

EAST HUNSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

28th February 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

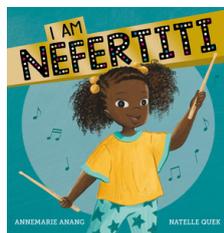
Dear Families

Welcome Back! Spring 2... here we are! We have had a shorter teaching week as we started with a training day but, as usual, we came back to school with a whole school, welcome back assembly. Have you spotted any snowdrops recently? We often talk about snowdrops in our assemblies and about how they are a symbol of hope, resilience and a sign spring is on its way!

Assembly

In our Welcome Back Assembly, led this time by Mrs Fenton, the children revisited the British value of tolerance and learned about the Unicef celebration, Mother Language Day - a celebration of the many wonderful languages spoken worldwide.

KS1 and KS2 particularly enjoyed the story I am Nefertiti by Anne Anang, which explores personal identity and the importance of heritage and culture. Seeing the children back in school after the break was so lovely.



Mobile Phone and Online Behaviours

Hopefully, you will have seen my email earlier this week about checking your children's mobile phones and online behaviours. Sadly, we are seeing an increasing amount of unkind online behaviours between children outside of school hours. This is then upsetting children greatly and coming into school.

Please, if your child has a phone or device that can get online, talk to them about kind and responsible behaviours. Check you have set the right parental controls and check what they are sending, watching and doing.

Whilst we will do everything we can to educate your child about online safety and kindness, we cannot monitor their phones or devices.

Each week in the newsletter and via Dojo we send out helpful advice to families about online usage and if you want any more support or information, please contact your child's class teacher, our e-safety lead Mrs Lampard or our Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Lucy Boswell.



Safer Internet Day

In the final week of last half term, we had our annual Safer Internet Day. The children took part in lots of activities where they learnt about how to stay safe on the internet. Each week, we publish guidance to families on things like setting parental controls on devices or the dangers of the latest games to come out. Please make note of these and if you ever want any support or advice with internet safety, speak to our e-safety lead: Carol Lampard.

Supporting your child at home

We often get asked, 'What more can I do to support my child?' Our top tips are:

- Regularly, read to and with your child– everyday is ideal, share stories and books! Make it fun.
- Learn your KiRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts) including times-tables and number bonds. These numerical foundations really support your child's development.
- Eat well
- Get lots of sleep.

If you need any support with these suggestions, please contact your child's class teacher or members of our pastoral team.

Do you want to be a Governor?

We are looking to elect a parent governor. Please [click here](#) for a nomination form and refer to the [letter](#) which was emailed on 24th February. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact me via [email](#). All nominations must be in by 9am on 10th March 2025.

World Book Day (WBD) – 8th March

Like in previous years, we are not dressing up for World Book Day; however, we are doing LOTS to celebrate books and reading. Before half term your child came home with a WBD token which they are able to use in all participating retailers. Please keep an eye on your Class Dojo about what your child's class will be up to on World Book Day 2025!

Coming up...there's lots to look forward to this term like:

World Book Day, our legendary House Pancake Event, Parents' Evenings and neuro diversity week. We are proud of the diversity and enrichment opportunities that we provide our young people but if you ever have any suggestions for improvements, we would love to hear them.

Have a lovely weekend – I saw this and thought of our value of Be Kind...

Ms Pennington



EHPS HOUSE POINTS TOTALISER

	Whittlewood	Harlestone	Everdon	Salcey
This week	175	145	198	134
Grand total	3444	3037	3396	3139

Warm Winter Coat



Is your child is in receipt of benefits-related Free School Meals? If so, you may be eligible for a £30 voucher from West Northants Council towards the purchase of a new coat. Applications will remain open until 28th February 2025 or until all available funding has been exhausted.

[Click here](#) for more information and to apply



NOMINATIONS FOR PARENT GOVERNOR

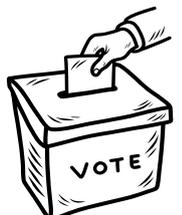


If you are aware of any parent who has not received [the letter](#) regarding nominations for parent governor and would like a copy, please ask them to contact the school office.

If we are required to conduct a ballot, voting information will be sent via email. If you are aware of any parent who has not provided us with an email address and would like to receive the candidates personal statements and a ballot paper, please ask them to contact the school office to update their details.

office@easthunsburyprimary.org or 01604 677970

If you would like to stand for election as a parent governor, please complete the [Nomination Form / Declaration of Eligibility Form](#) by 9am on Monday 10th March.





Northamptonshire County Championships 2025

Milly (Yr 6) has been competing in county level swimming competitions and achieved some fabulous results.

Unlike some county level events in other sports, swimming includes all levels - from young whippersnappers like Milly, through to GB qualifiers and Paralympians... so don't be fooled by the fact this was 'county'. This also took place over four weekends.

Milly's first year at the top of her age group (10/11) saw her storm away as County Champion in 9 individual events and 3 relays with her club teammates. Most of her medals are in freestyle and fly (and longer distances)!

50m Back 3rd 41.37	200m Free 1st 2:48.40
100m Back 1st 1:25.23	400m Free 1st 5:36.37
200m Back 1st 3:00.55	100m Fly 1:28.74
50m Free 1st 34.80	200m Fly 1st 3:20.60
100m Free 1st 1:15.87	200 IM 1st 3:03.84

Milly trains and competes with Northampton Swimming Club six times a week and works really hard every session. She has now qualified for the East Midlands Regional competition later in the year, and hopes to get more times building towards this.

Well done Milly. You really are living our school values:



**CHECK
OUT
NOW!**

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MAR/APR 2025
EAST HUNSBURY Life
Magazine
BROUGHT TO YOU BY EAST HUNSBURY PARISH COUNCIL



MASCOT EXPERIENCE
AGE 6 - 13 PRICES FROM: £120

Along with the incredible moment of treading the turf before thousands of spectators ahead of a big match alongside the Men in Black, Green and Gold, matchday mascots also receive:

<p>WHAT IS INCLUDED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stadium Tour Food Voucher Jersey signed by Captain Name In programme Run out with playing squad Photos Name announced Pre-Match 	<p>MORE INFORMATION</p> <p>Once you have purchased your package, you will be contacted via e-mail with your match tickets, with more information also provided about the Mascot Experience and the behind-the-scenes stadium tour on your selected matchday.</p>
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For more information please contact
COMMUNITY@NORTHAMPTONSAINTS.CO.UK

* All mascot package purchases are subject to a £1.50 booking fee.

Who's been brilliant this week?

You Are Brilliant!

WB 24/2/25

Year 3 for their brilliant class assembly! Very proud. and Purple class.



Milly (Yr6) for her success in county swimming events

Theodore, Marcus, Naya & Amari - Reception & blue class musical 

Jane N for working with Avon volunteers to improve our wildlife garden over the holiday. 

Year 1 musical stars:-  Swabi, Reid, Conall & Amalia 



Year 2 musical stars:-  Esmi, Hannah A, Jesse & Viraj 



Be Kind. Work Hard. Believe.

Please do not let your children/toddlers play on the Forest School equipment or the all weather pitch before or after school.



Attendance News

Whole school average attendance this week was

95.54%

We are aiming to be at **96% + every week.**

	Weekly Attendance	Year Group	Weekly Attendance
Reception	95.56%	1	96.92%
2	95.38%	3	96.42%
4	96.36%	5	96.60%
6	93.05%		



How to report your child's absence

Call: 01604 677971 Email: absence@easthunsburyprimary.org

Walk in Wednesday dates

12.03.25	Walk in Wednesday 4 - Easter Crafts	08:30-9:00	Classroom
07.05.25	Walk in Wednesday 5 - Reading	08:30-9:00	Classroom
18.06.25	Walk in Wednesday 6 - Science	08:30-9:00	Classroom

BE KIND

WORK HARD

BELIEVE

#weareEastHunsburyPrimarySchool #wearebrilliant



E-Safety & Wellbeing



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients - not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- EVOLVING SCAMS**
WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious emergency or a paid-to-act scenario where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then posing as the WhatsApp call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.
- CONTACT FROM STRANGERS**
To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that a child might be added to a group chat or community by one of their friends, for example, containing other people they don't know.
- FAKE NEWS**
WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly - whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "forwarded many times" label and a double check icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from original - and might not be entirely factual, either.
- CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES**
In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate "locked" chats folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature - "Secret Code" - where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.
- VIEW ONCE CONTENT**
The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't screenshot them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content - but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.
- VISIBLE LOCATION**
WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location - potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they take regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- EMPHASISE CAUTION**
Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution, get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.
- ADJUST THE SETTINGS**
It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use live location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only so long as they need - and then turn it off.
- CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY**
Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've shared in there, why they're taking it, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send only view-once content, it could be helpful to ask them why they're sending it.
- DISCUSS GROUP CHATS**
Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave if good impressions, to be an appropriate observer. Make sure they know that if a DM to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable - or for any reason, in fact.
- THINK BEFORE SHARING**
Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy - and all too common - for content that user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

What are the risks?

- 1 Contact from strangers
- 2 Fake News
- 3 Visible Location
- 4 Scams

[Click here for more information](#)

Advice for Parents

- 1 Follow ESRB ratings
- 2 Monitor or turn off chat
- 3 Familiarise yourself
- 4 Disconnect payment options

[Click here for more information](#)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MARVEL RIVALS

Marvel Rivals launched in December 2024 and amassed a player count of nearly 150,000 in mere weeks. This player versus player (PvP) shooter packs in a host of recognisable comic-book characters, pitting two teams of six against each other. Despite the game's cartoonish nature, there are several potential risks for parents and educators to be aware of.

AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- IN-GAME CHAT**
Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unhelpful. Text chat is equally possible, either on the PC or on the console. Both are visible on the PC and can be stored on the side of the console. Moderation on chat is relatively weak. It's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.
- IN-GAME PURCHASES**
While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognizable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a 170 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire - but they can't be purchased until the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.
- CONTACT WITH STRANGERS**
With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict when your child will be meeting up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to see other gamers through voice and text chat. For starters, most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players - either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.
- VIOLENT CONTENT**
There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish - but the playable characters and storylines between them (traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Iron Man and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms than the game's heroes are allowed). They may make some parents and carers uncomfortable, and some players will be bring these aspects to each other.
- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
The game includes some in-world and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age. As an in-game purchase, it's not possible to buy the game without also buying in-game purchases, ranging from cosmetic items to potentially harmful content.
- FAMILIAR CHARACTERS**
The inclusion of such a host of characters might make several players feel more comfortable than other games in the genre, with recognizable heroes and villains. The Spider-Man and Iron Man characters could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS**
The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 12. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral messages of the order of characters (Gandhi and Jesus are both the Goodness of Death, for example), while also enjoying the violence.
- MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT**
Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play in-game, make sure they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.
- FAMILIARISE YOURSELF**
The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the game is about. Since it's free, considering trying it out for yourself to see how you feel about it as a child playing it. Alternatively, you could try teaming up with the parent of a friend to play together and get through the game's tutorial.
- DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS**
Parents should ensure that no payment options - such as debit cards - are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and builds a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION](#)

BE KIND

WORK HARD

BELIEVE

#weareEastHunsburyPrimarySchool #wearebrilliant

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Activity	Time
MARCH		
5 & 6.03.25	Mainstream Parents' Evening (not Yr 6)	3.50pm - 6.30pm
05.03.25	SU Parents' Evening	3.50pm - 6.50pm
05.03 - 07.03.25	Bookfair	After school
12.03.25	Walk In Wednesday Easter Crafts	8.30am - 9.00am
17.03 - 21.03.25	Neurodiversity Week	
18.03.25	School of Life - East Hunsbury Library	10 - 11.30am
20.03.25	Yr 4 to Hazard Alley	All day
20.03.25	Yr 1 Phonics Test Information Meeting	3.30pm - 4.00pm
21.03.25	Chocolate Mufti	All day
21.03.25	Odd Socks Day for World Down Syndrome Day	
27.03.25	Yr 5 to Stratford	All day
28.03.25	Year 1 Class Assembly	9.30am-10.30am
29.03.25	Easter Cafe	11.00am-1.00pm
31.03.25	Yr 1 Muddy Education	All day
APRIL		
01.04.25	School of Life - East Hunsbury Library	10.00am - 11.30am
02.04.25	Autism Awareness Day - Wear Blue (No Charge)	All Day
02.04.25	SU Show	10.00am-11.00am

03.04.25	iRock Concert	2.45 - 3.15pm
07.04 - 21.04.25	Easter Holiday	
22.04 & 23.04.25	Earth Days	All Day
MAY		
02.05.25	Yr 2 & Green Class to Hunsbury Library	1.45 - 2.45pm
07.05.25	Walk In Wednesday Reading	8.30am - 9.00am
09.05.25	Yr 2 & Green Class to Hunsbury Library	1.45pm - 2.45pm
12 - 15.05.25	Yr 6 SATS	Mornings
15.05.25	Endangered Species Census Day	
22.05.25	Year 4 Spring Assembly	9.15am - 10.00am
22.05.25	Reception Sports Day	10.15am - 11.45am
22.05.25	Year 6 Sports Day	1.30pm - 3.00pm
23.05.25	Year 5 and Yellow Class Assembly	9.30am - 10.30am
26 - 30.05.25	May Half term	
JUNE		
02.06.25	Training Day	
02.06 - 13.06.25	Yr 4 Multiplication Check	
w/c 09.06.25	Yr 1 Phonics Check	
11.06.25	SU Sports Morning	9.30 - 11.30am
11.06.25	Yr 6 Steam UoN	

16.06.25	Class photographs	All day
18.06.25	Walk In Wednesday Science	8.30am - 9.00am
25.06.25	Yr 4 to National Gallery	All day
26.06.25	Sports Day Year 1	9.30 - 11am
26.06.25	Sports Day Year 2	1.30 - 3pm
27.06.25	Sports Day Year 3	9.30 - 11.00am
27.06.25	Sports Day Year 4	1.30 - 3.00pm
28.06.25	Whole School Summer Fayre (Country dancing & Maypole by Years 2, 5, Purple & Yellow)	10.00 - 1.00pm
30.06 - 03.07.25	Yr 5 Bikeability	
30.06 - 04.07.25	Careers & Aspirations Week	
JULY		
04.07.25	Reception & Blue Class Assembly	9.30 - 10.30am
04.07.25	Brilliance Exhibition	TBC
08.07.25	Music Gala	5.30pm - 7.00pm
09 - 11.07.25	Yr 3 Residential Everdon	
10.07.25	Sports Day Year 5	9.30 - 11.00am

JULY

15.07.25	Yr 6 Leavers' Performance	6.00pm - 7.30pm
16.07.25	Yr 6 Leavers' Performance for toddlers to attend	5.00pm - 6.30pm
17.07.25	SU Yr 6 Leavers' Assembly	9.30am-10.30am
21.07.25	Year 6 Leavers' Party	7.00pm - 9.00pm
22.07.25	Mainstream Yr 6 Leavers' Assembly	10.00 - 11.00am
23.07 - 29.08.25	Summer Holiday	
01 & 02.09.25	Training Days	

Friendly February 2025

MONDAY



3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone

10 Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them



TUESDAY



4 Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' (in person or virtual)

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

18 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself

25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why

WEDNESDAY



5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

THURSDAY



6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun

27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them

FRIDAY



7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others

14 Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today

SATURDAY

1 Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them

8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust

15 Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today

SUNDAY

2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you

16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help

23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

