friday the year group with the highest attendance that morning is rewarded with an early lunch.

From Our Classrooms to the World: Supporting Books2Africa

We are so proud to support the incredible work of Books2Africa!

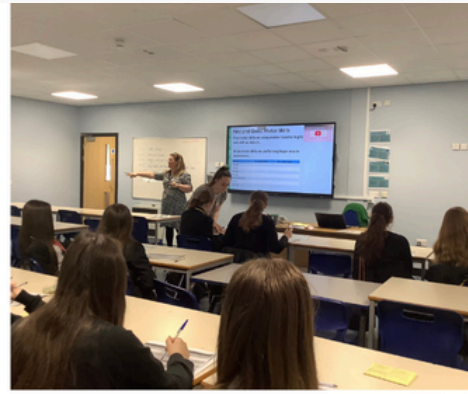
Last year, our History and Maths departments donated their old textbooks, and we are thrilled to share this photo of Vincent Mallo in Nigeria, who just received one of our history books! It's amazing to see our resources find a second life and make a real impact across the globe



Food Preparation & Nutrition

This term, Year 10 students transitioned from theory to practice by exploring the complex world of Food Science. By crafting authentic Tarte Tatins, they successfully demonstrated their mastery of key scientific principles, including caramelisation, enzymic browning and dextrinisation. The final results were technically impressive and tasted as wonderful as they looked!





Year 9 Careers/Options Drop Down Day

Yesterday, our Year 9 students traded their usual timetable for an action-packed Careers/Options Drop-Down Day. As they prepare for their GCSE options, students explored a variety of pathways through sessions on varieties of subjects. The energy was fantastic, with students showing great ambition and curiosity.

Important School Updates & Reminders

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 behaving disrespectfully or 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 

At The National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE TRENDS ENCOURAGING VIOLENCE

7 out of 10 teens report seeing violent content on social media, with over half of that content featuring fights involving young people. Most don't 'seek' it but are shown it through social media feeds or messaging groups. 61% of young people involved in violence have seen violent social media content. Viral trends, challenges, or 'wars' that are spread online risk encouraging violence offline, while real-world incidents may also be recorded and promoted online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ALGORITHMIC EXPOSURE**
Social media platforms are designed to keep users engaged, meaning dramatic or extreme content can spread widely and quickly. Algorithms often recommend content that reflects users' past interactions. As a result, young people may see more violent material if they have viewed, commented on, or shared it before. Repeated exposure can make violent content appear frequently in their feeds without them fully understanding why.
- WEAPONS AND CRIMINAL RISK**
Teens exposed to high levels of real-world violence on social media sometimes report feeling an increased need to carry a weapon for 'self protection'. However, carrying a weapon increases the risk of victimisation (being and being injured by others). In addition, carrying a weapon is a serious offence that can lead to police arrest and criminal records.
- SHARING VIOLENT CONTENT**
Encouraging or assisting an offence is a crime in the UK. Including via social media, and can lead to arrest. This means sharing, forwarding, or reposting violent content carries a risk for young people too. Showing examples of content to a trusted adult is appropriate, but young people should take care not to further spread violent material by posting it online or sharing it within large messaging groups.
- FEAR, ANXIETY, AND MARGINALISATION**
Research shows young people's emotional wellbeing can be negatively impacted by repeated exposure to violent online content, especially when it depicts 'real-world' violence (as opposed to fictional depictions in games or films). Posts featuring weapons, threats, attacks, and fights – or content that appears to glorify gang activity – can increase feelings of anxiety or fear among young people. Material that encourages violence targeting people because of their identity, such as their nationality or religion, can also create disproportionate harm for children belonging to those groups.
- AVOIDANCE AND ISOLATION**
Real-world violence on social media can increase young people's belief that their local communities – or the 'outside world' more generally – are unsafe places. This can result in avoidant and isolating behaviours, which may negatively affect their wellbeing. As well as being fearful of others, teens also report feeling judged for spending time together in large groups, which may affect their social interactions and leisure time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- STAY INFORMED**
Stay alert for updates from police, schools, or local authorities, and follow the advice provided. Be cautious about unofficial accounts, fake content, and misinformation, which can spread quickly online or in chat groups. Ensure you get accurate information from trusted sources and encourage young people to do the same. Remind them never to share violent content online and to speak to a trusted adult instead.
- DISCUSS SOCIAL MEDIA**
Encourage young people to talk about the content they see online and the effect it can have. This can be an opportunity to discuss topics such as misinformation, AI-generated material, the attention economy, and algorithms, helping them understand how and why extreme content can spread online. Report tools available to block, report, and remove harmful content, and signpost where to get support and advice, such as reportharmfulcontent.com.
- TALK CRIME AND SAFETY**
In most of the UK, the age of criminal responsibility is 10 (12 in Scotland). This means there can be serious criminal consequences for carrying a weapon, taking part in violence, or sharing or showing violent content. Discuss the law with young people alongside practical safety strategies. Ask questions such as: "What could you do if you feel unsafe?" Work together on action plans and remind them they can contact a trusted adult or the police if they witness or experience violence.
- ENCOURAGE POSITIVE ACTION**
Focus on strengthening young people's positive experiences both online and within their local communities. Discuss strategies to reduce negative social media effects, such as time limits, unfollowing certain accounts, or taking breaks from apps. Encourage offline activities such as spending time with friends, visiting local places, and taking part in hobbies that bring them joy, purpose, and connection. Remind them they can seek support with any concerns at any time via childline.org.uk.

Meet Our Expert
Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in media law, online safety, and digital rights. Her PhD investigates youth understandings of criminal and legal risks in a digital context. She works in schools to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations of rapidly advancing technologies.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

See full reference list on our website
@wake_up_weds /www.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

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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



SPORTS CONNECT

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND YOUR SESSION


LIMITLESS SPORTS FREE HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

LIMITLESS is a free programme for 10-19 year olds. Designed to give young people a safe, supportive space during school holidays.

SIGN UP NOW

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY -




 **FACE**

April 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
 Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Recordings available for 48 hours

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Understanding Anger | 6 April 10am |
| School Anxiety | 6 April 7pm |
| Facing Defiance | 7 April 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 7 April 7pm |
| Anxiety Explained | 13 April 10am |
| Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness | 13 April 7pm |
| Introduction to OCD | 14 April 10am |
| What is ACT? | 14 April 7pm |
| Decreasing Depression | 20 April 10am |
| Raising Self-Esteem | 20 April 7pm |
| Understanding the Teenage Brain | 21 April 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 21 April 7pm |
| FREE Decreasing Depression | 23 April 7-8pm |
| Improving Family Communication | |
| Autism: Improving Communication | 27 April 10am |
| Supporting a Child with ADHD | 27 April 7pm |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 28 April 10am |
| | 28 April 7pm |