

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Brown

### Nursery Places

We have a lot of children on our waiting list and places are now very limited. If you are likely to want to increase your sessions in January or April and you haven't already done so, please let us know now. Priority will be given to children taking up their full entitlement of funded hours ie 15 or up to 30 hours. If you have any siblings who are likely to want a place and we haven't got an application form for them, please let us know asap.

For those children who become eligible for funding in January you will receive an e-mail from Mrs Longley shortly with an FE1 funding form for completion. Thank you.

### Primary School Places

Applications for Reception places for the 2026-27 academic year will open on 10th November 2025. We have fliers explaining the process which we will give out to all parents of children due to start primary school in September 2026.

### Parent Teacher Meetings

Don't forget to sign up for a meeting with your child's teacher or key worker. They are being held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November. There is a timetable in school, or you can call or e-mail the school office to make an appointment. This is a good opportunity to chat to staff about how your child is settling in, the progress they are making or about any concerns you may have.

### Dance coaching

Celeste Chadwick will be offering dance workshops during November and December on Tuesday afternoons to children in Bears class. Please send your child in leggings or tracksuit bottoms and suitable shoes. We will be holding dance, sports and forest school sessions on different days throughout the year so that all children in the Bears class who are starting school in September 2026 will have access to these extra-curricular activities.

### Nut free school

Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. Allergies often manifest themselves for the first time in children when they are nursery age, so we need to be vigilant, we have one child with a nut allergy in nursery at the moment. Please do not put products with nuts in lunchboxes eg cereal bars, Nutella or peanut butter. Thank you.

### Coffee Morning: Positive Parenting

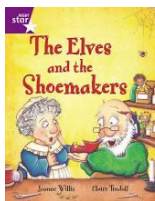
We work closely with the Mental Health Support team, Changing Lives, which is based at Lady Manners School. The team support families and older children with any concerns or anxieties they may have. At Flagg they support us by giving general advice and addressing any concerns parents may have about managing their children's behaviour.

They are coming to Flagg to host some coffee mornings this year. The first coffee morning will be held on

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 9am in Flagg village hall**

Zoe Heathcote, our Changing Lives advisor will be on hand to discuss positive parenting techniques and answer any questions you may have about tantrums, behaviour or communication. Your children are welcome to come to nursery on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> if they do not normally attend on Mondays, there will be toys available in the village hall for younger siblings who are not old enough for nursery.

### Bears Trip to Taddington School



Bears Class are invited to Taddington Primary School on Tuesday 2nd December to watch The Elves and the Shoemaker, a play produced by Buxton Opera House. We will travel there by bus at 1.30 pm and we ask that you pick your child up from Taddington school at 3pm. There will be a permission form to sign on Parent Pay shortly, we will let you know when this is ready. This trip is open to all children in Bears class.

### Christmas Concert

This year our Christmas Concert for Bears class: '**Winter's on the Way**' will be held on Tuesday **16<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm**. If your child does not usually attend on Tuesdays you are still welcome to join us, please arrive by 1.45pm so that we can dress your child in a costume.

### Christmas crafts and singalong session

Cubs class will be holding a Christmas crafts and singalong session from **9-11am on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**, all Cub's parents and carers welcome. If your child doesn't attend on Thursdays, you are still welcome to join us with your child.



### Christmas Party

The Christmas Party will be held on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. All children are invited to attend – **if Wednesday is not their usual day** children in Cubs class are welcome to join us for the morning session (until 12 am). Children in Bears class and Cubs who are already booked in for the full day on Wednesdays are welcome to join us for the whole day. There will be party food, games, a magician, and a visit from Santa. I will issue invitations to the concert, craft session and parties so that you will be aware of which days and times the events are happening.



### A Few Reminders

- Please remember to name all belongings: clothes likely to be removed like coats, wellies, jumpers as well as lunchboxes and drinks bottles.
- If your child has a dummy in nursery, please could you provide a dummy solely for use in nursery and leave it here? We will keep it in a named pot so that it is always available for sleeps etc
- When picking up, we will let two or three people at a time into the building in order to handover children safely. Please be patient whilst we do this., we will try not to leave any of you outside in the rain for too long.

### Governors section

- Over the past year we have welcomed four new governors: Katie Edwards, Tom Osborn, Chris Harrison and Jenny Swarbrick. I would like to welcome them and I would also like to thank all of our governors for the exceptional support they give to our school. Our school community works very hard to ensure the best possible experience for our children and governors are keen to recognise this. With this in mind the governors have asked me to include some quotes from the exit questionnaires from parents this July on the newsletter and on the website:

"The whole team at Flagg are exceptional, we feel very lucky to have had both our children here. The staff treat the children like one big family and always have the children's happiness and well-being as the priority, they are person centred and always go the extra mile. The leadership and passion that Mrs Brown demonstrates is clear to see and this underpins the values of all the staff there. Thank you so much for providing such a wonderful start for all the children there."

"I have found Flagg Nursery to be a very caring and supportive environment for both children and parents. I have been very happy to leave my child there, knowing that he is thriving and being well looked after. Thank you for all that you have done, it has been a pleasure getting to know all of the staff. Keep up the good work :-)"

"My child has had an amazing nearly two years at Flagg and couldn't be happier with the nursery. She has learned so much and gained so much confidence. The way in which the staff think about new activities to keep them entertained daily is so inventive and thoughtful. The staff go above and beyond to give the children the best start in the educational lives and you can clearly see how dedicated they all are. Couldn't thank them all enough."

- The Governors met on 1st October and agreed the School Improvement priorities for the year 2025-26. Here are the three main areas we will be working on:
  1. **Focus on communication, language and literacy acknowledging the difference parental engagement can make to language acquisition:** “If a child is never read to, they will have heard approximately 4,662 words by the time they are 5 years old. If a child is read to 1-2 times per week, they will have heard approximately 63,570 words by the time they are 5 years old.” Literacy Trust UK.
  2. **Improving ICT provision in school to ensure that we keep up with the latest developments in education and equip our children for the future.** “Do not confine your children to your own learning, for they were born in another time.” – Chinese Proverb
  3. **Focus on Maths Curriculum and pedagogy** “The first few years of a child’s life are especially important for mathematics development. Research shows that early mathematical knowledge predicts later reading ability and general education and social progress. Conversely, children who start behind in mathematics tend to stay behind throughout their whole educational journey.” National Centre for excellence in teaching mathematics.



One of our governors, Kate Pogmore (Tom’s mum), has volunteered to be a link between parents and the governing body. If there is anything about nursery school life that you would like to flag up with our governors, please contact Kate either in person or by e-mailing [kpogmore@flagg.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:kpogmore@flagg.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Alternatively, you could “post” any comments you have about our school (anonymously) in the green letterbox under the whiteboard in the entrance link.

**Dates for your diary: Dates for the whole academic year can be found on the website**

<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Parent: teacher meetings
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 9am</b>	Positive Parenting coffee morning in Flagg Village Hall
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1.30pm</b>	Bears class trip to see the panto at Taddington school
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2pm</b>	Christmas concert: Bears class, parents welcome
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas party with Santa and magician, all children welcome
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 9am</b>	Christmas crafts and singalong Cubs class, parents welcome
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Break up for Christmas holidays
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	INSET day, school closed for children