



Panshanger Press 2024/2025 - Vol. 1

Panshanger Primary School

13th September 2024

Welcome Back!

Message from Mr Longland

Hello everyone!

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed a restful summer break. It has been great to see the children in their new classrooms and familiarising themselves with some of the new routines.

I am very much looking forward to the year ahead and I can't wait to see and hear about all of the children's achievements as the weeks progress.

If you have any questions then please feel free to come and ask me on the playground in the mornings. However, if you feel it would be more appropriate, please call the office to book a mutually convenient time.

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School Uniform

Thank you to everyone who has ensured their child/children have returned to school looking smart and in the correct uniform.

To ensure the right uniform stays with the right child, please ensure that everything sent in to school is clearly labelled so that it can be swiftly returned to the correct child.

Can I please remind everyone that jade green sweatshirts, cardigans and navy polo shirts are available to order online or in the shop – these are logoed items.

<https://www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk/>

Items such as navy trousers, navy skirts, blue or green checked dresses can be purchased from local supermarkets at a reasonable price. Uniform is not compulsory in the nursery class but many parents find that dressing their children in school uniform is both smart and practical.

<https://panshanger.herts.sch.uk/parents/uniform/>

We also have our uniform shed at the front of school where you can donate uniform that could be re-worn or take uniform for your child/children. You may wish to make a small donation in the tin on top of the shed.

Thank you



PGL



Year 6 will depart for the residential trip on Monday and will return on Friday.

The children (and staff) are very excited to spend the week away and we can't wait to update you all with pictures of our activities.

Mr Longland will be away with Year 6 for the duration of the week so please contact our Deputy Head Mrs Reed if you need to during this time.

Top 10 Tips for Parents and Educators: Supporting Children to Manage Conflict Effectively

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 SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

- ### 1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them. Allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.
- ### 2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.
- ### 3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive-yet-respectful questions about the issue at hand. Try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.
- ### 4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things – including diversity of opinion – means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.
- ### 5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.
- ### 6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, feel and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.
- ### 7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.
- ### 8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.
- ### 9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good – and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.
- ### 10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

Meet Our Expert
 Sabrina Lawri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher, she founded her company, Neurodivergent here, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

Source: see full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>

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[/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)
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PTA



PTA Updates

Looking back at the last school year, the PTA raised a phenomenal £7943 across a fantastic range of events and donations – and a further £2730 from the school pool! A huge thank you to everyone who has supported this tremendous effort, and especially to all our volunteers. It shows how incredible our school community is and has allowed us to make some really important donations to school equipment and resources, as well as some fun treats and experiences for the children. Below is a summary of the events from the last year, and what we have funded so far.

If you'd like to get involved in the PTA, please speak to your class rep! We had our first meeting of the year on Thursday 11th Sept and are starting to plan this terms events. Any new ideas and volunteers are always welcome





Upcoming Dates for the diary

Please check your class WhatsApp groups for more details...

Dates for the Diary

Monday 23rd September - Individual/School S Photos

Wednesday 2nd October - PGL Parent Meeting for September 2025

Thursday 17th October - Year 2 & 3 Trip to Woodhall Estate

Thursday 31st October - Secondary School Application Deadline

Friday 8th November - Parents Evening - 14:10-17:20

Monday 11th November - Parents Evening - 15:40-18:00

Thursday 14th November - Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 5th December - Flu Vaccinations

Monday 9th December - Whole School Pantomime Trip to Campus West - Sleeping Beauty

Tuesday 17th December - Christmas Music Concert

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Visit our website at <https://panshanger.herts.sch.uk> to see more!

