



# Picknalls Pages



As we reflect on another incredibly successful half term, I continue to be amazed by the hard work, positive attitudes and outstanding progress shown by all of our children. Whether in the classroom, on the playground or representing the school in the wider community, they consistently demonstrate enthusiasm, resilience and a genuine love of learning. Their achievements are a credit to themselves, to our dedicated staff and to the unwavering support of our families. Every day, our pupils remind me what a special place our school is, and they continue to make me truly [#Proud to be Picknalls!](#)



Thanks to [Staffordshire Wildlife Trust](#) for our new 'Wild Club'. The children are loving engaging with nature and learning some bushcraft skills.

## Phonics

Thanks to our reading lead Miss Charlesworth and the Year One team for an amazing phonics workshop this week. Who knew phonics could be so much fun? Tricky word Dobble was a favourite!



Congratulations to all our entrants of the Rotary Club's handwriting competition. We are so very proud of you all. President of the Rotary Club, Kate Nash presented the certificates and prizes. Our overall winner was Phoebe C and with Chloe S as a runner up.

Picknalls Points winners for last half term were:

Millie D  
Sully  
Amelia G  
Finn H  
Winnie P  
Brody S  
Henry T  
Jake J

Congratulations to you and we hope you enjoyed your hot chocolate, sweet treats and receiving your rosettes from Mrs Tapp.

Who will be the final points winners of the last half term of the year?



## Exciting Event!

Our Summer Fayre will be held on Friday 10th July from 2.30pm, to be followed by

Proms@Picknalls (weather

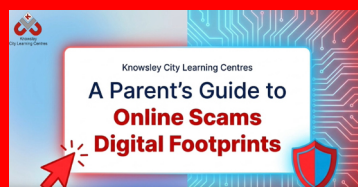
permitting!). This is likely to finish between 4.30-5.00pm.

Friday 3rd July will be a 'Bring-a-Bottle' non-uniform day.

We would be very grateful for your donations to this as it has always proved to be a very popular stall.

If you are able to volunteer your time to help please see Mrs Jones.

Please take a look at this online safety video guide for parents about Scams and Digital Footprints.



We are thrilled to announce that Mrs A Jones is our new Assistant Headteacher. We are very pleased that she has her hardwork and dedication to Picknalls has been recognised and wish her luck in her new role.

Our Senior Leadership Team continues to be Mrs Tapp, Headteacher, Mrs Jones, Assistant Headteacher and Mrs Fenton, Senior Leader and SENDCo.

CONGRATULATIONS

Assistant  
Headteacher

Please remember the following when entering the school grounds in a car:

Do not park or drive beyond the barrier at the top of the hill for any reason before or after school.



Please observe site speed limit

The speed limit on site is strictly 5pmh.



Thank you for helping us to ensure that everyone on site stays safe.

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Platinum award for the 2025/6, 2026/7 years. The School Games Mark is a government award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we have been recognised for our success and yet again achieved the highest award possible.




Our achievements this year include: cross country, football, Boccia, dodgeball, sports hall athletics, cricket, netball, touch rugby, archery, orienteering and swimming, and we still have many more to come.

A special thanks to our Sports Leaders, The Picknalls First School Team, i2e partnership and Socratots. A massive THANK YOU to Mrs Jordi who gives up hours of her own time to ensure our children get the most amazing sporting opportunities.

This newsletter is designed to raise awareness of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and to bring news on our ongoing campaigns

# Drowning Prevention

Tragically, we have reviewed the deaths of a number of children from Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire who have died as a result of drowning



48% of deaths occurred in the warmer months. Research from Bournemouth University (2024) found when the temperature reaches 25c there is a fivefold increase in accidental drowning risk.

Young people can be drawn to open water - weirs, quarries and canals are not safe places to 'hang out', swim or play. **Don't take risks around water.**

Children need to be supervised in and around water. They might understand instructions but are likely to forget if they are having fun.

A drowning child/young person can't speak or control their arms. They slip quietly under the water. It's only in the movies they splash about and cry for help.

- Teach older children to choose safe places to swim like public pools and beaches with lifeguards.
- Explain the dangers of swimming in open water like rivers, lakes and reservoirs, strong currents, deep, cold water and things under the surface they can't see.
- Even on a very warm day, open water can still be cold enough to cause cold water shock. This physical reaction makes it hard to control breathing or to swim, causing swimmers to panic.
- Talk them through what to do if this ever happens. Explain how the reaction will pass quickly, so they need to recognise it and control the panic enough to be able to float.
- Teach your child to float . The RNLI has a great video.

CAPT offer safety advice to reduce the risk of drowning. The Float to Live campaign reduces the chance of panic when people get into difficulty in water.



## In the garden

- Watch children when they are in or around water, without being distracted.
  - Keep young children within arm's reach.
  - Securely cover all water storage tanks and drains.
  - Empty paddling pools, containers, buckets and watering cans, as soon as they have been used and turn them upside down. Cover hot tubs after use.
- Make sure older children are accompanied every time when they swim
  - If you have a pond always supervise closely, fence it or fill it in !
  - Always turn hosepipes off at the tap, so children cannot fill vessels themselves.

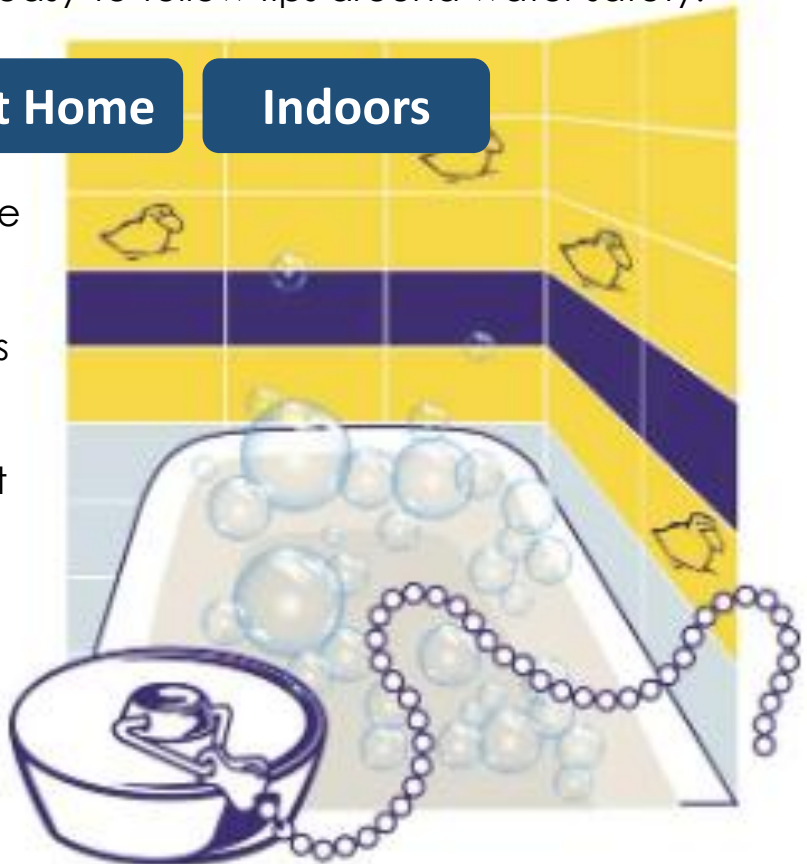
Further information on water safety can be found on RoSPA's website, CAPT website and the NHS website. The Royal Life Saving Society have recently launched the 'Splash Safety' Campaign.

Drownings around the home are easily preventable. The Royal Life Saving Society have created these easy-to-follow tips around water safety.

## Tips for Water Safety at Home

### Indoors

- Always supervise bath time (never leave children unattended)
- Empty the bath as soon as possible after use
- Close toilet lids and use toilet seat locks to prevent drowning
- Keep doors to bathrooms and utility rooms closed
- Vulnerable adults and children who suffer from sudden seizures should consider using showers rather than baths



**Did you know that children can drown in as little as 2cm of water?**

**!Never Leave children unattended near water!**