

Flying Bull Academy Newsletter October  
2025

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*Dear families,*

*I am thrilled to have been appointed as the new Headteacher of the Flying Bull Academy. I look forward to working with you, your children and the wider community to develop our school to be the best it can be.*

*We have already had an amazing half term! I have enjoyed listening to the children thinking carefully about our school values of aspiration, resilience, respect and cooperation and creating such thought provoking displays. The children can explain each value and are great at showing them in action.*

*It has been brilliant to see the children accessing our wonderful library, talk so confidently about all the reading they do at home and treat the books with such respect. We are lucky to have such an inviting space and it has been amazing to see children sharing books for pleasure with their friends.*

*Thank you to all the children, families and staff for all their hard work this half term and I know next half term promises great things to come.*

*Have a safe and happy half term.*

*Mrs Brown*

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What did we get up to in September ...

**Nursery** have been very busy playing, exploring and getting to know of all our new friends. We have continued with our 'Magical Me' topic and talked about different feelings and what makes us happy or sad. We have also been sorting different types of foods and drawing some of them. We love stories and have been getting to know some really well by listening to adults reading them and making story maps to help us retell them.

We look forward to welcoming our parents and carers to our 'Stay and Play' session on Wednesday October the 15th.







**Reception** children have settled well into school and have had a fun start to their school journey.

We have been working very hard to increase the children's independence and self-help skills. During half term, please use this time to help your child to practice taking off their coat, hanging it on a peg, washing their hands after using the toilet, feeding themselves and toileting independently.

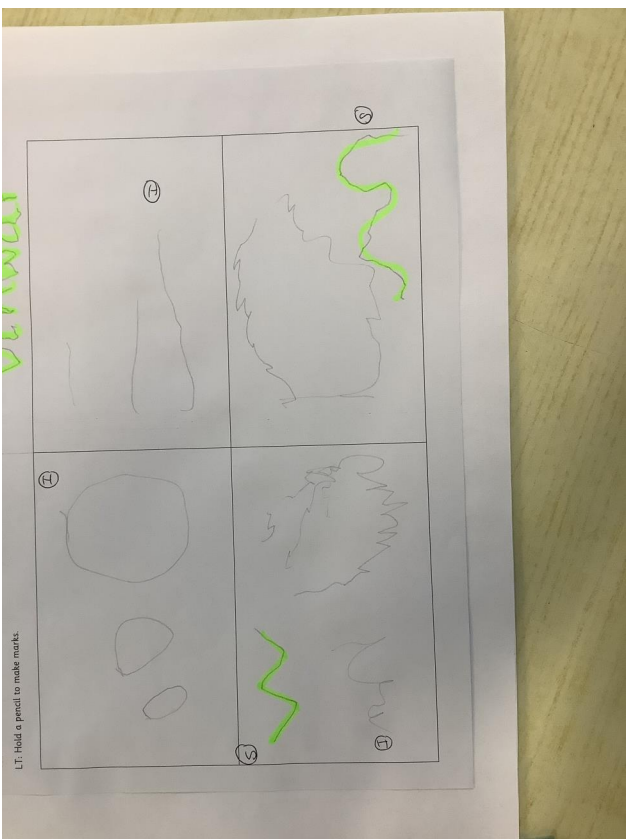
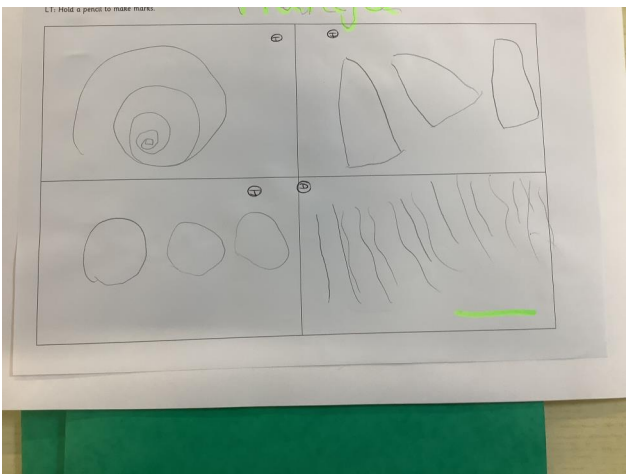
We have been learning about the season Autumn and used the book "The leaf thief" to explore what happens to the leaves in autumn.

Here is a link to the story [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzNOT7xY\\_iE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzNOT7xY_iE)

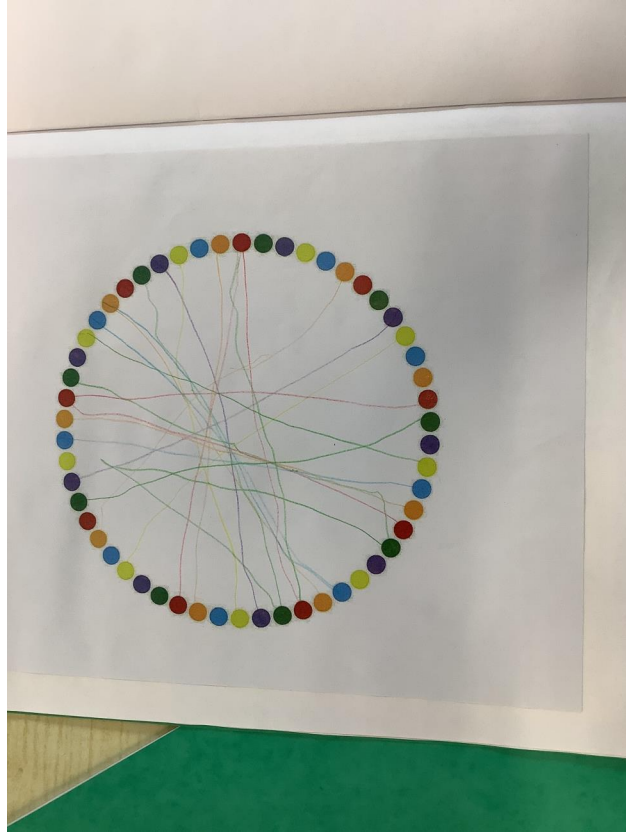
What can your child tell you about Autumn?

In maths children have been exploring numbers 1,2 and 3. They have been learning to subitise amounts. Subitising is when you say what you can see without counting.

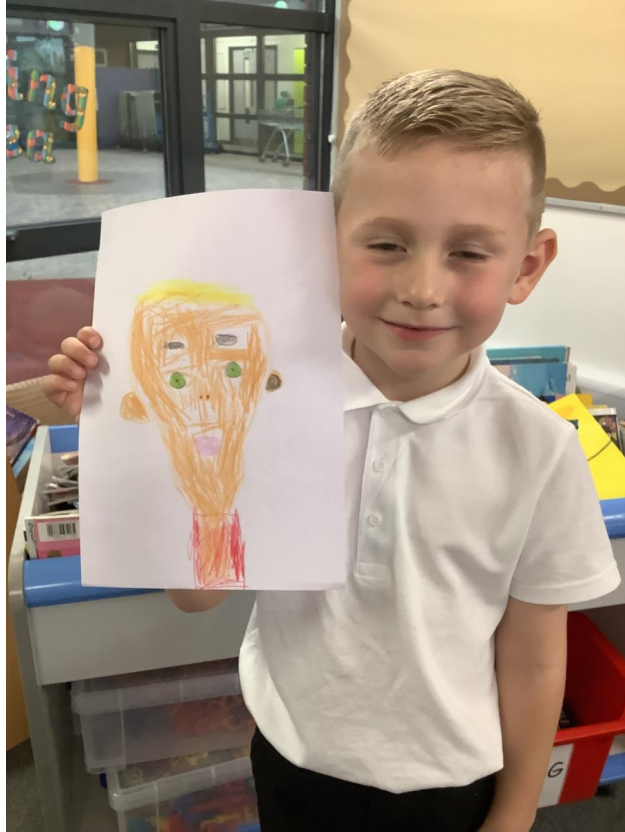
They have also been learning to count objects up to three saying one number name per item. Continue to support the children's understanding by practicing this at home.







This month, **Year 1** have been learning all about their local area of Buckland. We have looked at maps of our local area and children have enjoyed describing their houses to each other! In our English, we have been looking at the book 'Super Duper You'. We have spent time thinking about what makes us all so amazing and the children have written some wonderful sentences about themselves. We hope you all have a restful half term and can't wait to see you all soon!







Welcome to **Year 2!** We have been so impressed with the hard work the children have put into their work in the last few weeks.

To support our writing in our 'Born to Explore' topic, the children adopted their very own pets! We have been writing descriptions of our animals and even focusing on verbs to describe what our animals are getting up to!

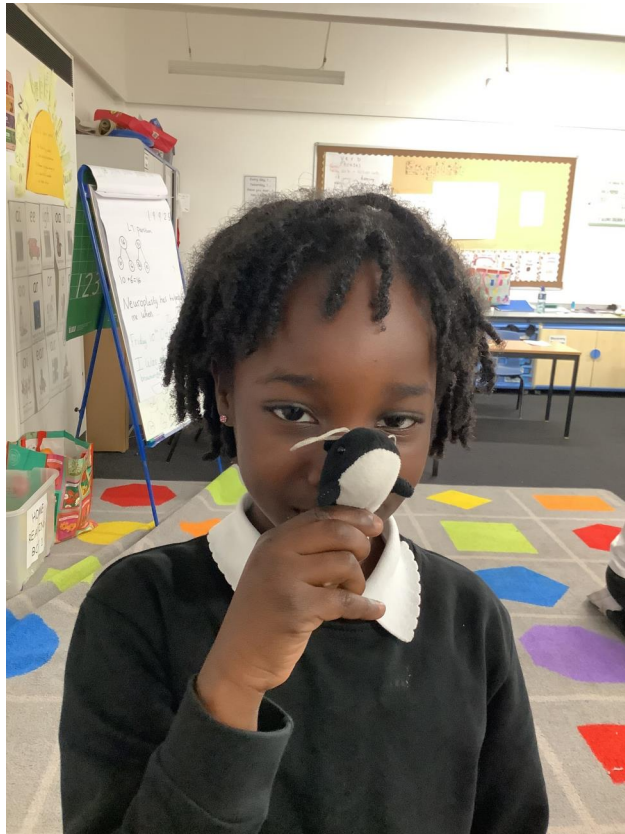
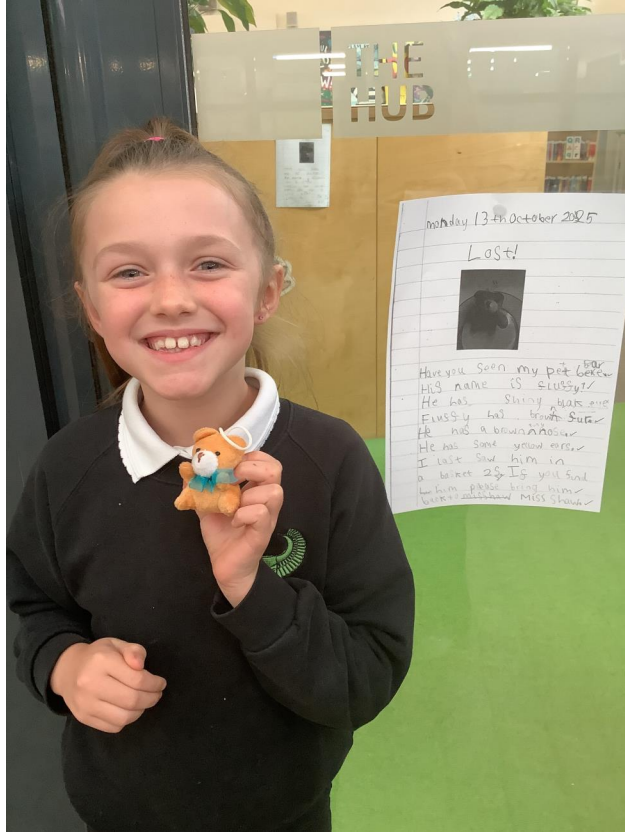
We have also been learning more about animals in our science work where we have learnt all about the life cycles of frogs and the offspring of various animals. We have been blown away by the enthusiasm the children have shown during this topic.

In PE we have been working on our balancing skills and we have developed our teamwork skills through team games. In all lessons, not just PE, we have been extremely pleased with the kindness and respect the year 2 children show to each other.

A reminder to please make sure you are reading with your child 5x a week and please come and join us for ERIC on Thursdays.







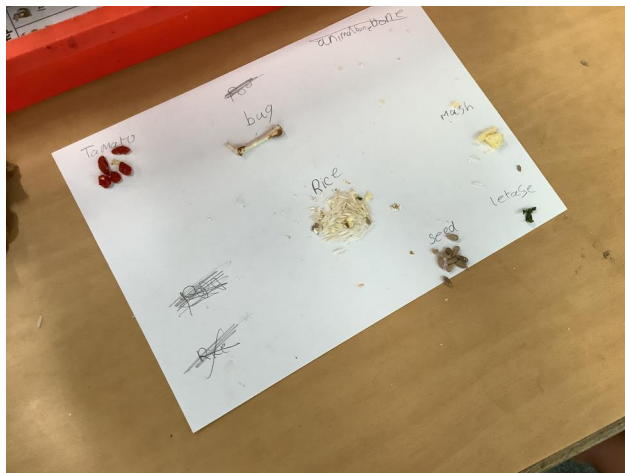


What a busy half term **Year 3** have had! The children have been working really hard in all areas of the curriculum and have settled in to the daily routines and expectations of their new year group.

For history, the children became archeologists for the day ... by dissecting poo! Don't worry – it was only playdough, but we did keep that fact a secret from them for a while! They worked in groups to find clues about the diets of Stone Age people, and used what they had found to make a judgement about how and what they hunted.

We have been modelling our learning behaviours in guided reading and focusing on the key skills to make us good readers. Please keep reading at least 5 times at home per week – to enable them to practice and consolidate these skills.

Have a fantastic half term. See you in 2 weeks, ready to continue our learning journey.



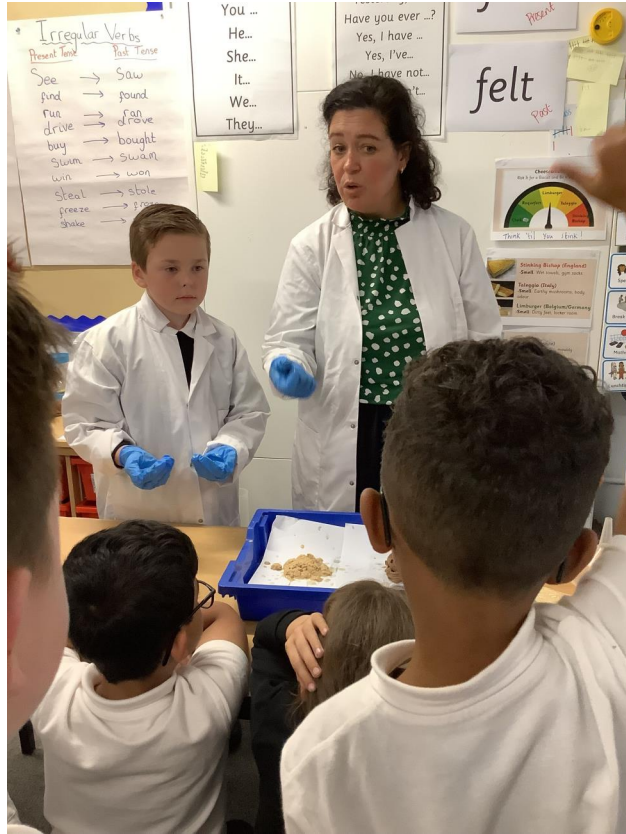
What a super half term, **Year 4!** The children have been working exceptionally hard within all areas of the curriculum and have shown some great resilience and aspirational attitudes. Well done year 4!

For science, the children have continued to learn about the digestive system and enjoyed the investigation into how it works. It was also a bit gross too! We learnt what happens to food when it enters your body and where it finally ends up!

The children continue to practice their times tables in class daily and will be moving onto their 3 times tables before the half term break. Please keep practicing these at home and please keep reading at least 5 times a week, to keep working on those times tables and reading skills.

We wish all our families a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing the children on their return. Great work, year 4!



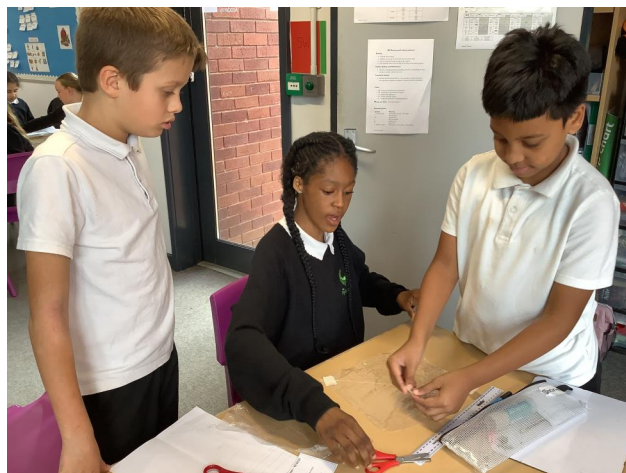


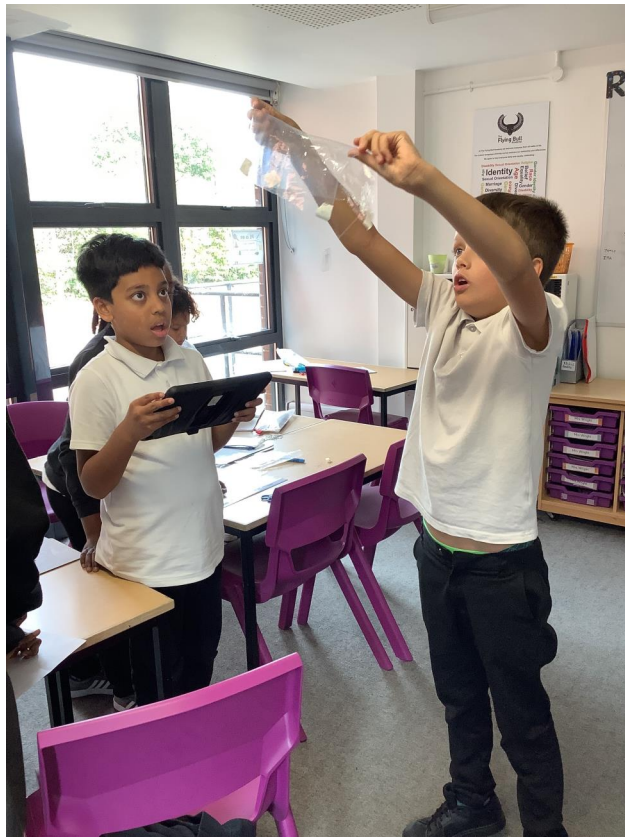


**Year 5** have been learning about forces in science. We have been investigating what effect air resistance has on objects. The children experimented with dropping different sized parachutes from a height to see which would reach the ground first! The children then collated all their data together and plotted this on a graph. Great work year 5!

We have also been writing stories in English based off of the short film Ruckus where we have been experimenting with the use of different verbs to build on the story! We have had some brilliant ideas written across the year group.

Keep it up Y5 and have a lovely half term!











This has been a BUSY month for our **Year 6s**. As we write this, many of our pupils are at Fairthorne Manor on their school residential. Those of us who are still at school have been doing some great activities though. We have tested our science skills by learning about air resistance and taking part in a paper aeroplane competition. Created some brilliant movie trailers for different books using iMovie. Solved coded messages using words written when we use a calculator upside down! We even made stop motion animation films! Finally, we had a DT construction competition to build the tallest tower using spaghetti and 7 marshmallows. Phew! What an amazing month!

















This month in the **HDIC**, we have been creating and publishing our own versions of the traditional tale “The Three Little Pigs”. We have got some versions of the three little crocodiles, little deer and even three little puppies. The children enjoyed writing the process of planning with pictures and then finally writing them up. In music we have been playing the glockenspiels. It was fun and a bit loud, but the children all enjoy themselves. Especially when tasked with creating their own music to accompany the song we were learning in class.



## School Council

This month, we had the exciting task of electing our new school council. We had lots of children interested in joining, and we are so very proud of them for applying. Our ambassadors shined with their written applications, and our adults loved reading them all. With our diplomatic hats on, our classes took their vote.

Congratulations to our new school councillors!

2B - Dexter and Precious

2S - Joanna and Watson

3F - Johnny and Sienna

3G - Arlo and Susannah

4F - Joel and Sophia

4W - Esmee and Rosie

5P - Lenny and Lilah

5W - Amelia and Thuraya

A huge well done to our Year 6 ambassadors too!

6B – Betsy and Maisie

6Q – Eli and Freddie

We will be inviting our year ones to join the school council team, around Easter time.

## Above and Beyond Celebrations

Our Above and Beyond celebrations got off to a great start this year with our first round of awards. Just a reminder of how it works: our teachers nominate two children from their class each half term who go above and beyond in showing one or more of our school values of respect, aspiration, cooperation or resilience. These are values we expect all our children and adults to show in our school but we also want to recognise those children who really do excel in this. Well done to all our winners!

Our next above and beyond celebration will be held on Thursday 11th December 2025. We look forward to celebrating with the children and their families.



## Parent Governor vacancy

Would you like to help make our school the best it can be? We are looking for a new parent governor! As a parent governor, you would join a team that works together to make sure the school is developing in the right direction and is providing the best possible education for your children. We meet six times a year from 4-6pm, usually on a Tuesday or Thursday. I've included a short video here which tells you a little more about the role (it is from Brighton and Hove, but should be helpful for you) If you are interested, please contact the school. We would love to have you on board!



**Could you be a School Governor?**

University of Chichester Academy Trust

Want to make a difference **in your community** and develop your own professional skills?

Schools in your area are looking for governors with enthusiasm, time and flexibility to contribute effectively to the role. You do not need to be an expert in education - we would be delighted to hear from anyone who:

- Is interested in children's education
- Has energy for the role
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to debate issues that affect the school
- Can consider matters objectively and make informed judgements

Contact us to find out more!

Please email Sarah Speller, Trust Governance and Compliance Manager:

[unicat@chi.ac.uk](mailto:unicat@chi.ac.uk)

or visit:

[www.chimat.uk/become-a-local-governor](http://www.chimat.uk/become-a-local-governor)

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## School uniform

At the end of last year, we conducted our parent/carer survey. You said you wanted a more consistent and robust approach to children wearing school uniform. Many of you shared that this would make things easier at home and help foster a sense of pride in the children's appearance. We agree, and staff have also noted that when children wear their school uniform, they engage better in their learning and there are fewer behaviour-related issues.

We would like to thank all parents and carers who have worked hard to ensure their children are coming to school in the correct uniform. Your support is greatly appreciated.

To help everyone stay on the same page, here is a reminder of our school uniform expectations:

### School uniform

White T-Shirt

Black jumper or cardigan

Black trousers, shorts or skirt

Plain socks or tights

Black shoes or trainers

Green gingham dresses can be worn in the summer months.

**PE kit**

White T-Shirt

Black PE shorts, cycling shorts or joggers

Black jumper

Plain socks

Trainers or plimsoles

If your child arrives at school not wearing the correct uniform, we will take the following steps to address the issue:

- The class teacher will remind you of the correct uniform at drop-off/pick-up.
- A member of the LAPS team may phone you if you are not available at drop off/pick up or if your child is consistently not in uniform.
- If needed, a spare jumper or T-shirt will be available in class, and your child will be expected to wear it for the day.

If you need help with school uniform, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact a member of the LAPS team, who will be happy to help.

We offer a range of uniform items for sale. Please contact the office for more information.

Children are not permitted to wear smartwatches during the day; they will be kept safely in a locked cupboard in the classroom.





## Attendance



Ensuring that your child is in school, on time, every day is the most important commitment we ask of all parents and carers. As a school we are aiming for at least 96% attendance and as of this week our total for this current year is **94%**. Thank you to everyone working hard to get to school on time every day.

### **Current Attendance**

**Year R** 99%

**Year 1** 93%

**Year 2** 94%

**Year 3** 93%

**Year 4** 90%

**Year 5** 95%

**Year 6** 94%

### **Children arriving late**

Just a reminder to parents if your child has arrived late for school, we ask parents/carers to form a queue and register late arrivals with **Mrs. Beauchamp**, who will be positioned at the back of the reception area. Mrs. Beauchamp will also be happy to assist with any concerns you may have about your child's punctuality. This system will be in place until **9:10 am** each morning. After this time, any child arriving will receive an unauthorised late mark, which, under the new penalty system, will count as one unauthorised session. Please be aware that 10 unauthorised sessions in a ten-week period could result in a fine.

### **Absences**

Please be mindful when your child is absent from school during term time that this will be classed as unauthorised. Absences cannot be authorised during term time without exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised absences are automatically reported to the local authority and you could be considered for a fixed penalty notice.

### **We are here to help**

If you need support with persistent absence or lateness, please contact Amanda Beauchamp (Attendance Officer) in the school office.

## Respect to all staff



Our staff work incredibly hard to support the children and families of Flying Bull. When you are interacting or speaking with staff members, please remember to use kindness and respect.

Don't miss out- check us out...

Follow us on Facebook for updates and information about news and events, by searching The Flying Bull Academy. Don't forget, you can also keep up to date with our school website <https://www.fbacademy.co.uk/>



Dates for your diary...



- **Monday 20th October - Friday 31st October** - Half Term
- **Friday 21st November** - TRUST Inset Day
- **Wednesday 10th December** - Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner Day
- **Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January** - Christmss Holidays
- **Monday 5th January** - Inset Day



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PRESENTS

# HALLOWEEN FAMILY DAY

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THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER  
10AM – 5PM

FREE  
ENTRY  
ALL DAY

charges for some  
activities



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# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Last year we were able to donate over 3500 Christmas presents across Hampshire and Berkshire to children who are referred to us from schools and social workers and we hope to be able to do the same again this year.

To help us on our way, we are launching our Christmas raffle to raise money for this Christmas Toy Appeal. Tickets are £3 each.  
**JUST SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS**



## OVER 30 PRIZES INCLUDING

A four night caravan break to Somerset, A family trip to 4 Kingdoms christmas Experience, Tickets to a number of our activities including Ninja Warrior, Donutting and more.



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Flip Out

Donutting

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Glo Golf



Laser Tag

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Days Out including Chessington, Legoland  
4 Kingdoms and more

**AND MORE...**

Gold membership is £7.50 per person per year which gives activities  
at upto 50% off and then our charity funds the difference.

For more details please visit our website

[www.spotlightuk.org](http://www.spotlightuk.org) or email [activities@spotlightuk.org](mailto:activities@spotlightuk.org)