



# The Flying Bull Academy

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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Hello all! Here we are at the end of another week! One more week and it is half term.

We have some very positive comments from parents this week and they are so good to hear. Here is one example,

*Home schooling is definitely challenging and I now know why I never went for a career in teaching :)*

*How you all do it amazes me, it really does.*

*We just want to say thank you to all teachers and staff for the support and help you've given us, we can't imagine how tough it must be for you all right now.*

We really enjoy receiving messages like this. Please keep them coming.

## **Remote Learning**

We only have 12 families that have not posted work on Seesaw since the start of term. We are continuing to work with these families to ensure their children are accessing the work. Some of these are parents/carers that do not answer their phone when school staff are ringing. Please understand that these calls are important during this time and will show as No Caller ID on your display.

I have not really explained how we are operating at the moment. We are a two form entry school which means we have two classes in each year group. In each class there is a teacher and 1 or 2 support staff. During Lockdown 3 we are having one of these class groups in school running the year group bubble and the other class team are working from home running the online learning. This means the feedback on Seesaw could be from any adult in the year group team. It will not be your child's teacher every time.

We are not doing whole class live lessons but you will find voice overs and film clips from teachers on the Seesaw activities. We have been trialling small group and 1 to 1 live support sessions. Your year group team will let you know if and when these are happening.

What we have noticed is that children are accessing the reading and maths activities but are more reluctant to access the writing activities. When we came back to school after the lockdown 1, it was the writing where the children had fallen behind most. Please encourage your children to tackle the writing activities and to write extended pieces to build up their stamina when writing.

## **[Safer Internet Day 2021,](#)**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day. As part of this year's Safer Internet Day campaign, these videos have been put together by children across the UK to support parents and carers in helping children to think

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about trust online. We hope that these tips may inspire you to talk to your own children about what we can trust online and what is reliable information. [Films for parents and carers](#) | [Safer Internet Centre](#)

## **Cunch-Line Chronicles**

On the subject of internet safety, we have just received this information from the safeguarding team at PCC.

'You may have heard about a fairly recent phone app game called Cunch-line Chronicles, which is advertised as a "light hearted satirical take on the darker side of urban UK culture". However it is far from this - the game promotes and sensationalises the county lines lifestyle, teaches users how to set a trap house and how to recruit runners (below are some screen shots from the game so you are aware of what it would look like if it's open on a child's phone).d

Various national bodies are aware of this app and are investigating whether any action can be done about it. Of particular concern is that it appears to have an in-chat facility which could potentially enable grooming/recruitment and so hopefully action can be taken.

The Home Office has produced some [guidance on County Lines](#) that you may find helpful if you want to find out more about what this is and what some of the signs to look out for are. The PSOP website also has more information and links to useful resources relating to exploitation that can be found [here](#). If you are concerned that a child may be at risk of exploitation then please complete a CERAF (Child Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework) and guidance on this can be found [here](#)

It goes without saying, but please be mindful of how you discuss this app with children. We've had feedback that some attempts to encourage children to not to download it, has actually had the opposite effect by drawing attention to it and encouraging them to actively seek it out.'

## **Children's Mental Health Week 2021**

This was a great success this week and there are posts on the website in relation to the week. Please take time to have a look. I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Darbyshire for organising the week.

## **Whole School Assembly**

Just a reminder, we would like to use children's first names and their class name in assemblies when we are celebrating work including reading achievements. These assemblies will be posted on the website.

## **Getepic**

Please speak to the school staff on your weekly call on how to access Getepic. This is a great and free resource of books that children can read at home.



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## Accelerated Reader

Just two more weeks left for the children to fill their sunflowers on Accelerated Reader. So keep on reading and quizzing.

## Portsmouth Book Awards

The Portsmouth School Library Service Book Awards were launched this week. They are for the pupils in Year 1 and Year 5. We hope that all the children in those year groups will take part. The books can be read to the children or, if they are in school, they can read themselves. They will be asked to vote for their favourite book in April. There is more information, and links to readings of the books, on the website. Please have a look and Happy Reading or Listening!!

## Scooters and Bikes

A reminder to parent/carers who are bringing children to school by bike and scooter that everyone needs to 'get off and push' when they enter the school premises. Please do not allow children to ride or scoot on the playground while waiting for the children to come out, as we have had a number of near misses this week.

## Parents Consultations

We were due to be holding parent/carer consultations week beginning the 8<sup>th</sup> March. However, we realise that you are in regular contact with school staff during lockdown. We thought it would be more useful to postpone these consultations until the first few weeks of the summer term where the teachers can speak to you about gaps that may have arisen during lockdown.

That's all for this week! As usual if you have any questions or any more positive comments, please contact me on [head@fbacademy.co.uk](mailto:head@fbacademy.co.uk)

I hope you have a very good weekend.

Kind regards

Mr D. P. Hewett-Dale,  
Headteacher