

FORT ROYAL FLYER

28/11/2025

Message from Mr Francis

Today we are delighted to welcome our school governors into Fort Royal. They have a full programme of activities planned, including training linked to their roles and an awareness session on our updated Regulation and Behaviour Policy, led by Vanessa and Becca, our school play therapist. As part of their visit, governors will also be meeting our new School Council, joining us for assembly, and spending time in classes to get to know our pupils and staff even better.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, our School Improvement Partner visited recently, accompanied by a colleague. During their visit they toured the school and spent time in a range of lessons. Their feedback was extremely positive. They were particularly impressed with the high-quality relationships they observed, the engagement of the children, and the warm and purposeful learning environment across the school.

Over the past two weeks we have also carried out both a full fire drill and a lockdown drill. A lockdown drill is a safety practice where children and staff remain inside their classroom, lock the door, close the blinds, and stay quiet. This is used in situations where it is safer to stay indoors rather than evacuate, such as if there were an animal on the playground or an incident in the local area.

Our lockdown drill lasted around eight minutes, and the children coped remarkably well. We were very proud of how calm and sensible they were throughout.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

FORT ROYAL FLYER

28/11/2025

Governors

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our school's governing body. Parent governors play a vital role in shaping school policy, setting priorities, and overseeing the budget. The term of office is four years.

Eligibility:

- You must be a parent of a registered pupil at the school
- We can't accept applications from:
 - An elected member of the Local Authority
 - Anyone employed at the school for more than 500 hours in any 12-month period

Anyone interested in applying or nominating another parent can do so by emailing the school office and asking for an application form. If you would like more information then please do contact me via the school office and we can arrange a time to discuss.

If nominations do not exceed the number of vacancies, candidates will be elected unopposed. If more nominations are received, an election will be held by secret ballot.

Please do consider whether you can support our school in this way and I look forward to hearing from you if you are interested. Your involvement matters—please consider putting yourself forward.

Best wishes
Emma Evans
Chair of Governors

FORT ROYAL FLYER

Dates for your Diary.

11/12/25 - Christmas Jumper Day

18/12/25 - Christmas Dinner Day

12/12/25 - Stay and play Class 1

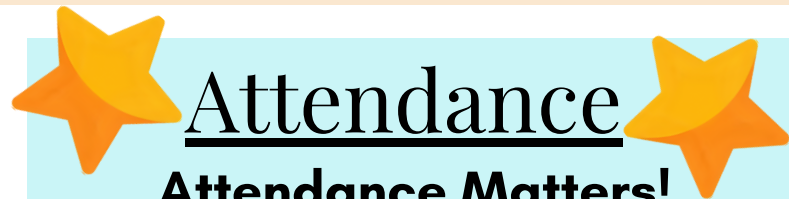
15/12/25 - Stay and play KS1

16/12/25 - LKS2 Christmas Fayre

17/12/25 - UKS2 Christmas Fayre

19/12/25 - Last Day of Term

6/1/26 - Return to School



Attendance

Attendance Matters!

Our Target attendance is 94%

Last weeks attendance was 89%

NOTICE

Christmas Dinner has had a date change

It will now be **Thursday**

18th December

There is also an error on the ordering system.

Christmas dinner needs to be booked for the Wednesday 17th

Anything booked for the Thursday will be served Wednesday

Click here to go to our School Calendar



Click here to go to our Insta page!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.

18
CENSORED

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'younger' (ages 5 to 8) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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FORT ROYAL FLYER

Family Support Worker

Contact me via email- fsw@fortroyal.worcs.sch.uk



worcestershire local

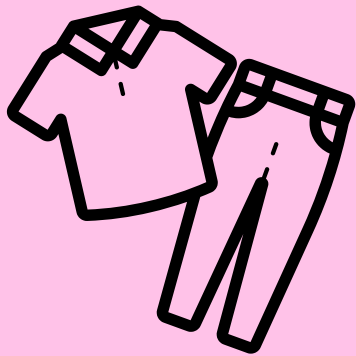
Information about
reception to
secondary school for
children with SEND.

offer



Advice and support for you, your child and siblings.

Where to go for help with finances, health worries, housing, family conflict and much more.



We have lots of good quality pre loved uniform available. If you would like some uniform please either send me an email or pop a note in the diary stating what you would like and sizes. If we have anything suitable we will send it home with your child.

Have seen our sensory library page on the school website?



Last year we had a very successful Christmas jumper donation drop off. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper for the 11th December they can come and choose one on the day!

If you have any old Christmas jumpers/tops etc you would like to donate please send them into school or drop off at reception.

FORT ROYAL FLYER

Family Support Worker

Contact me via email- fsw@fortroyal.worcs.sch.uk



Congratulations!



Well done to the latest group of parents/grandparents who have recently completed the 10 week Understanding Your Child course. Together with Action For Children we deliver this course which is based on the Solihull Approach. If you are interested in taking part in a course at school or at home online please visit the website below. If you have any questions I am happy to help.

TOGETHERNESS

Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

FORT ROYAL FLYER

Friends of Fort Royal

friends of fort royal pta christmas raffle

🎄 Fort Royal Primary School Christmas Raffle 🎄

Draw Date: Friday, 12th December 2025

We're thrilled to announce our Christmas Raffle! Don't miss your chance to win amazing prizes, including:

- Luxury perfumes and aftershaves
- Beautiful gift sets
- Delicious treats and custom cakes
- A VIP Worcester Warriors experience
- ...and so much more!

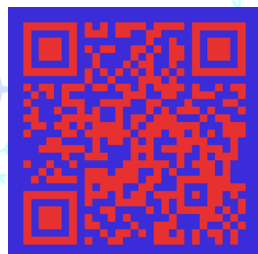
Tickets are just £1 each, and every ticket sold helps support the pupils at Fort Royal Primary School.

Get your tickets today:

👉 Purchase here

<https://tinyurl.com/69hha3b5>

Thank you for your support and good luck!



FORT ROYAL FLYER

EYFS & KSI

Class 6

Over the past few weeks, Class 6 has been investigating different materials. They have read a range of poems and explored them through different textures. The children have explored the different properties of the materials to see if they are soft, hard, hot, cold, shiny or rough.



FORT ROYAL FLYER

KS2

Class 16

This term, Class 16 have been exploring fractions, sharing into halves and quarters. In PSHECC, we have been learning about people who are familiar to us in school and within our families. In literacy, we have been performing, mark-making, and writing about our story Charlie Stinky Socks. Finally, in topic, we have explored light and dark, as well as art skills through painting, making, and collaging. We have had so much fun!

