

EAST HUNSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

28th February 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

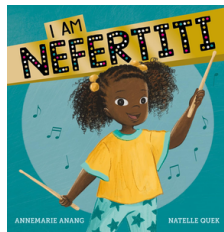
Dear Families

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

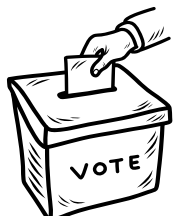


If you are aware of any parent who has not received [the letter](#) regarding nominations for parent governor and would like a copy, please ask them to contact the school office.

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 
 100m Back 1st 1:25.23 
 200m Back 1st 3:00.55 
 50m Free 1st 34.80 
 100m Free 1st 1:15.87 

200m Free 1st 2:48.40 
 400m Free 1st 5:36.37 
 100m Fly 1:28.74 
 200m Fly 1st 3:20.60 
 200 IM 1st 3:03.84 

Freestyle/Medley relays,
female and mixed.

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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 SCAN ME TO BOOK

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:

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- ◆ Stadium Tour
- ◆ Food Voucher
- ◆ Jersey signed by Captain
- ◆ Name in programme
- ◆ Run out with playing squad
- ◆ Photos
- ◆ Name announced Pre-Match

MORE INFORMATION

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.

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 P's

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:- Esmail, 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 supposed emergency, or posing as a scam where scammers trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then posing as (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 given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the 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 an 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 passcode 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 make 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 an inappropriate way. Make sure they know that if a link makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, is lost.
- ADJUST THE SETTINGS**
It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can send 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 as 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, when they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Ask if children send any Live 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 a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, is lost.
- 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 children to use words 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. It's a convenient communication tool, but conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally possible, with some players using it to harass or bully others. 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 recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a 150 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These purchases don't impact gameplay, but they can be purchased using the next season's in-game currency, creating a fear of missing out.
- CONTACT WITH STRANGERS**
With up to 120 players online, it's impossible to monitor when your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to get into conversations 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 are no guns in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the characters involved are recognisable to many children, including those who are not fans of the franchise. The game includes some horrendous and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age. Depending on the game's nature and theme, this could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from sexual references to potentially harmful content.
- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
The game includes some horrendous and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age. Depending on the game's nature and theme, this could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from sexual references to potentially harmful content.
- FAMILIAR CHARACTERS**
The inclusion of iconic characters might make the game more appealing to children, but it also means that children who are not fans of the franchise might feel excluded or even bullied. This 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 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the cartoonish nature of the game, but they may not be able to handle the violence, language, or sexual content. It's important to check the game's rating and to be aware of the potential risks.
- 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 a team, consider that they can use their console's party chat feature or text to 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 playing Marvel Rivals yourself to get a better understanding of the game's nature and theme. Alternatively, you could try teaming up with other parents to play the game together, ensuring that you're all aware of the potential risks.
- DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS**
Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unwanted purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the risks. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and adds 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

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



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

2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

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

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

5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

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

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

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

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

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

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

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

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

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

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

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

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

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

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today

23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

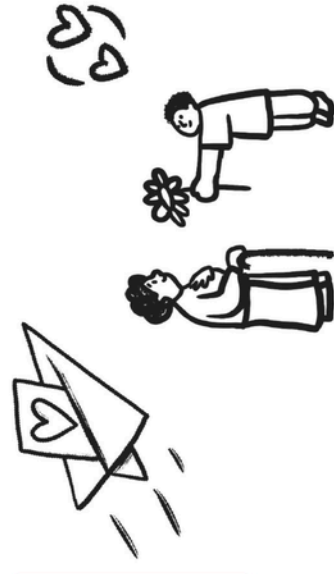
24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them

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

26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

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

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier • Kinder • Together