



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

12th June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Inside this week's newsletter you will find details of a survey from Dame Rachel de Souza, the Children's Commissioner, entitled the Big Future. The Big Future survey is open to everyone aged 0-18 in England. It asks children about childhood today - about the things that worry them, the things they love, the ways they have fun, and the changes they want for a better future. This is a valuable opportunity for students to have their voices heard so I would encourage you to complete this with your child.

Next Friday, 19th June, a group of our Year 12 BTEC Sports students have organised a non-uniform day in aid of Macmillan. Students can attend school on this day in non-uniform in return for a £1 donation. Please may I remind you that students should attend in appropriate clothing for a school setting otherwise parents and carers will be contacted to bring alternative clothing into school. If your child has PE on this day, they will still be required to bring their PE kit with them. Students may also wish to bring some extra money with them next week as there will be a penalty shoot-out event on the Friday and during form time, from Monday, there will be the opportunity for students to guess the number of sweets in a jar with the closest guess winning the sweets.

The exam season for students in Years 11 and 13 will be drawing to a close next week. I am very proud of the commitment they have demonstrated to their exams. We look forward to celebrating the end of Year 11s secondary education with them at their leavers assembly on Wednesday 24th June. The mock exam period for students in Years 10 and 12 will also commence next week. Exam pencil cases, filled with the essential items needed are available to purchase on ParentPay. Good luck to all students involved in the mock exam period.

Best wishes for a relaxing weekend.

Best wishes

Dawn White
Principal



The Big Future - From the Children's Commissioner

Earlier this month, I launched [The Big Future](#) - my final national survey as Children's Commissioner.

In the five years since my first survey of England's children, the landscape of childhood has changed rapidly. Mental health referrals have increased by around half a million, more children are spending long periods of time online, and a growing number require additional support at school. How the government responds to those changes will shape what it's like to grow up in England for years to come.

Listening once is never enough. This will be my third and final major survey of children. Speaking to children, asking them what they want, and acting on it, has been the approach I want to be the hallmark of my time as Children's Commissioner.

There is a growing sense – in Westminster, in the media, and our wider national mood – that something is going wrong with childhood. Older generations believe the young are worse off than they were, and this belief is starting to trickle down the age range: childhood is not what it once was.

This is unsurprising, in some ways. This generation of children is on the brink of adulthood, having witnessed huge change: from the impact of the pandemic, to rising crime in their communities, to the new dominance of AI and tech. These are things that are shaping children's lives now – not just things to worry about in the future.

Childhood is changing – but we are struggling to express how, why, or exactly how we feel about it. We are finding it even harder to respond. And throughout all this change, decision makers are failing to listen to them. When their schools closed, they were not consulted. We reopened pubs before we reopened schools.

When they told us about the dangerous things they were seeing online, we were too slow to act. More children spend more time online than ever, seeing worse content. They have told us how to make their homes and communities safer – yet one million still live in destitution, after years of consistently rising child poverty.

But we know how to improve things. When we listen to children about the new and emerging challenges in their lives: the things that worry them, the things they love, the ways they have fun, and the changes they want for a better future.

I will be working relentlessly to listen to children and young people, especially those who are often the hardest to reach, before the [survey closes on October 23rd](#). Ambitious? Yes. But children deserve nothing less than the soaring heights of our ambition.

Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner.



The Big Future survey is open to everyone aged 0-18 in England. It asks children about childhood today - about the things that worry them, the things they love, the ways they have fun, and the changes they want for a better future:

childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture.

Steve Barclay MP Visit to Sixth Form

SHSCC was pleased to welcome local MP Steve Barclay to the college on Friday. He spoke to 6th Form students about politics and current affairs and took lots of questions from them.



Thank a Teacher Day - June 19th

Every day, our staff inspire students to aim higher, work harder, and believe in their own potential. As part of Thank a Teacher Day 2026, we're inviting students to recognise the teachers and support staff who have made a real difference to their school experience.

This is your chance to celebrate the people who encourage your Aspiration for Learning — the ones who motivate you, support you, and help you grow.

Share your appreciation using the form below: <https://forms.office.com/e/Q29cXB1jLD>

All students have already been emailed the link directly.

Let's fill Thank a Teacher Day with gratitude, positivity, and recognition for the amazing staff who make SHS such a special place to learn.



Honouring the Burma Campaign: A Creative Opportunity for SHS Students

Students at Sir Harry Smith Community College are being invited to take part in a remarkable national initiative that commemorates the Burma Campaign of the Second World War. This opportunity is supported by an award fund generously provided by the estate of Dame Vera Lynn and the Burma Association, whose mission is to ensure that the bravery, sacrifice, and resilience of those who served in Burma are never forgotten.

Throughout next week, assemblies will introduce students to the history and significance of the Burma Campaign. They will be encouraged to produce a piece of original work that honours the legacy of those who took part. The format is entirely up to them — it could be an essay, poem, short story, artwork, musical composition, video, or any other creative medium that meaningfully reflects the campaign's themes.

To be considered, submissions should demonstrate exceptional effort and show a deep engagement with the values embodied by those who served: courage, teamwork, resilience, and collaboration across different faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Students are expected to research the Burma Campaign to inform and inspire their work.

A total of £1200 in award funding is available, which will be shared among SHS students whose work meets the required standard. Students should enter via the link that they have received via email.

Key Dates:

- **Application deadline: 19 June 2026**
- **Final judging: September 2026** Students will therefore need to complete much of their work over the summer break.

Mr Tomlin.



First Aid Course Off to a Great Start!

Our new First Aid Training Course has got off to a fantastic start, with students thoroughly enjoying their first session and getting hands-on experience in learning essential life-saving skills.

The course covers a range of important topics, including CPR, choking response, cuts and wounds, the safe use of a defibrillator (AED), and other vital first aid techniques. It is designed to give students the confidence and knowledge to respond calmly and effectively in emergency situations while developing valuable skills for life.

There is still time to get involved! All students are welcome to sign up for the course using the link that has been sent to them via email. Whether you're interested in learning new skills, boosting your confidence, or simply want to be prepared to help others in an emergency, we encourage you to take part.

We look forward to welcoming many more students to the upcoming sessions and seeing them achieve their First Aid Course Certificate.

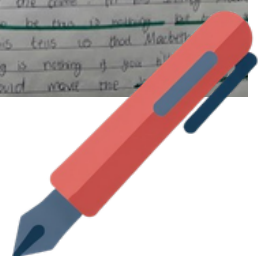
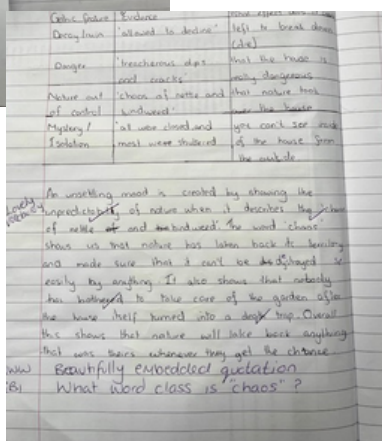
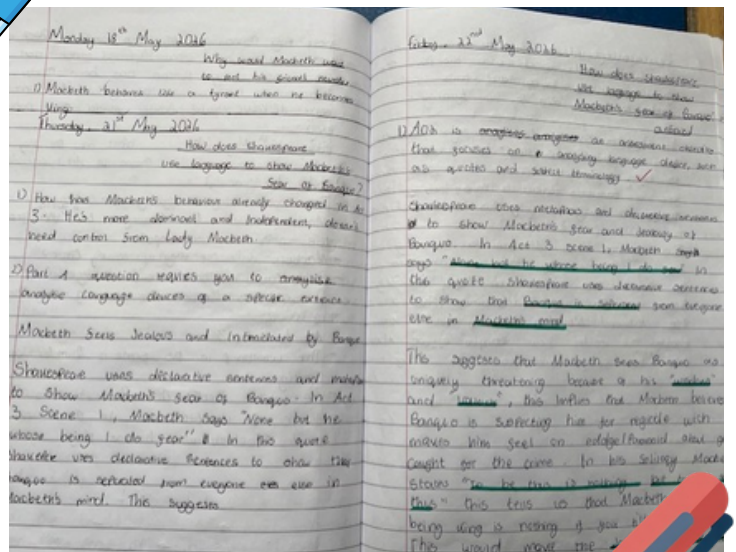
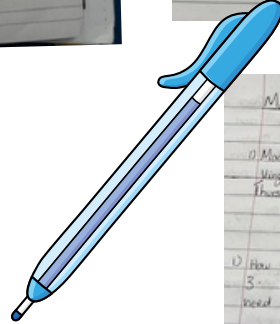
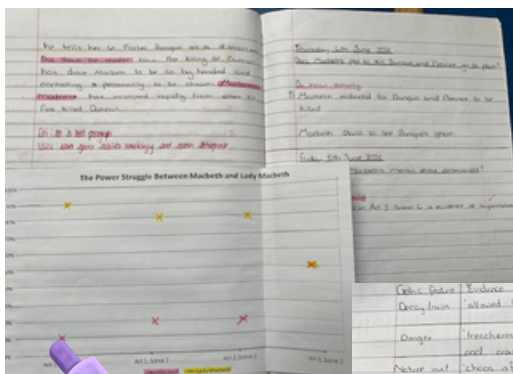
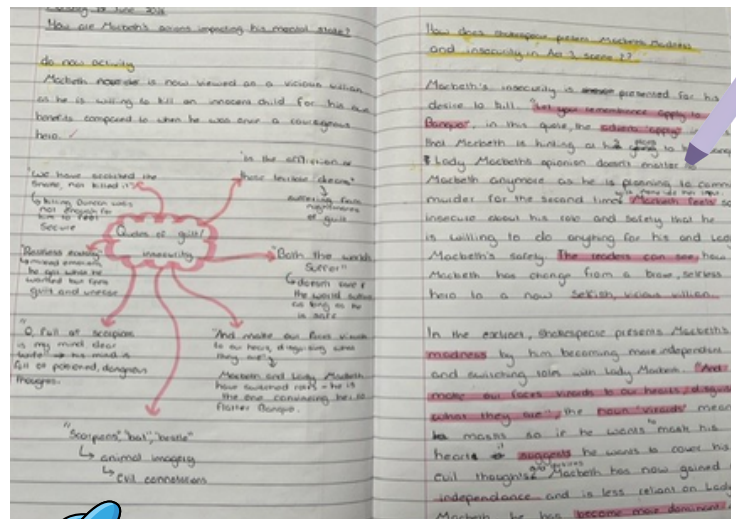
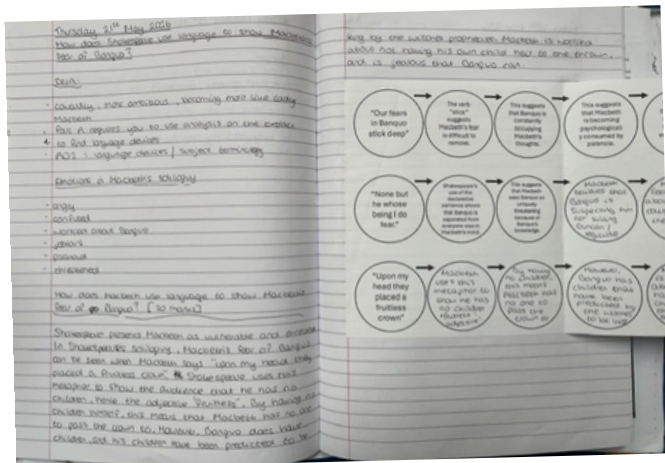
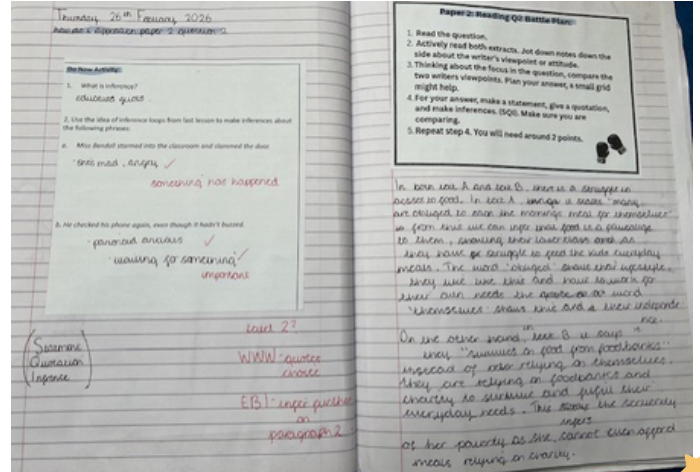
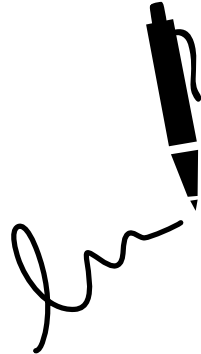
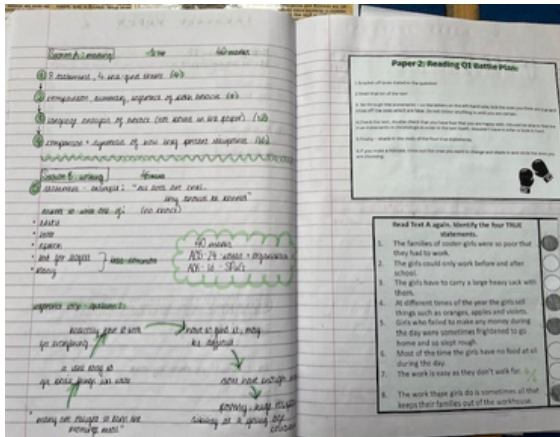
Mrs Gosling.



Pride in Work: English Dept

We would like to share some amazing work from students in their English lessons. This is an amazing set of books - well done!

Mrs Ibrahim.



Sir Harry Smith School World Cup Sweepstake is Here!

The World Cup kicked off this week, and now it's time for the College to get involved!

Every form group has been randomly allocated a team, so from now until the final, you'll have every reason to cheer them on!

What's up for grabs?

If your allocated team wins the World Cup, your form will earn a FREE non-school uniform day in September!

There's also a surprise twist... the form whose team concedes the most goals during the tournament will also win a free non-school uniform day!

And it doesn't stop there...

Members of staff who don't have a form have been assigned to represent a whole year group. If their team goes all the way, their entire allocated year group will celebrate with the prize!

And finally, the biggest prize of all... if Miss White's team, Holland, wins the World Cup, the ENTIRE SCHOOL will enjoy a free non-school uniform day!

So, find out which team you've been given, get behind them, and enjoy the tournament. Good luck to everyone – and may the best team win!

Title	Last Name	FORM	Team
Miss	Haskell	10A	Mexico
Miss	Delahaye	10B	Iraq
Mr	Baxter	10C	South Africa
Mr	Wales	10D	Norway
Mr	Haycock-Ivo	10E	Czechia
Mr	White	10F	Senegal
Miss	Tyson	10G	South Korea
Mrs	Cutler	6CLC	Argentina
Mr	Tomlin	6DT	Canada
Mr	Nichols	6LEN	Algeria
Dr	Swannell	6LSW	Qatar
Mr	Hemraj	6RHE	Austria
Miss	Bendall	7A	Bosnia H
Miss	Friguglietti	7B	Jordan
Miss	Goodall	7C	Switzerland
Mrs	Freeman and Mrs Gray	7D	Portugal
Mr	Crane and Mrs Lee	7E	Brazil
Mrs	Steele and Mr Molyneux	7F	Uzbekistan
Miss	Ward	7G	Morocco
Mrs	Zebrowska	7H	Scotland
Miss	O'Keefe	8A	Dr Congo
Miss	Ponder	8B	Haiti
Miss	Penhaligon	8C	Colombia
Miss	Kuc	8D	USA
Miss	Hunt and Mrs Guest	8E	England
Mrs	Clarke and Mrs Bircham	8F	Paraguay
Miss	O'Shea	8G	Croatia
Ms	Atkins, Mrs Bircham and Mrs Master	8H	Turkey
Mr	Curtis	9A	Ghana
Ms	Boyden	9B	Australia
Mr	Gatty	9C	France
Mrs	Buckley and Miss Brown	9D	Germany
Mrs	Campbell	9E	Cape Verde
Mrs	Kirby and Miss Kierman	9F	Ivory Coast
Mr	Harvey	9G	Uruguay
Mr	Thornton	Year 7	Ecuador
Mr	Cooper	Year 8	Saudi Arabia
Mr	Smith	6th Form	Curacao
Miss	White	Whole School	Holland
Mr	Holland	Year 9	New Zealand
Mr	Rothery	Year 10	Sweden
Mr	Treliving	Year 9	Spain
Mr	Tymon	Year 8	Tunisia
Miss	Jones	Year 7	New Zealand
Miss	Izatt	Year 8	Japan
Ms	Wahlandt	Year 10	Egypt
Mrs	Maddy	Year 8	Belgium



World Cup

Student Success: Can You Dance? Super Convention

Congratulations to Sienna F, who will be performing with Hebden School of Dancing Vocational Day School at the Can You Dance? Super Convention in October 2026.

Can You Dance? (CYD?) is the UK's biggest touring and industry-leading dance convention company, established in 2012 when founders Matt and Tom met on the BBC One show "So You Think You Can Dance." Since then, CYD? has grown into a network of conventions. Positioned at the forefront of the dance events industry, CYD? is credited with introducing the dance convention scene to the UK. The concept was conceived to provide a platform where dancers could receive education and inspiration within a supportive and professional environment.

Hebden School of Dancing Vocational Day School offers a unique daytime training programme designed for gifted individual. Sienna attends every Friday to receive professional-level tuition. Training takes place at fully equipped studios and covers a broad range of disciplines, including ballet, jazz, lyrical, acro, conditioning and choreography. For students considering full-time dance or performing arts colleges, the Vocational Day School provides the ideal preparation for their future careers.

Congratulations Sienna!



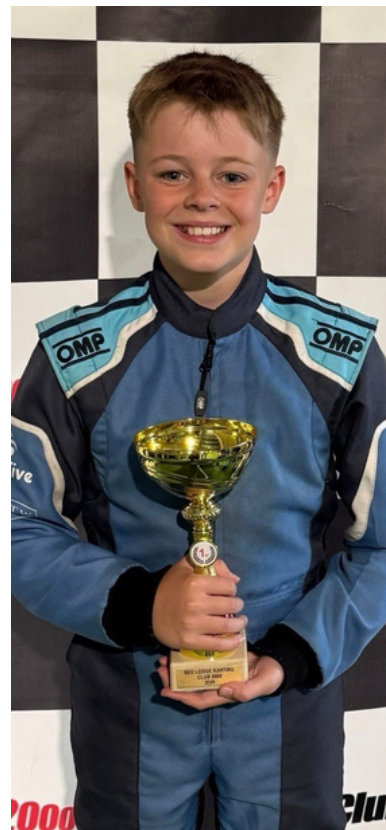
Student Success: Karting Championships

We would like to say a big congratulations to Nicholas who won Round 6 of the Club 2000 Kart Championship! Even though the weather was awful, it did not deter him from driving brilliantly and winning the round!



The screenshot shows the 'alpha racehub' app interface. At the top, there's a 'Live' indicator and two event buttons: 'RMC America's Tr... Race Rotax US Tro...' and 'FLKC Florida...'. Below these are tabs for 'Grid', 'Result', 'Laps', 'Chart', and 'Replay'. The 'Result' tab is selected, displaying a table of race results.

POS	NAME	CLASS	GAP	DIFF
1	55 Nicholas Yorke			
2	82 Olly Knox		1.194	1.19
3	44 Harry Parker-Rae		3.802	2.60



Year 13 Exam Season

A-level examinations have begun this week - please find below a copy of the exam timetable, for your reference.

Mrs Reed.

Summer 2026 Exam Timetable A-Level

Week	Date	Morning - 9am	Duration	Level	Afternoon - 1:10pm	Duration	Level
	21st April	Deadline to withdraw / change tier and be refunded					
	4th June	May Day Bank Holiday					
Wk A	12th May	Geography	2hrs 15	Alevel			
Wk A	13th May	Eng Lit	3hrs	Alevel	Business	2hrs	Alevel
					Sport - Unit 1	1hr 30	BTEC
Wk A	14th May				Media	2hrs 15	Alevel
Wk A	15th May	Psychology	2hrs	Alevel			
Wk B	18th May	Sociology	1hr 30	Alevel			
Wk B	19th May	Business	2hrs	Alevel	History	2hrs 30	Alevel
					Arabic	2hrs 30	Alevel
Wk B	20th May	Psychology	2hrs	Alevel	Physics	2hrs 15	Alevel
Wk B	21st May				Geography	2hrs 15	Alevel
Wk B	22nd May	D&T	2hrs 30	Alevel			
		Half Term					
Wk A	1st June	English Literature	2hrs 30	Alevel			
		Physics	2hrs 15	Alevel			
		Arabic	2hrs 40	Alevel			
Wk A	2nd June	Chemistry	2hrs	Alevel	History	1hr 30	Alevel
Wk A	3rd June	Sociology	2hrs 15	Alevel	Maths	2hrs	Alevel
Wk A	4th June	Spanish LRW	2hrs 30	Alevel	Biology	2hrs 15	Alevel
		Religious	2hrs	Alevel	Media	2hrs 30	Alevel
Wk A	5th June	Psychology	2hrs	Alevel			
Wk B	8th June	French LRW	2hrs 30	Alevel	Geography	2hrs 15	Alevel
		Physics	1hr 30	Alevel			
Wk B	9th June	Chemistry	2hrs	Alevel	Business	2hrs	Alevel
		Religious	2hrs	Alevel			
Wk B	10th June	DT	1hr 30	Alevel			
Wk B	11th June	History	1hr	Alevel	Maths	2hrs	Alevel
		Arabic	2hrs 15	Alevel			
Wk B	12th June	Biology	2hrs 15	Alevel	Spanish Writing	2hrs	Alevel
					Sociology	2hrs 15	Alevel
Wk A	15th June	Chemistry	2hrs	Alevel	Religious	2hrs	Alevel
Wk A	16th June	Biology	1hr 30	Alevel			
Wk A	17th June	French Writing	2hrs	Alevel			
Wk A	18th June				Maths	2hrs	Alevel
	24th June	Contingency Day					
	1st July	Special Considerations Deadline Day					
	13th August	Alevel Results Day					

Useful Information

Friday 26th June - Saturday 27th June – Somme Trip

Those Year 10 students who are attending the Somme Battlefields Trip should pay close attention to the itinerary on the letter sent home. Please arrive at college promptly for 2.55am.



7th July – Sports Awards

A celebration of sporting success at Sir Harry Smith this year, with guest speaker **Mark Sagers – former England hockey player, talkSPORT presenter and BBC broadcaster**. Mark has interviewed some of the very best, including Muhammad Ali and Tiger Woods, and is a wonderfully entertaining and knowledgeable speaker. He has covered all of the major sporting events worldwide including several World Cups, International Cricket and won a Sony Award for his work on the Grand National that never was.

8th July – Summer Music Evening, 7.00pm

Our musicians will showcase their talent one final time this year. Tickets are available on ParentPay: Adults - £5.50, Concessions £3.50



Useful Information

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Key Information

Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2026	
START OF TERM	Monday 5th January 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026

SUMMER TERM 2026	
START OF TERM	Monday 13th April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday (college closed)	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 17th July 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Monday 20th July 2026

Contacting Us

Please visit our website to find out the best way of contacting the person you would like to get in touch with. Please do remember that if you are contacting a member of our teaching staff, they will have teaching commitments during the day so please bear with them. If you would like to meet with a member of staff then please do arrange an appointment first.

In any cases of an emergency, please call the school on **01733 703991**.

Social Media

Please be sure to follow us on social media. We have Facebook pages for Sir Harry Smith Community College, Park Lane Primary School, New Road Primary School and the Aspire Learning Trust.

