



# BROAD SQUARE NEWSLETTER

26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Overall Attendance: 94.2%**  
**Early Years Winning Class RD - 95.7%**  
**Years 1 & 2 Winning Class 1H - 97.3%**  
**Years 3 & 4 Winning Class 3U - 95.0%**  
**Years 5 & 6 Winning Class 5E - 93.3%**



## Dates for the Diary:

**Year 5 Bikability** - 6th-10<sup>th</sup> October

**5M London trip** - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October

**Parents evening** - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and  
Thursday 23<sup>rs</sup> October

**INSET DAY (Children not in School )** - Friday  
24<sup>th</sup> October

**Half term** - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup>  
October

**Children return to school** - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
November

**School photo day** - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

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**Y6 secondary school applications deadline** -  
31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a busy but successful and happy start to the school year at Broad Square. Our children are now well settled into their new classes and routines. Thank you to all of our parents and carers patience as we all get used to the 'newness' of the school year.

I must say how smart our children look in the new school tracksuits - next job is to see if they do one in my size!!

Extra curricular clubs are up and running and I thank staff for providing such a wide range of activities for the children to engage with.

This week our year 3 and 4 footballers have played in the first sporting fixture of the year. Mr Singleton and Ms Palombella report that our children represented the school brilliantly, showing great skill along with sporting attitude. Next week our cross country team will start their campaign at Newsham Park.

The first of our two year 5 trips to London is underway today, with our children and staff travelling to the capital via train, navigating the tube, riding the London Eye and visiting Parliament. I thank Mrs Baldwin and all of the accompanying staff for providing our children with this experience. I cannot wait to hear all about it.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Thank you,

*Mrs Foden*, Headteacher



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## Broad Square Reading



As we always say reading is essential for our children to being successful in all curriculum areas and for their future lives. Your child should now have a school reading book and a library book available to them to share with an adult at home. Please support us by listening to your child read frequently and signing the reading record.



## Spotlight on curriculum



If you would like to purchase a Children's University passport that can be used to record out of school learning activities they can be found on Ednet for a cost of £3.95.

Any in school or after school clubs will be automatically added to the children's credits so a passport is only required if your child attends out of school clubs and wants these activities to count towards their credit totals. If you have any questions about Children's University and how your child can gain credits towards graduating in year 2 and 6, please speak to Mrs Mcnamara.

Year 5 Bikability will take place during the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> October - your child will be notified which day they have been given next week.



## Mental Health & Wellbeing

### Supporting Children's Sleep

Good sleep is vital for children's wellbeing, helping them to feel calm, focused and ready for the day. Sleep advice is still one of our most requested areas of support. Here are some simple tips to try at home:

- Keep a routine – aim for the same bedtime and wake-up time each day, even at weekends.
- Limit screen time – switch off TVs, tablets and phones at least an hour before bed.
- Wind down with a bath – a warm bath can help children relax.
- Create a calm sleep space – use soft lighting, calming music or lavender pillow sprays.
- Bedtime stories – reading together can soothe children and signal it's time to sleep.

Even small changes can make a big difference to children's sleep and overall mental health.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jhAKrFRcjpM>

Let's look at this week's story



Guinness World Records is celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The book was first published in 1955, and is now sold in over 100 countries. Each year, it collects unusual and amazing records, from the fastest runners to the tallest buildings and silliest challenges. To mark its birthday, the 'global authority' on record-breaking achievements shared some records that no one has tried yet and is encouraging people to have a go.

Talk about why you believe this story became news across the UK this week.

What do you know about the Guinness World Records (GWR)?

Are there any records you would like to break?

Do you agree/disagree that anyone can break a record? Explain.

UN Rights of a Child

The Guinness World Records highlights people's talents and achievements. Children have the right to play, explore and show their talents. Adults should support and encourage them, helping children enjoy the activities and challenges that inspire them most.



Can anyone break a record if they try hard enough?



Individual Liberty

For 70 years, Guinness World Records has celebrated the many ways people shine. It shows us that we all have the freedom to follow our passions, try new things, and share what makes us unique.

Protected Characteristics



Guinness World Records show that people of all ages can achieve wonderful things. We can celebrate each person's talents and remember we shouldn't be limited because of our age.

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](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

**SNAP STREAK 97** **AGE RESTRICTION 13+**

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.
- SCREEN ADDICTION**  
Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.
- SEXTORTION**  
Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.
- SNAPCHAT+**  
Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called 'lens+', giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.
- ACCESSIBILITY**  
Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.
- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

- ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB**  
Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.
- ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS**  
Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.
- BLOCK AND REPORT**  
If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.
- USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER**  
Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing Internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**#WakeUpWednesday** **The National College**

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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