

NEWSLETTER



Edition 8

Tuesday 11th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're heading into another exciting week at Hucknall Flying High Academy, filled with opportunities for learning, reflection, and community spirit. Yesterday, our Year 1 children had a brilliant time exploring Nottingham Castle, bringing their history learning to life in a hands-on way.



Also, this week, our F2 pupils are off on their own adventure to Twycross Zoo, and we're also looking forward to welcoming families into school for **Parents' Evening**. Across the week, we'll be taking part in **Anti-Bullying Week**, **Remembrance Day**, celebrating **World Kindness Day**, and ending the week with **Children in Need Day**—a chance to come together for a great cause and show how small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

Diary Dates – Including Holiday Dates 2025/2026

2025	
November	
Wednesday 12 th	Scholastic Book Fair
Wednesday 12 th	F2 trip to Twycross Zoo
Wednesday 12 th	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
Thursday 13 th	Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 14 th	Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need – Donations Welcome
Friday 14 th	Scholastic Book Fair
Monday 17 th	Scholastic Book Fair
Monday 17 th	Year 4 trip to Mill Adventure Base
Tuesday 18 th	Scholastic Book Fair
Tuesday 18 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Wednesday 19 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Thursday 20 th	Year 5 Bikeability
Friday 21 st	Non-Uniform Day – 'Bring a Bottle' for the Christmas Fair
Friday 21 st	Year 5 Bikeability
Wednesday 26 th	Year 5 Flu Vaccination
Thursday 27 th	Whole School Pantomime – Years 1-6
Friday 28 th	Non-Uniform Day – 'Bring Sweets + Chocolate' for the Christmas Fair
December	
Tuesday 2 nd	Non-Uniform Day – 'Bring £1 Donation' for the Christmas Fair
Tuesday 2 nd	4:00pm – 5:30pm Christmas Fair

Tuesday 9th	5:00pm Year 3/4 Christmas Carol Service
Wednesday 10th	2:30pm - Rocksteady Concert
Thursday 11th	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 11th	Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 11th	5:00pm Year 5/6 Christmas Carol Service
Friday 12th	1:30pm Little Mermaid Pantomime at Nottingham Playhouse for Nursery & FS2
Tuesday 16th	1:30pm Year 1/2 Christmas Performance
Tuesday 16th	5:00pm Year 1/2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 17th	10:00am EYFS Performance
Wednesday 17th	1:30pm EYFS Performance
Friday 19th	Non-Uniform Day
Friday 19th	Last day of the autumn 2 term
January	
Monday 5th	First day of the spring 1 term
Wednesday 7th	Year 3 and 4 Bikeability
Thursday 8th	Year 3 and 4 Bikeability
February	
Friday 13th	Last day of the spring 1 term
Monday 23rd	INSET DAY – School Closed
Tuesday 24th	First day of the spring 2 term
March	
Wednesday 4th	Year 5 depart for Hathersage residential
Friday 6th	Year 5 return from Hathersage residential
Tuesday 10th	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday 11th	Parent Meetings: 3:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday 18th	2:30pm – Rocksteady Concert
Friday 27th	Last day of the spring 2 term
April	
Monday 13th	First day of the summer 1 term
Tuesday 21st	Year 4 trip to Leicester Museum & Art Gallery
May	
Monday 4th	BANK HOLIDAY – School closed
Monday 11th	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
Thursday 21st	Last day of the summer 1 term
Friday 22nd	INSET DAY – School Closed
June	
Monday 1st	First day of the summer 2 term
Monday 1st	Year 4 multiplication Check Week
Monday 8th	Phonics Screen Week

Tuesday 30th	Year 6 depart for Wales residential
July	
Friday 3rd	Year 6 return from Wales residential
Wednesday 15th	2:30pm – Rocksteady Concert
Friday 17th	School reports
Friday 24th	Last day of summer 2 term

Congratulations to Our Award-Winning Staff!

We are delighted to celebrate our incredible team members who received **Flying High Trust Staff Awards 2025** at school level:

- **Miss Cawley** – Special Recognition
- **Mr Rowlett** – Community Impact
- **Miss Kenny** – Partnership Collaboration
- **Mrs Keen** – Empowering Children
- **Mrs Dempsey** – Children’s Choice
- **Mr Ellis** – Volunteer Award



A huge well done to each of you for your outstanding contributions to our school community!

We are also thrilled to announce that **Mrs Keen** and **Miss Dempsey** were selected for **Trust-Level Awards** and received their accolades at the ceremony on **Friday, 7th November**. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their dedication and impact.

Thank you to each and every one of our wonderful staff members who make **Hucknall Flying High Academy** the exceptional place it is. Your hard work, passion, and commitment truly make a difference every day.

The Importance of School Attendance



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they are unwell, particularly in the winter months when there are lots of seasonal illnesses going around. If you do keep your child at home, please remember to call school on the first day of the absence and keep us updated everyday after that. Wherever possible children should be in school so that they can receive their education. The NHS has produced a useful guide relating to the different illnesses that your child might experience and whether they are able to come to school in each case:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Our attendance is currently at 96.1%, **an improving trend across school**. School attendance over the last week was 97.6%, the percentage for each class is listed below:

Class	Attendance this TERM
Spitfires – F2	98.7%
Lancaster – Year 1	99.0%
Hurricanes – Year 2	95.7%
Hunter – Year 3	99.4%
Harriers – Year 4	93.3%
Mosquito – Year 5	95.9%
Comet – Year 6	100%
Overall	97.6%



Comet Class – Year 6 are our attendance champions over the last week – **100%** attendance! Well done!

Working Together to Keep Hucknall FHA Moving Forward

At Hucknall Flying High Academy, we’re always looking for ways to improve and ensure every child receives the very best education. This year (2025-2026), we’re focusing on four key areas to help us continue to grow as a school:

1. Making Learning Accessible for Every Child

We’re working to make sure all children can fully access our curriculum, no matter their starting point. This means adapting our teaching and support so that every child can thrive and succeed in their learning.

2. Strengthening Writing Across the School

We’re placing a strong focus on improving writing, helping all children become confident, fluent writers. We want every pupil to enjoy writing and make great progress, with outcomes that reflect their full potential.

3. Developing Teaching and Learning

We’re continuing to refine our approach to teaching through our Lesson Design model. This helps teachers plan lessons that are tailored to each subject and meet the needs of all learners, leading to high-quality outcomes across the curriculum.

4. Embedding Maths Fluency

We’re working to strengthen maths fluency across all year groups. This means helping children to recall key facts quickly and apply them confidently, which supports deeper understanding and success in maths.

We’re excited about the impact these priorities will have and are grateful for your continued support as we work together to make Hucknall FHA a truly exceptional place to learn.

This Week

On Friday we will celebrate 'Children in Need' where we will invite the children to wear non-uniform (this can be 'Children in Need' themed), along with a donation of £1.



NSPCC Safeguarding Tip of the Week – Home or Out Alone

As your child gets older, it's likely they'll want a bit more independence. Going out without you is a natural step for them to take — when the time is right. The NSPCC 'Home or Out Alone' guide contains practical tips and advice for parents. It covers some of the risks parents should consider before making a decision and suggestions on who children should contact in case of an emergency.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/leaflets/home-or-out-alone-guide>

School Admissions

Do you have a child due to start Primary school **in September 2026?**

If so, please make a note of the following dates:

Monday 3rd November 2025 – Notts County Council applications are open for starting school in September 2026.

Thursday 15th January 2026 – Closing date for applications.

Christmas Fair - Tuesday 2nd December 2025

We are excited to announce that our annual **Christmas Fair** will take place on **Tuesday 2nd December 2025**, starting at **4:00pm**. School will finish at the usual time, and children will go home as normal. We hope to welcome you all back later in the afternoon to join in the festive fun!



Donation Days & Non-Uniform Days

To help us prepare for the fair, we kindly ask for your support with the following donations, each in exchange for a non-uniform day:

- **Friday 21st November** – Bottle donations
- **Friday 28th November** – Sweet donations
- **Tuesday 2nd December** – £1 donation (also Christmas Fair day)

Hamper Donations

We would greatly appreciate contributions toward our class hampers. Each class is collecting items based on a colour theme. For example, *Spitfires* are collecting yellow items – a rubber duck would be perfect! Please send in your donations by **Wednesday 26th November**.

- **Nursery** – Red
- **Spitfires** – Yellow
- **Year 1** – Pink
- **Year 2** – Green
- **Year 3** – Orange
- **Year 4** – Purple
- **Year 5** – Blue
- **Year 6** – White

What to Look Forward To...

In the School Hall

- A variety of festive stalls including: Christmas baubles, glitter tattoos, face painting, pocket money toys, stationery, handmade crafts, wax melts, wooden gifts, and more!
- Visits to Santa Claus
- Hot chocolate and other warm drinks
- A performance by **Believe Dancing** at **5:00pm**
- **Raffle** draw to follow the performance



In the School Car Park

- Santa's sleigh will be parked outside, with Santa meeting children inside the hall
- A hot food van selling delicious food, as always
- An ice cream van
- A fire engine for children to explore

Under the Canopy

- Our popular tombola featuring bottles, sweets, chocolates, books, games, and pick & mix
- Class stalls selling their handmade Christmas crafts

Raffle Information

Each family will receive a sheet of raffle tickets. Additional sheets are available from the school office.

Tickets are £1 each.

Prizes include:

- £75 cash
- £50 cash
- Photography voucher
- Laser tag vouchers
- Climbing experience vouchers
- Various hampers
- ...and many more!

Please return sold tickets and money to the school office.

Volunteers Needed

We would be very grateful for any help on the day. If you're available on **the Tuesday afternoon**, we'd love for you to join us. Set-up begins at **1:30pm**, so please let us know if you can lend a hand. We look forward to celebrating with you on **Tuesday 2nd December!**

Winter Coat Donations – Supporting Our Community

As the colder months set in, we're launching a **Winter Coat Donation Drive** to support families in our school community who may need a little extra help this season.

If you have any **gently used children's or adult coats** that are clean and in good condition, we would be very grateful for your donations. These will be made available to families who need them, helping to ensure that every child stays warm and comfortable this winter.

Donations can be dropped off at the school office from Monday to Friday during school hours. If you would benefit from receiving a coat, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff in confidence—we're here to help.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Together, we can make a real difference.

Elftastic Christmas Party – Join the Festive Fun!

We're excited to share details of a fantastic community event coming up soon! The **Elftastic Christmas Party** will take place on **Friday 5th December from 6:00pm to 10:00pm** at the **John Godber Centre, Ogle Street, Hucknall (NG15 7FQ)**.

This festive evening promises plenty of fun for all the family, including:

- Games and activities
- Puzzles and quizzes
- Music and entertainment
- Raffle prizes

Tickets are just **£3 per person**, making this a great way to kick off the Christmas season together. For more information, visit <http://www.johngodbercentre.co.uk> or call **0115 963 9633**.



SO MANY EVENTS ONE GREAT VENUE 0115 963 9633
Regd. Charity No: 1132272. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Hucknall, Torkard. www.johngodbercentre.co.uk

Best wishes, Mr K Clowery

