



## ***Barwic Parade Newsletter 21st October 2025***

Happy Half term.

What a busy and exciting half term it has been at Barwic Parade! The weeks have flown by, and our school community has enjoyed so many wonderful events and experiences together. From the fun-filled **OPAL BBQ** and our inspiring **Healthy Me Day**, to a range of **sporting events** and competitions, there has been so much to celebrate and be proud of.

As we round off the half term, everyone is looking forward to ending on a high note with our **school disco tonight** — a fantastic way to celebrate all the hard work, achievements and positive attitudes our children have shown.

We'd like to say a huge **thank you to all our families** for your continued support, encouragement, and involvement in school life. It really makes such a difference.

We wish you all a **wonderful, restful half term break** — enjoy the time together, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another great half term ahead!

Welcome to our new staff.



1 - Erica is our ECO Team Leader - Erica organises the team and makes sure they have all the equipment they need, she gets them ready and ensures that they are safe at all times.



2 - Corben, Thomas and Alice make up our ECO Team. The team work Monday, Wednesday and Friday, keeping our Playground and field clean and tidy. They have filled over 3 bin bags already!



3 - Luna, Yousra, Sophie and Kyle work one week on and one week off. Their job is to support the EYFS lunchtimes, making sure that our youngest children have fun and learn how to play with others by sharing and being safe.



4 - Our Lunchtime support workers also work one week on and one week off. They work in 2 teams. Team A is lead by Katie who line manages Penelope and Frankie and Team B is lead by Charlotte who manages Kim and Chloe. They are doing a fab job of making our lunchtimes run smoothly.



5 - The OPAL team is Evie, Rose, Aubree, Issac, Parker and Tillie. They love helping others and making playtime fun.



6 - Eshtefaa, Esme, Ada and Mia are all part of the Lost property team, making sure that all the jumpers and coats get back to their owners. (if they have the name in them).

## Healthy Me day

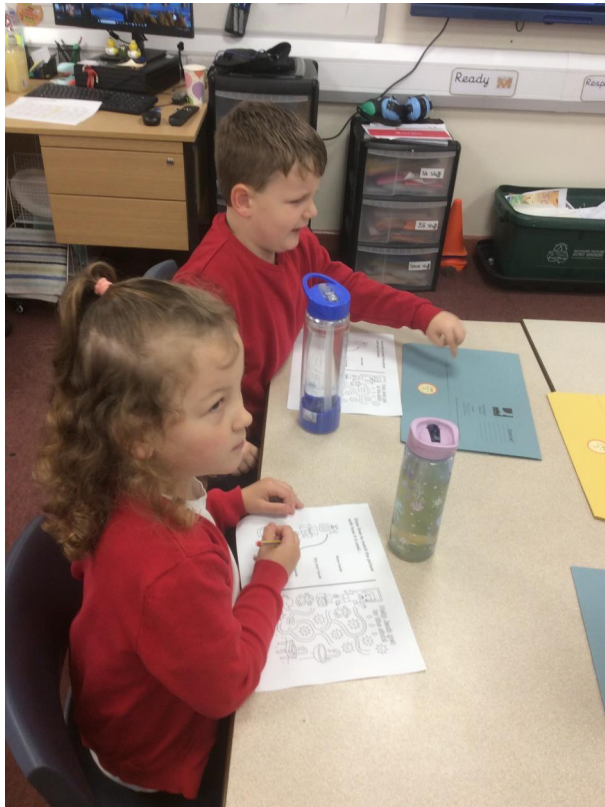






























Last week, we were thrilled to host our **Healthy Me Day** — a fantastic celebration of health, wellbeing, and community spirit.

The event brought together a range of local organisations, all working in partnership to support our children and families. Together, we explored how to make positive choices that lead to healthier, happier lives and learned more about the local services available to families.

Throughout the day, pupils enjoyed a variety of **hands-on activities** designed to help them understand how to look after their minds and bodies. They investigated how the heart works, learned how to spot hidden sugars in food, and discovered the importance of portion sizes. With support from **Phunky Foods**, they even made their own *healthy pot noodles* — which were a huge hit!

Physical wellbeing was a big focus too, with children taking part in **judo, netball, and rugby** sessions that built confidence, teamwork, and fitness. And for an unforgettable experience, pupils got the chance to get up close with **scorpions, tarantulas, and snakes** — sparking curiosity and a sense of adventure!

Healthy Me Day was a wonderful reminder of what can be achieved when **schools, families, and community partners work together**. We are so grateful to everyone who supported the event and helped make it such a success.

It was a day filled with **learning, laughter, and new experiences** — and a perfect example of how we can all work together to help children and families lead healthy, happy lives.

## Dates for your diary

Date	Item
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	9.30am – Neurodiversity café at school Young voices club – 3.30-4.30pm
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Book Fair arrives in school
6 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am – Barwic Babies – every 2 weeks on a Thursday
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents evening
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents evening
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu vaccinations in school
19 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes at 2.30pm for Christmas Holiday

## Parent Governor Vacancies - Barwic Parade Needs you!



We currently have vacancies for Parent Governors on our school governing board and would love to hear from parents who are interested in making a real difference to the life of the school. As a Parent Governor, you'll play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the school, supporting and challenging leadership, and ensuring all children have the best opportunities to succeed. You don't need to be an expert in education – just passionate about helping our school thrive. It's a rewarding opportunity to contribute your voice, develop new skills, and help make decisions that benefit every child in our school community. If you're keen to get involved, we'd love to hear from you!

What parents need to know about group chats

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are one of the most popular ways that children connect. Group chats allow messages, images and videos to be shared in one place and help friendships flourish; however, they also come with a number of risks.

### TEASING AND BULLYING

Children of all ages are keen to fit in socially, and group chats can sometimes complicate that process. While group chats can foster connection, they can also give way to mean comments or jokes at someone's expense, especially when others join in for laughs. When bullying happens publicly, in front of friends and classmates, it can intensify the emotional impact – adding to embarrassment, anxiety and feelings of isolation for the child being targeted.

### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Children often can't control who is added to a group, which can lead to privacy concerns. Sharing personal details in group chats can be dangerous, and children have no control over what others do with the material they send. Some members of the chat might even decide to use such information maliciously.

### PEER PRESSURE

Children may feel they have to constantly stay engaged just to be included and keep up with the conversation. In some cases, they might partake in inappropriate behaviours – like sharing explicit photos, jokes or teasing – just to fit in. Group settings can also encourage children to act in ways they normally wouldn't, or stay silent when they know something is wrong, out of fear of being excluded. Some children may find it difficult to leave toxic group chats.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some group chats may include inappropriate language or imagery. Even if a child isn't actively participating in the conversation, they may still be exposed to this content simply by being part of the group. Some apps have disappearing messaging features, where content is only available once or for a few seconds, which makes it harder for children to report something they've seen.

### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

Exclusion in group chats is common and can take several forms. Sometimes a new group is created specifically to leave one child out on purpose. In other cases, the chat may happen on an app that a child doesn't have access to, making it impossible for them to join in. This can cause feelings of being left out – even unintentionally.

### VIDEO AND LIVE CHATS

Many popular apps allow children to engage in live streaming with interactive chats or have group video chats. Anyone can be added to these streams, and often children tag peers in the comments and have conversations which are unmoderated. There's a risk of being exposed to inappropriate or violent content and offensive language, either in the group videos or via the group chats.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for children to compete for social status. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave unkindly. If a child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### SET SOME GROUP CHAT RULES

Discuss safe group chat practices, such as asking a peer for consent before adding them to a group chat, or leaving a group chat if a stranger is added. Tell children that if they're added to a group they didn't agree to beforehand, it's OK for them to leave immediately.

### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child encounters inappropriate content or feels uncomfortable in a group chat, encourage them to block and report the sender and leave the group. Make sure children know it's OK to leave a group chat if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

### SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being bullied.

### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

It's vital for children to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure they understand the importance of not revealing personal details – like their address, their school, or photos they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up or how it might be used.

### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Being bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of a group chat while disabling notifications. In fact, it would be healthier for them to do so, helping them avoid the pressure to respond immediately.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government, comparing the internet use and online behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

## Holiday activities



**Halloween special  
Inspire Youth  
Mobile Youth Club**

Find us in SELBY, 30th October 2025,  
11.30–2pm @ Barwic Parade, YO8 8DL  
3–5pm @ Selby Leisure Centre, YO8 4BL

Join us for Halloween themed activities, alongside information, support, a safe space, positive activities, (and much more!) for young people provided by qualified youth workers

All welcome aged 8–14 years free to attend

Refreshments included for all attending, see you there!

**NO BOOKING NEEDED – JUST TURN UP**

**SAFE SPACES**

**INSPIRE YOUTH YORKSHIRE**

For more information contact  
info@inspireyouth.uk  
07547 287892

www.inspireyouth.uk

The poster features a warm, orange-toned background with decorative autumn leaves and two smiling jack-o'-lanterns. It includes two photographs: one showing the interior of a mobile youth club van with people sitting at tables, and another showing the exterior of the van with the 'INSPIRE YOUTH' logo. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are also present.