



Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

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Headteacher: Mrs J Harrup

11th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

This morning, Year 3 performed their Harvest Assembly to a packed hall of relatives, along with Year 2 and their siblings watching. We were all so impressed with their confidence and how clearly they delivered (and remembered!) their lines. The singing was superb; it was so lovely to see them all enjoying themselves and joining in.

Harvest Collection

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our Harvest Collection for The Trussell Trust food bank. If you haven't managed to donate yet, and would like to, please bring your donations in by Friday 18th October.



Dyslexia Awareness Week

Dyslexia Awareness Week is an annual event run by the British Dyslexia Association to raise awareness and further understanding of dyslexia. It takes place in early October to coincide with World Dyslexia Awareness Day on 8th October and runs from 7th – 13th October 2024. Please see the body of the newsletter for further information.

Athletics success

After competing in the Surrey County Schools Cross-Country event in Reigate in the February, Harri has been selected for the Surrey Schools Athletic Association. He has been invited to participate in the training team; we couldn't be more excited for him. Congratulations Harri.



Forthcoming PTA Events

Our wonderful PTA are busy organising some exciting events to support the school. Please see the body of the newsletter for more information about:

- Boutique Night—Friday 8th November—6.30 to 9.30pm
- Bags to School collection—12th, 13th and 14th November
- Non-uniform Day—Friday 25th October (£1 voluntary donation)
- Hedgerow Planting—volunteers needed! Friday 29th November
- Christmas Fair—Saturday 30th November—2pm to 5pm

Please get involved if you can.

Inconsiderate Parking

Unfortunately, I have been sent another photograph by an upset neighbour due to inconsiderate parking by one of our parents. **Please, please, please** think of others, show your Barnsbury Values and park your car respectfully and thoughtfully.



Earrings at school

We have had a few children at school with newly pierced ears unable to join in with PE lessons because they cannot take the earrings out. I have investigated current guidance and what other schools in the SWAN Trust are doing. The Association for Physical Education Safe Practice in Physical Education & School Sport held in school advises:

Head teachers are advised that pupils who are not able to remove earrings (as these may be newly pierced) should not actively participate in physical education for their own and others safety.

However, it is important that children are not missing out of their Games and PE lessons. So I have reviewed our policy and guidance for earrings as follows:

Pupils should only wear small plain studs to school, not hoops or dangles. Ideally, earrings should be removed on PE days. Students unable to remove earrings should be required to make them safe by taping, front and back, which may offer a measure of protection. The taping should be sufficient to prevent the stud post penetrating the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received (eg from someone or from equipment such as a ball). This taping may be done at home for younger children or prior to the lesson for older students. Earring tape must be supplied by the parents and children are to apply it themselves. Staff are not required to remove or tape earrings for students.

Taping will only be acceptable for a few weeks until children's ears are fully healed. We would then expect the earrings to be removed before school or by the child themselves prior to the PE or Games lesson. Your co-operation with this would be appreciated.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J Harrup".

Mrs J E Harrup
Headteacher

Dates for your diary 2024-25

Autumn Term

October

Tuesday 8th	2.00pm Prospective Parent Tour
Thursday 10th	9.00am Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 11th	9.00am Year 3 Harvest Assembly
Friday 25th	9.00am 5M Class Assembly
Friday 25th	Non Uniform Day
Monday 28th to 1st	Half Term

November

Friday 1st	Half Term
Monday 4th	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th	INSET Day
Wednesday 6th	Children return after half term
Wednesday 6th	School Photos—Individual and Sibling
Friday 8th	6.30-8.30pm—PTA—Barnsbury Boutique Night
Tuesday 12th	3.30—5.30pm—Parents Evening (face to face)
Tuesday 12th	PTA—Bags to School
Wednesday 13th	PTA—Bags to School
Wednesday 13th	Governors Meeting
Thursday 14th	3.30—7.00pm Parents Evening (face to face)
Thursday 14th	PTA—Bags to School
Friday 15th	Year 6 Trip
Monday 18th	9.00am Prospective Parent Tour
Wednesday 20th	2.00pm Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 22nd	9am—Rocksteady Concert—Friday Bands
Friday 29th	9.00am 6L Class Assembly
Friday 29th	10am—PTA—Hedgerow Planting
Saturday 30th	2-5pm—PTA Christmas Fair

Dates for your diary 2024-25

Autumn Term

December

Monday 2nd	KS1 Christmas Pantomime
Thursday 5th	9am Rocksteady Concert—Thursday bands
Friday 6th	9.00am 3M Class Assembly
Tuesday 10th	9am Rocksteady—Tuesday bands
Wednesday 11th	Christmas Dinner and Jumper day
Thursday 12th	KS2 Pantomime
Friday 13th	KS2 Pantomime
Monday 16th	9.15am—KS1 Christmas Production Dress Rehearsal
Monday 16th	2pm—KS1 Christmas Production
Tuesday 17th	9.15am -KS1 Christmas Production
Tuesday 17th	2pm—KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 18th	Christmas Carol Concert Years 3 & 4
Friday 20th	1.15pm End of Term



Star of the Week



Effort Award



Values Award

Oak

Lola

Ronnie

Lucy

Ash

Sienna

Jorge

Ava

1B

Vinnie

Ayyan

Hashim

1M

George

Louis

Michael

2M

Arthur

Logan

Amelia

2T

Damari

Arthur B

Arla

3B

Synthia

Ezra

Emma

3M

Roslyn

Jude

Shelby-Lee

4D

Violet

Louis

Matthew

4J

William

Ben

Jayden

5M

Rosie

Maria

Harry

5T

Rosie

Bella

Nicole

6G

Matthew

Maggie

Isla

6L

Amaan

Sophie

Ava

Congratulations to the Eco this week:



Congratulations to the recipients of a WOW certificate this week: Harri (6G), Ashley (6G), Nicole (5T), Jett (4J), Chiram (4J), Chloe G (3M), Emily J (3M), Ella T (3M), Emily R (3M), Nayna (3M), Chloe (3M), Harry (Oak)



Reception

Continuing with our topic 'All About Me' last week, we used our senses to explore some areas outside the school. We heard children playing in the sandpit, children learning in their classrooms, traffic, and birds. We saw birds, bug hotels, and mole hills. We smelt flowers in the sensory garden. We felt the squashy grass, and the different textures of the path in the sensory garden. At snack time, we tasted different yummy fruits. This week, we went on an exploration walk to visit some familiar and some unfamiliar parts of the school; the KS1 hall, where we do PE, the KS2 hall where we eat our lunch, the library, some Year 1, 2 and 3 and 5 classrooms, and the school office.

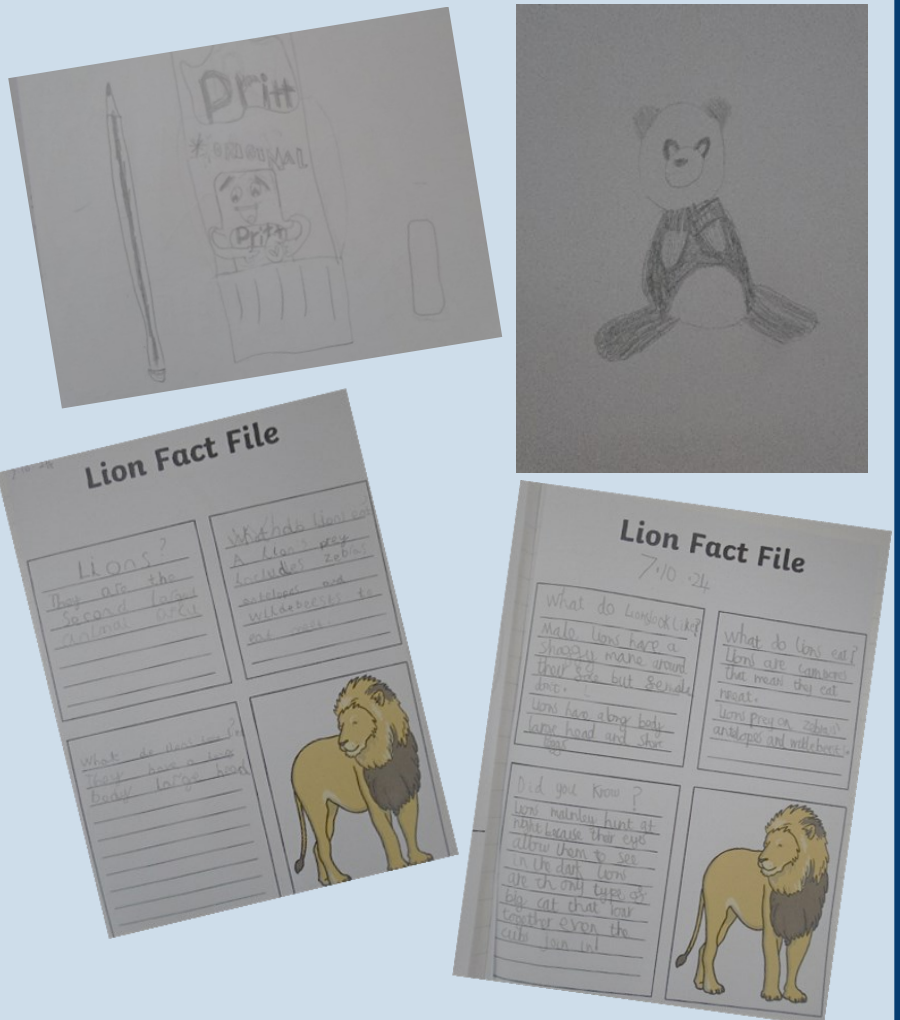


In maths, we have been learning about simple patterns, exploring different resources to think about pattern, body movement patterns, sound patterns, using physical resources and mark making with chalk. Some children have continued a repeating pattern and some have been able to create their own simple patterns!



Year 2

In 2T, we have been enjoying all of our new topics. In art, we have been inspired by music as we sketch. We have been practising sketching by using the 'draw what you see' technique. Look at the amazing work we have produced! In Geography, we have been learning all about Kenya; we can explain what a game reserve is and identify The Big Five. We did some research on lions and created some fact files. We have also been embracing the change in seasons by getting outdoors to spot all the signs of Autumn. We enjoyed an autumn hunt and explored the answers to questions about hibernation and leaves changing colour.



Year 4

The learning intention for this week and the next few weeks is: To use descriptive language in our writing. Investigating descriptive words related to Autumn, saw the children outside and working on using their senses to communicate in poetic form. The results were super impressive, and all are looking forward to getting down to creating poetry.



A continuation of our current theme -The Stone Age, was a lesson dedicated to, 'What cave paintings tell us about the lives of the Stone Age people!' The children so enjoyed exploring the various caves found in Europe, and then made their own cave drawings using charcoal, graphite, chalk and oil pastels.



Year 6

As this half term continues, we have been finding out what a dramatic group of children we have in Year 6! Before our study of 'Shackleton's Journey' came to an end, we wrote motivational speeches as Ernest Shackleton which we then delivered passionately to the class.

To help us understand more about the dangerous rescue mission that was undertaken by some of the Endurance crew we went out to the sensory garden and reenacted the daring mission.

In Science, we have been learning about living things and how we classify them. To deepen our understanding of classification we had the very difficult task of classifying sweets! We also ventured out into the woods to look at the variety of plants and leaves we have within our grounds. It was amazing how many varieties we found. After lots of searching, we each chose a leaf and studied it in more detail observing and recording its features.



Our new focus in English is the works of poet Benjamin Zephaniah. Between the rain showers we went outside to perform 'Football Mad'.

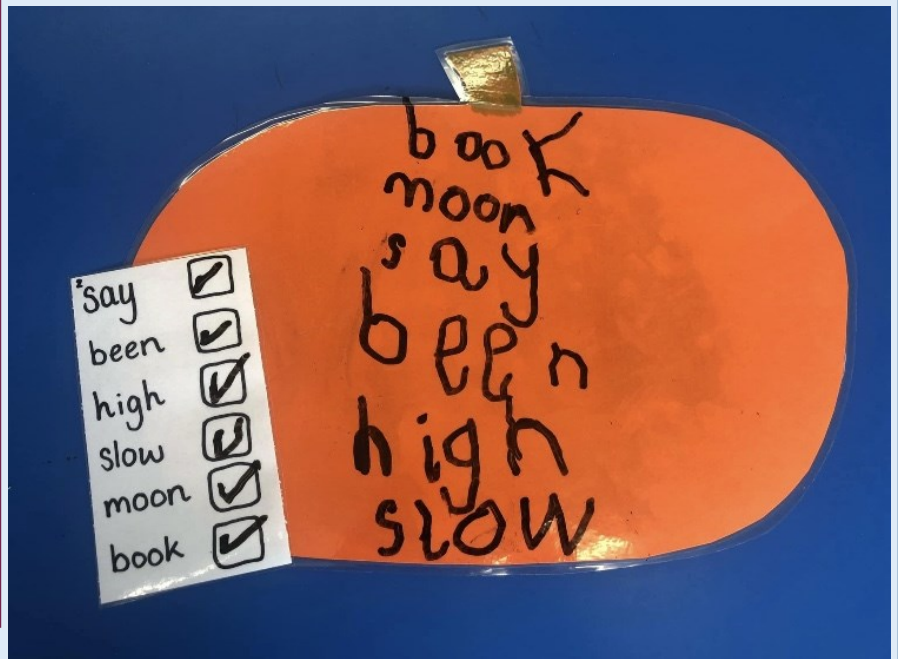


Spooky Phonics Fun

I can't believe we are in October already! But that also means it's nearly Christmas time ☺

My children loved this activity last year. It can be adapted with phonics sounds and special friends depending what stage your child is at. I just used a handful of words with learnt sounds in and read them out to the children. They then had to sound the word out and write it on the pumpkin.

Enjoy, Miss Paice



Athletics Club

I couldn't help but take a few snap shots of our incredible Athletics Team. Besides working on general fitness and skills related to long distance and sprinting, the Athletes spent time on Sportshall techniques, using reversboards to improve speed. There is nothing more exciting for Mrs Living and I, than to see children thoroughly engaged and immersed in Sport.



Dyslexia Awareness Week—7th – 13th October 2024.

When is Dyslexia Awareness Week in 2024?

Dyslexia Awareness Week is an annual event run by the British Dyslexia Association to raise awareness and further understanding of dyslexia. It takes place in early October to coincide with World Dyslexia Awareness Day on 8th October and runs from 7th – 13th October 2024.

What is this year's theme?

This year's theme is 'What's Your Story?' and has three key messages and one call to action:

Every story is different – showcasing the diversity of the dyslexic community and highlighting that everyone's experience of dyslexia is unique. Ten percent of the population are dyslexic – that's over 6.7 million stories to tell.

A strong opening sets the scene – raising awareness of the importance of early identification and intervention to ensure that every person with dyslexia can flourish.

It's never too late to change your story – highlighting how the British Dyslexia Association can provide support and signposting to help dyslexic people begin a new chapter. (Source: BDA, October 24, <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/>)

Why do we observe Dyslexia Awareness Week?

Dyslexia can often be overlooked in children and adults, meaning they don't get the support they need. By spreading awareness, teachers, parents, and carers will know a

What is Dyslexia and how can I support my child?

Listed below are web links from the BDA, HADC and PATOSS in which you can find more information about dyslexia (see also the new definition of dyslexia), the signs of dyslexia and how you can support your child.

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyslexia/about-dyslexia/>

<https://helenarkell.org.uk/about-dyslexia/what-is-dyslexia/>

<https://helenarkell.org.uk/a-new-definition-of-dyslexia/>

<https://www.patoss-dyslexia.org/News/introducing-a-new-definition-of-dyslexia>

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyslexia/about-dyslexia/signs-of-dyslexia>

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children/is-my-child-dyslexic/signs-of-dyslexia-primary-age>

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children/how-can-i-support-my-child>

<https://helenarkell.org.uk/about-dyslexia/information-and-advice/parents/supporting-your-dyslexic-child/>

<https://helenarkell.org.uk/about-dyslexia/information-and-advice/parents/does-my-child-have-dyslexia/>

Are there any free parent guides and resources?

Yes, there are a number of organizations that provide free guides and resources for parents especially during Dyslexia Awareness Week and some of these are listed below.

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children/sign-up-for-your-free-guide-for-parents-download>

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/support-us/awareness-events/download-an-information-and-resources-pack>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/articles/zkw7qfr>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/event/dyslexia-awareness-week-2024>

Dyslexia Awareness Week—7th – 13th October 2024 (cont ...)

Are there free webinars?

BDA Autumn Series of free webinars: the BDA provide free webinars which can be viewed by using the registration links below.

Early years and foundation stage: Thurs 24.10.24 by Amanda Hornby, BDA Trainer <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/events/free-webinar-dyslexia-awareness-for-early-years-and-foundations-stage-eyfs-spring-2024-2-2>

Primary aged children: Tues 05.11.24 by Amanda Hornby, BDA Trainer <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/events/free-webinar-dyslexia-awareness-for-primary-aged-children-spring-2024-2-2>

Secondary aged children: Mon 18.11.24 by Amanda Hornby, BDA Trainer <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/events/free-webinar-dyslexia-awareness-for-secondary-aged-students-spring-2024-2-2>

BDA Week Multi-sensory learning: Wed 09.10.24 by Amanda Hornby, BDA Trainer <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/events/daw-2024-free-webinar-multisensory-learning>

BDA An Overview of Assistive Technology <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/services/training/an-overview-of-assistive-technology>

PATOSS also provide free webinars: at <https://www.patoss-dyslexia.org/Free-Webinars>

HADC provide some free webinars: at <https://helenarkell.org.uk/courses-and-events/free-courses/> including 'A Big Bowl of Self Esteem' which can be found at: <https://helenarkell.org.uk/about-dyslexia/information-and-advice/parents/a-big-bowl-of-self-esteem-with-claire-harvey/>

HADC run a series of live and on demand Spotlight webinars at £5-£10 on a range of different topics around dyslexia, including Executive Function, Visual . <https://helenarkell.org.uk/courses-and-events/parents/>

How do I find a Specialist Teacher or Assessor for my child?

The following organizations have specialist teacher search facilities online:-

PATOSS (the Professional Association of Teachers of Students with Specific Learning Difficulties) at: <https://www.patoss-dyslexia.org/Tutor-Index-Landing>

The Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity are based in Farnham and have a range of qualified tutors and assessors. They also have bursaries available for low income families upon application. Further details can be found at <https://helenarkell.org.uk/> E: enquiries@helenarkell.org.uk

The British Dyslexia Association at <https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyslexia/tutor-list>

NON UNIFORM DAY

FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER

**£1 DONATION TO HELP RAISE FUNDS
FOR OUR SCHOOL**

£1 OPTIONAL DONATION



BARNSBURY BOUTIQUE NIGHT

**FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER
6.30-9.30PM**

**GET YOUR CHRISTMAS
SHOPPING IN EARLY!**





BAG 2 SCHOOL



**Our next Bag2School
collections are on:**

Tuesday 12th November

Wednesday 13th November

Thursday 14th November

Drop off at KS1 gate and office car park

Volunteer Mornings

Hedgerow Planting

Surrey CC are working with Barnsbury this year to plant hedgerows on the school field.

The hedgerows will be planted to mark out the end of the sports area and the 'wild' area on our sports field.

It's a fantastic learning opportunity for the children watching them grow and creating a habitat for birds, small mammals and insects, increasing bio diversity.

We are looking for around 9 volunteers to help.

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

TIME: 10am. We aim to plant the hedegrow in 3 hours.

Please let the school office or your PTA Rep know if you can help.



BARNSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

Christmas Fair

**Join us for Christmas Fun,
Music & Games!**

November 30th • 2 pm to 5 pm

**Tombolas, Raffle, Hot chocolate, Crafts,
Secret Shop, Stalls, Entertainment**



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any fireworks activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"

Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES

Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are not toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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

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