

Dear All

Today marks the start of the final week of Autumn 1! What a busy and protracted half-term it has been for us all. We break up on Friday and school opens again on Monday 2 November. Remember as a local authority school we only have one week's break for our half-term.

Autumn 2 is bound to be incredibly busy as we move towards Christmas. Remember to keep an eye on your Tapestry or Seesaw accounts, as well as the school website and social media accounts for reminders of all that is going on. In the meantime, for all of you going to the FOPK disco on Friday after school, I hope you have a wonderful time.

Best wishes, Mr Ambrose, Headteacher

Fairytale Royalty Visits Pot Kiln

Early Years have been reading all about Sleeping Beauty recently and they were amazed when a very special Royal Personage visited Donaldson Class on Friday.

The children asked Sleeping Beauty some questions and she performed a dance for them whilst they sang. Sleeping Beauty, also known as Princess Aurora, even showed the children how to drink a cup of tea in the 'royal way' which was extremely impressive.

Donaldson and Jemison classes loved it and we are sure they will always remember the day Royalty came to Pot Kiln Primary School.



Attendance

Class Winners

Years N to 2 winners
 Bronze 97.69%

Years 3 to 4 winners
 Nightingale 97.33%

Years 5 to 6 winners
 Ali 92.5%

House Points

Blue 1209

Green 1221

Red 1186

Yellow 1180

Pupil of the Week

Donaldson – Martha

Jemison – Thorston

Andersen – Hope

Bronze – Eldon

Boudica – Abraham

Nightingale – Evelyn

Ali – Elliott

Luther King – Kimberley

Yousafzai – Ceyva



Rainy Days Are Still School Days

After our beautiful summer and autumn weather it is understandable that getting up on a dark and rainy morning can be a challenge for all of us. Unfortunately we have noticed that on such days the number of children who arrive later at school increases hugely.

Late pupils miss out on their own learning and can disrupt the learning of others. Any children who flourish in an atmosphere of routine can find this difficult and so the effect on the whole school may be greater than families imagine. Children who are persistently late will also have a reduced attendance rate which may need monitoring. To avoid these negative outcomes we are asking all families to arrive at school for 8.30 am to complete registration by 8.40 am.

Safeguarding Corner

Understanding AI Companions

AI chatbots are increasingly able to hold long, personal conversations and may sometimes feel more like companions than simple information tools.

For parents, it's useful to understand how repeated conversations with an AI system can encourage trust or emotional attachment, particularly for children who may find the interaction supportive or easier than talking to another person.

Children and Screens has produced a short research overview explaining some of the opportunities and concerns around AI companions and young people.

https://www.childrenandscreens.org/learn-explore/research/chatbots-ai-companions-and-youth/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Protecting Children's Images from AI Abuse

AI tools can now be used to manipulate ordinary photographs of children into sexual or otherwise harmful imagery.

The Internet Watch Foundation and the National Crime Agency have produced practical guidance for parents and carers about reducing the risk of image misuse.

The advice includes thinking carefully about privacy settings, who can see photographs, how much identifying information is shared and involving children in decisions about posting their images as they get older.

The guidance also explains what parents can do if an image has been manipulated or misused.

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/>

SEND

Gaming Safety for Neurodivergent Children

Online gaming can provide friendship, enjoyment and a strong sense of community for neurodivergent children, but some children may also need extra support around social cues, scams, communication, rules and recognising when an interaction is becoming unsafe.

Internet Matters has produced a practical guide for parents and carers of neurodivergent children with advice on supporting safe and positive gaming experiences.

It is particularly useful because it recognises the benefits of gaming rather than treating gaming itself as the problem.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Internet-Matters-Neurodivergent-children-bans-guide-June-2026.pdf>



COOKERY GROUP FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



We are pleased to offer a new cooking group for parents and carers at Pot Kiln Primary School! Come along to learn quick, simple, and budget-friendly recipes that will keep even the fussiest of eaters happy. It's a great opportunity to get to know other parents and carers in a relaxed, informal setting.



We will start each session with a light breakfast and plenty of tea or coffee!



Wednesday mornings
8.30am - 12pm
FREE to attend!

To book a spot or find out more, please speak to the reception team.



Charity No: 1074800



Flatford Nature Day

Tuesday 27th October 2026

Join us at Flatford for our autumn Nature Day!



Lots of free, nature-themed activities to get stuck into including:

- Pond dipping
- Hedgehog trails
- Fun nature quizzes
- Hands-on arts & crafts
- Leafy and riverside strolls



...and much more!



Drop in activities 11am – 3pm



Enjoy the great outdoors
around Flatford this
October half-term

There will be something for
all the family!



There is a charge of £6.00 for use of the National Trust car park for non-members.

Call Field Studies Council Flatford Mill on 01206 297110 for more details.



River Stour Trust



Dedham Vale
National
Landscape

