

FLORENCE MELLY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

IF YOU CAN **DREAM** IT, YOU CAN DO IT!



THE DAY THE ELVES TOOK OVER FLO MELLY!

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at our school and this week's Elf Day brought festive joy and cheer to the whole school. Thanks to Miss Bear's brilliant planning, the elves brought plenty of mischief, magic and meaningful learning to every classroom. Children arrived to discover that elves had visited overnight, leaving playful surprises around the school. Each class received a special delivery box containing their elf mascot and a set of treasure-hunt clues. Pupils worked together to solve each clue, leading them to a final gift: a new book, hot chocolate, biscuits and an advent calendar. Throughout the day, children took part in lively oracy discussions, answering big questions such as 'should the elf follow school rules?' They then used their ideas to inspire a piece of Elf Day writing - from diary entries and letters to persuasive pieces and imaginative stories. Later, our Elf on the Shelf mascot visited all classes, spreading plenty of giggles (and a bit of tinsel!) along the way. The day ended with a cosy reading-for-pleasure session as pupils enjoyed their new books with a warm hot chocolate. Elf Day was a wonderful mix of fun, creativity and festive joy - a truly magical start to December at Flo Melly!

Celebrating Positive Behaviour - Team Determination's Treat!

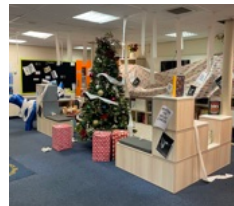
This week, Mrs O'Keefe and the Team Captains from Team Determination, organised a treat for all members of their team - after winning last half-term's team point prize. Team Determination members came together for an extra special Christmas themed afternoon of bingo, pass the parcel, hot-chocolate and Christmas crafts. A big shout out to the Team Captains for taking ownership of the event and sorting everything out so that their members had an experience they deserved! Well done!

Holidays Activity and Food Programme

The Winter HAF programme begins on 22nd December, offering a fantastic range of free holiday activities for children and young people from Reception to age 16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. There are hundreds of festive and non-festive sessions across the city — including pantomime trips, arts and crafts, Santa's Grotto, discos and more. SEND-specific provision is also available, and every session includes a free meal. You can find and book your nearest activities via the central booking system here: <https://eequ.org/liverpoolhaf>. If you need any help accessing the programme, just let us know!

This Week's Book Recommendation...

To go along with our festive focus, we're recommending [Charlie and the Christmas Factory and Other Stories](#) - a magical new collection inspired by Roald Dahl's much-loved characters. A fantastic line-up of authors, including Pamela Butchart, Hannah Gold and Adam Kay, have created twelve brand-new Christmas adventures featuring favourites such as Matilda, George and Charlie. Find out why Matilda is worried about landing on the naughty list, what happens when George's granddaughter Gigi mixes up her own marvellous medicine, and how Charlie plans to celebrate Christmas in the chocolate factory! Perfect for Key Stage 2 readers, this funny and heartwarming collection is a brilliant choice for cosy Advent reading or a special Christmas Eve treat.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

09/12/25

Flo Melly Nativity for Reception Parents/Carers

10/12/25

Flo Melly Nativity for Year 3 Parents/Carers

11/12/25

The Nest Christmas Stay and Play!

12/12/25

Non-uniform - Christmas Jumper Day

12/12/25

Christmas Dinner Day

15/12/25

Storytime with Santa for EYFS & KS1

16/12/25

Storytime with Santa for KS2

18/12/25

Non-uniform - Christmas Party Day

NEXT WEEK'S SCHOOL MENU

WEEK 3
<p>Next week, our kitchen team will be cooking the Week 3 dinner menu for the children. Click on the picture above for more details.</p>

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SPOTLIGHT ON CURRICULUM

End of the Week Update for Parents/Carers - Friday 5th December 2025

This week's spotlight takes us to Year 4 and their festive forest school adventures...

This week, our pupils in Year 4 have been putting their foraging and nature-spotting skills to the test during their Forest School sessions. The children explored the school grounds, identifying different types of trees using their leaves, bark and shape. With their new knowledge - and plenty of teamwork - they collected natural materials to create their own beautiful willow wreaths. The finished wreaths are a wonderful celebration of the children's creativity and their growing confidence outdoors. We're so proud of their curiosity, care for nature, and willingness to get stuck in. Well done, everyone!



As part of our Cultural Capital curriculum, the children will be exploring...

- Similarities and Differences during their weekly 'Cultural Capital' lesson.
- They will also participate in assemblies, about World Religion Week, led by Mrs Hourihan and Miss Kelly and using the picture book '[Buddhist Stories for Kids: Jataka Tales of Kindness, Friendship, and Forgiveness by Laura Burgess](#)' in order to immerse them in the theme. They will also enjoy a drop down day - delving deeper into Buddhism.
- Year 1 will participate in an exciting cookery lesson, delivered by our friends at Apple of my Eye, around the theme of Advent - Christingle.

Wake Up Wednesday - What Parents Need to Know about AI-enabled Scams

This free online safety guide explores how AI is being exploited in certain online scams, revealing the risks for young people - everything from phishing and sextortion to deepfake fraud and voice cloning: <https://florencemelly.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/ai-enabled-scams.pdf>. AI isn't just transforming the way we learn and work, it's also reshaping the tactics scammers use online. From generating convincing phishing emails to fabricating influencer videos, criminals are using AI to make their scams more convincing than ever. Young people, who often embrace new tech quickly, can be especially vulnerable. This guide highlights several AI-enabled dangers - including romance scams, deepfake audio and video impersonations, and fake job offers - and explains how to spot and report them. With clear tips for verifying content, thinking critically, and using trusted platforms, it's essential reading for parents and educators to help young people stay one step ahead of the scammers.



Online Safety Newsletter - December 2025

As we head into the festive season, here's a quick online safety reminder for our parents/carers for keeping your child safe online. With new games, gadgets or devices likely to arrive over Christmas, please remember to check age-ratings (e.g. PEGI) and enable parental controls - especially if games allow chatting or in-app purchases. This December Online Safety Newsletter edition highlights the growing number of AI chat apps and online platforms: many of which are rated 13+ or even 18+, and pose risks around privacy, misinformation, or inappropriate content. The key message throughout the newsletter is, most importantly, talk with your child about what they use online and encourage open conversations, so they feel comfortable coming to you if anything worries them or goes wrong!



Understanding Ofsted report cards and grade

You may have read in the news about Ofsted's new inspection approaches and how they report the findings of education inspections. Ofsted have designed their new-look report cards with parents and carers in mind, to give you a clearer picture of what's working well in schools and where the next steps for improvement are. This link explains more about the new report card system and the grades they give in them: [Understanding Ofsted report cards and grades](#).

Dates for your diary!

- Friday 12th December - Non-uniform - Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 12th December - Christmas Dinner Day
- Monday 15th December - Storytime with Santa for EYFS & KS1
- Tuesday 16th December - Storytime with Santa for KS2
- Thursday 18th December - Non-uniform - Christmas Party Day
- Friday 19th December - Non-uniform
- Friday 19th December - Student of the Term reward trip
- Friday 19th December - School finishes for Christmas holidays at 1:30pm

Have an amazing weekend and see you all bright and early on Monday morning.

Mr Leach
Headteacher

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WEEKLY ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

IF YOU CAN DREAM IT, YOU CAN DO IT!



IN SCHOOL, ON TIME, EVERY DAY!

This week's key attendance message...

As we head into the final month of the year, we want to remind families how important regular attendance is during December. Although it's a festive and busy time, our classes continue with valuable learning right up until the end of term. Each day at school helps children build their skills, confidence, and routines, and even a few missed days can make it harder for them to stay on track. And don't forget – this term's 100% attendance prize includes two fantastic cinema hampers, each with a £50 Showcase Cinema voucher and tasty treats! One hamper will go to a pupil in EYFS/KS1 and the other to KS2, giving two lucky families the chance to enjoy a festive cinema trip as a celebration of brilliant attendance. We appreciate your support in helping your child attend school every day; let's finish the year strong with great attendance throughout December!



WEEKLY PRIZE WINNERS!



Each week we announce five attendance prize winners in our celebration assembly.

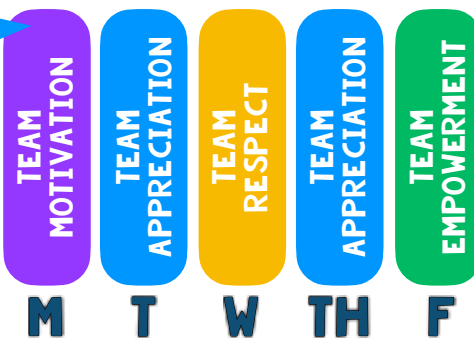
CLASS ATTENDANCE TROPHY WINNERS!



98.0%

Every week, the class with the best weekly attendance wins the famous 'Flo Melly Attendance Trophy'.

DREAM TEAM DAILY WINNERS!



Every day, we see which DREAM team had the best attendance. The winning team receives 10 tokens!

WHOLE-SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
SO FAR THIS YEAR

93.1%

WHOLE-SCHOOL PERSISTENT
ABSENTEEISM

23.9%

NUMBER OF 100% ATTENDEES
THIS WEEK

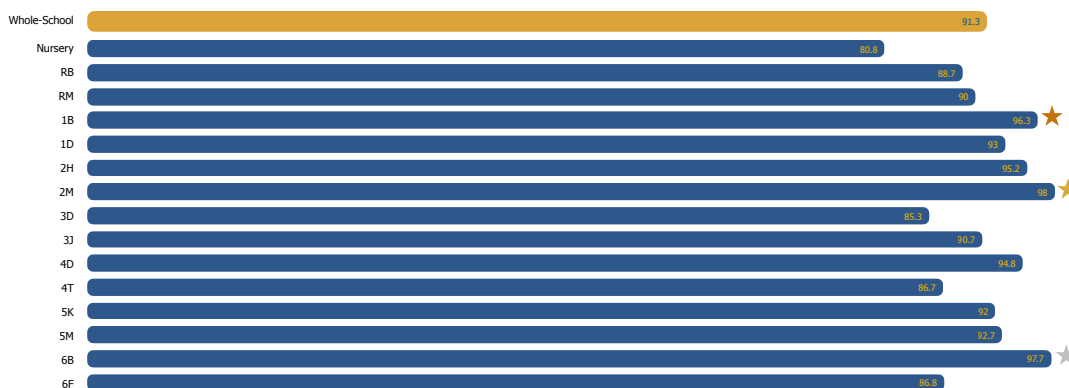
330

NUMBER OF 100% ATTENDEES
THIS YEAR

102

GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE!

At the end of every week we celebrate those classes who finish in gold, silver and bronze place. These classes receive a certificate to hang proudly in their classrooms! The winning class also get to keep the famous Flo Melly trophy in their classroom for the week!



Well done to 2M and 6B, who both beat our 97% target this week. Let's see if we can beat that next week!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS LOST DAYS = LOST LEARNING!

Think 90% attendance is good? Think again! This is what lost days really looks like! Now do you think 90% attendance is good?

IN SCHOOL, ON TIME, EVERY DAY!

	Days missed	Lessons missed	School weeks missed
95%	10 days missed	40 lessons missed	2 weeks missed
90%	19 days missed	76 lessons missed	3 weeks and 4 days missed
85%	28 days missed	112 lessons missed	5 weeks and 3 days missed
80%	37 days missed	148 lessons missed	7 weeks and 2 days missed