

Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Friday 14 February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and successful term, I want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our children for their hard work, enthusiasm, and positive attitude towards their learning. It has been wonderful to see their resilience and determination as they have tackled new challenges and continued to grow in confidence.

A special mention must go to the children who represented our school at the recent Dance Festival. Their performance was truly fantastic, and they were wonderful ambassadors for our school. We were especially proud to receive such positive feedback on their excellent behaviour and politeness – well done to everyone involved! Looking ahead to next term, we are excited to be joining the **Palladian Academy Trust**. This is a significant and positive step for our school community, and we are looking forward to the opportunities this partnership will bring. You can find out more about the Trust by visiting their website:
www.palladianacademytrust.com.

To celebrate this next chapter in our school's journey, we would love for you to join us on **Monday, 3rd March** for a special coffee event. We will be holding a **Coffee Morning at the Atworth site** and a **Coffee Afternoon at the Monkton Farleigh site**. This will be a great chance to come together as a community as we begin the new chapter in the school's future with the Palladian Academy Trust. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I hope you all enjoy a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back next term.
Warm regards,

Best wishes,

Heather

Heather Saunders

Piano Lessons

I just wanted to let you know that there are a few spaces available for piano lessons next term (on Mondays). If any parents are interested in securing a place for their children, please could they confirm with me by **the Wednesday of half term 19th Feb**

For those considering lessons in the new academic year, I will be operating a waiting list. If they would like to be added, please could they let me know by **the end of Term 6**.

Best regards,

Sam Winfield
Wiltshire Music Associate
samwinfield@icloud.com

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Thinking Day

World Thinking Day is a celebration when millions of Guiding and Scouting members across the world think of each other and celebrate their commitment to international friendship and understanding. It has been celebrated on 22nd February each year since 1926.

We would like to offer children who are Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides the opportunity to celebrate Thinking Day by wearing their uniforms to school on Monday 24th February - the first day back after half term.



Special congratulations to Jazmyne and Felix who have moved up to the diamond podium - a great achievement. Well done to Kingfishers who have now collectively gained over 100 certificates this year so far! Kestrels (our biggest class) have managed to rack up 100 bronze certificates alone! Congratulations all mathletes.

Bronze : Isobel, Birdie, Henry B
Silver : Isla, Maggie, Meadow, Mali, Iris, George P. Anna, Ruby
Gold : Ella, Freddie, Henry H, Ted E, Oscar BH
Platinum : Rufus, Coralie, Christina, Josiah, Jude, George R, Vinnie, William J, Henry J, Joseph, Anouk
Emerald : Hattie D, William CJ, Benjamin, Rosemary, Jason, Leighton, Oliver CJ
Diamond : Jazmyne, Felix, Alexis, Maddox

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Term dates for 2024/2025

Term 2: Monday 4 November – Fri 20 December 2024	Term 3: Monday 06 January 2025 – Friday 14 February 2025
Term 4: Monday 24 February – Friday 04 April 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSET DAY Friday 21 March 2025 	Term 5: Tuesday 22 April – Friday 23 May 2025
Term 6: Monday 02 June – Tuesday 22 July 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSET DAY Wednesday 23 July 2025 • INSET DAY Wednesday 24 July 2025 	

TERM 3	
Monday 10 February – Friday 14 February	E- Safety Week
Tuesday 11 February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 11 Feb	Dance club Bath Forum
Monday 17 Feb	Half term starts
Monday 24 Feb	World Thinking day
Monday 24 Feb	Term 4 begins
Tuesday 25 Feb	Wow day KS1 at Atworth KS2 at Monkton Farleigh
Tuesday 4 th March	Author visit Catherine Barr
Monday 10 March – Friday 14 March	STEM week
Tuesday 18 March	Parents evening until 6pm

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Thursday 20 March	Parents evening until 7:30pm
Friday 21 st March	Inset day
Friday 4 th April	Term ends Easter holidays
Tuesday 22 nd April	Term 5 begins



Palladian Academy Trust Term Dates, 2025-26

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
December 2025							January 2026							February 2026							
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		
March 2026							April 2026							May 2026							
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
						1			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	3
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
30	31																				
June 2026							July 2026							August 2026							
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
														31							

Bank Holiday
 School Holiday
 Term Time

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All The National College, our talented technology guides engineer a not easily parents, causes a not substitute with the confidence and practical skills to be able to keep informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Personally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, links and tips, please visit nationalonlinesafety.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

13+ (Minimum age for registration)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips called users' 'fYP', based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT
While TikTok's algorithm feeds only (supposedly) videos from familiar creators, for this is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips, most of those videos will probably be familiar, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable, if children then engage with that content, more likely will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS
With more than 1.8 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially on accounts created by teens. The (or young people using a false name of birth) are not protected by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and can lead anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION
Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, it also can still be used to spread misinformation in a deceptive way. Not only is there plenty of anonymous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 15 to 19-year-olds use TikTok for news – so you should be wary of misguidance, misinformation, or even people "normalising" harmful things that they see on the feed.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN
With its constant stream of age-appropriate videos, TikTok can be addictive to young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 137 minutes per day on the app, three times as much as in 2023. Some users can interact with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The inherently addictive nature of likeable videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

Body Image and Dangerous Challenges
According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related. For girls (and some boys) using social media, body image and self-harm are the most common issues. One extreme example of this is the "fYP" trend, which encouraged users to post their bodies and they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two fatalities being linked to TikTok over the single month of their release.

IN-APP SPENDING
TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Gift levels range from 0.99p to 99.99p per month. While the very first several episodes, the app still generated £2.3 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that users can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a false birth date.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING
Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and several settings normally. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (limiting the choice of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, and to enable parental controls. Child can't turn these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS
If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they aren't sharing any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth taking a look at misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING
If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can take their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. Word of caution: enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – so it's worth being vigilant about that.

READ THE SIGNS
If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration in the classroom are signs, as is feeling too exhausted to do other things. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechCrunch, The Verge, and The Evening Standard and The New Observer.

#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**

Source: see full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2024>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.11.2024

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