

Moulton Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 21st May 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another wonderful week of learning at our school and it has been great to see the hard work continuing right up until the end of term. Thank you all once again for the support you are giving the school. It is always great to catch up on the drive and say good morning to you all!

As mentioned last week, it has been a really busy term and one that has been filled with happiness and achievement by so many. The effort the children have put into their SATs was incredible and I know that Year 6 have some lovely things to look forward to including their residential after the break. Please make sure you read the communication around this.

A reminder that tomorrow is a training day and the school will be closed to all pupils, re-opening on Monday 1st June.

The weather forecast for the week ahead looks great and so fingers crossed you get to enjoy some sunshine and a well-earned rest. We look forward to seeing you all after the holidays for the final term of the year.

Please stay safe and we will see you on the 1st.

The Classroom News

EYFS

This term in Early Years, we have been learning about animals that live around the world, the features they have and why they might have them and how to care for them and their environment. This week we have been applying all this knowledge to design and create an animal puppet. We practised sewing using a running stitch then decorated them. We used our Kinetic Letters three friends to hold our scissors to cut stripes and spots for our animals. We are so proud of the children's creations and know they will enjoy using them to tell a story to their families, with their puppet as the main character.



Year 3



Over the past two weeks, the children have been showing great problem-solving skills in their computing lessons. The children were using text, images and emojis to see how messages can be communicated both online and offline. They have been exploring desktop publishing software and looking at templates, orientation and placeholders to start helping select suitable templates of their own. Careful consideration of font sizes, colours and types was needed as the children edited party invitations, and even created their own magazine/poster cover on a topic of their choice!



Dates in the diary

DATE	YEAR GROUP	EVENT	TIME
16th May		Moulton Village Festival Parade	1.30pm
22nd May	Whole School	INSET Day - School Closed	
1st June - 5th June	Year 6	PGL	Monday - Arrive by 9.45. Friday - Collect TBC
15th June	Crick Family	Maths Morning	8.30 - 9.15am
16th June	Spencer Family	Maths Morning	8.30 - 9.15am
17th June	Year EYFS - Year 5	New class letters	Normal School Hours
17th June	Tull Family	Maths Morning	8.30 - 9.15am
17th June	Year 5	Workshop - Past Productions	Normal School Hours
18th June	EYFS	Sports Day	9.30 - 11.15am
23rd June	Year 6	Sports Day	9.30 - 11.15am
24th June	Year 5	Sports Day	9.30 - 11.15am
25th June	Year 4	Sports Day	9.30 - 11.15am

27th June	Year 4 Strictly	Dancing Schools UK Grand Final	TBC
30th June	Year 3	Sports Day	9.30 - 11.15am
1st July	Year 2	Sports Day	9.30 - 11.15am
1st July	Year 5	Science Cluster Day	Normal School Hours
2nd July	Year 3	Roman Visitor	Normal School Hours
2nd July	Year 1	Sports Day	
3rd July	Year 3	Roman Visitor	Normal School Hours
6th July	Whole School	Transition Day	Normal School Hours
6th July	EYFS - Year 5	Meet the Teacher Event	3.30 - 4.30pm
9th July		Pre-Loved uniform sale	2.50pm - 3.30pm
8th July	Whole School	Summer Spectacular	3.30 - 4.30pm
8th July	Whole School	End of Year Reports Released	Normal School Hours
20th July	Whole School	INSET Day - School Closed	

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

As the best-selling game in history, Minecraft has made a name for itself by empowering audiences of all ages to harness their creativity. Originally an indie hit, it's become a cultural phenomenon with merchandise, spin-off titles, and wider media adaptations. Even if you don't know your Creepers from your Endermen, this guide will explore the risks of Minecraft in 2026 and explain how to support a safe gaming experience for the children in your care.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVER COMMUNICATION

Many players enjoy Minecraft with others, including friends and unknown players online. In-game text chat is commonly used to coordinate building projects and gameplay, and this can extend to adding friends to voice chat. While often harmless, this creates risks around contact with strangers, and in some cases server hosts may expose IP addresses (if hosted independently), which raises privacy and security concerns.

GRIEFING BEHAVIOUR

Some players deliberately damage or destroy other players' creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying that can waste hours of effort and cause frustration or distress to affected players. Although many servers treat griefing as a serious offence, enforcement varies. Children who prefer to build independently may feel safer working on private worlds or controlled servers.

ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY LOOPS

Minecraft's creative focus can make it easy for players to lose track of time. The cycle of gathering resources and building projects can be highly engaging, which may challenge agreed screen-time limits. If not managed effectively, this can impact children's sleep, schoolwork, and real-world social interaction.

SCARY GAME ELEMENTS

Although often compared to digital construction toys, some gameplay modes include hostile creatures with unsettling sounds and sudden encounters. While there is no graphic violence, younger players may still find snakes, spiders, or dark environments frightening. These experiences can lead to anxiety or reluctance to play, depending on the child's age and sensitivity.

IN-GAME SPENDING

Minecraft requires a one-off purchase after a free trial, usually around £16, but additional spending is possible. Players can buy cosmetic content or subscribe to Minecraft 'Realms' for private servers. Without supervision, children may make unwanted purchases. Subscription services and add-ons can also increase overall costs over time if not monitored.

ONLINE INTERACTIONS

Playing with others can introduce broader online safety concerns, including exposure to inappropriate language or behaviour. Some players may attempt to move conversations beyond the game, which can increase risks to children's safety and welfare. Children may not always recognise these situations, meaning guidance and ongoing conversations about safe interactions are essential.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE SUITABLE GAME MODES

Creative or Peaceful modes remove hostile creatures and reduce the pressure during gameplay. These options allow children to focus on building and exploration without fear of attack. They are also ideal for shared play between adults and children, creating a calmer environment to learn the game and enjoy collaborative projects.

USE PRIVATE SERVERS

Setting up a private server helps control who can join a child's game. Access can be limited to trusted friends through passwords or invitations. This reduces the likelihood of unwanted interactions and gives adults greater oversight. While some options involve a subscription fee, they offer a safer and more controlled multiplayer experience.

DISCUSS ONLINE STRANGERS

Children should understand that not everyone they meet online is who they claim to be. Clear guidance about not sharing personal information is essential. Encourage children to report any worrying or uncomfortable in-game events and reassure them that they can seek help without fear of punishment. Open, ongoing conversations help build their confidence and awareness of these issues.

SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Agree on clear rules around purchases before letting children play, and use device settings or platform controls to restrict spending within agreed limits. Explaining that in-game currency uses real-world money can help children make informed decisions. Regularly reviewing purchases together can also prevent unexpected costs and encourage responsible behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes spent 7 years in games media, before moving into the games industry via PR and marketing. A parent himself to a Minecraft-loving son, he understands why it's so important to stay safe online.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



2026 NEA

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE EDUCATION AWARDS



A MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND CARERS

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE EDUCATION AWARDS - NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

We are pleased to share information about the Northamptonshire Education Awards, which celebrate the dedication, talent and hard work of schools and staff across the county. We welcome parents and carers to take part by nominating individuals or schools who have made a positive difference to children's education and experiences.

With 14 categories to choose from - who will you nominate?

- A teacher who inspires your child
- A member of support staff who goes above and beyond
- Your child's school as a whole
- A headteacher providing outstanding leadership

NOMINATE HERE

How to nominate:

Click the above to submit your nomination or visit: awards.allthingsbusiness.co.uk/nea
Simply tell us who you are nominating and why they deserve recognition.

Deadline for nominations: Friday 11th September 2026

Thank you for supporting our school community

We appreciate your continued support in celebrating the achievements of schools and staff across Northamptonshire.

EDUCATION
NEEDS BUSINESS

&

BUSINESS
NEEDS EDUCATION

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS



CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Sessions for anyone parenting children with additional needs aged 3 to 11

Date:
Mondays
1st June- 6th July
7.30pm-9.30pm

This course will run online via
Zoom

Once you've booked, you will
be provided with a link to
register your contact details
with Hope for Families.

Booking closes on 26th May

For information contact
Hope for Families
07784 333825
or email
hello@hopeforfamilies.org.uk



Common-sense, jargon-free information
and ideas to help you to engage with your
children and boost your relationship