

Abacus Primary School



24/10/25



Today, school closes for the half term break and reopens on Monday 3rd November 2025.

What a great half term we have had. Well done to our Foundation children who have completed their first half term at school, we can already see the progress they are making each day. Well done to all the children for their efforts this half term.

Our tours start after the half term break for September 2026, if you haven't booked onto one of these please contact our school office as soon as possible.

Applications for Secondary Schools need to be completed by 31st October 2025. Cut and copy this link to apply: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary-school-places>

We will be selling poppies for the week after half term, suggested donation £1, these are available from each classroom.

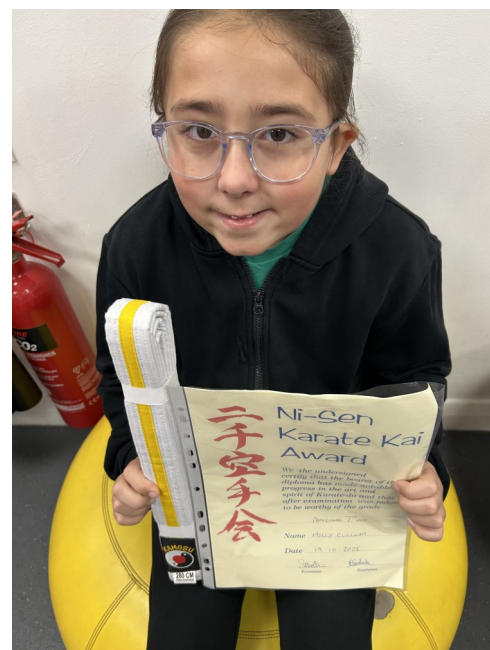


WEEK 1 of new menu

Our new menu starts after half term—
cut and copy link to view

[https://
www.abacusprimaryschool.co.uk/school-meals](https://www.abacusprimaryschool.co.uk/school-meals)

Printed copies can be collected from our entrance hall or school office



Well done to Amelia,
Jorgie, Molly and Jack
for their achievements
outside of school for
Tap dancing, Football
and Martial Arts



Odd Socks Day 10/11/25

We invite children to
wear odd socks on
Monday 10th
November 2025.



We love to read!



What a wonderful afternoon we had on Monday at Silvana Court Book Club. Well done to Imogen, Ire, Louie, Amelia, Ema, Leah and Leonardo for the confidence they showed in their reading. Our resident friends love spending time with the children and we always leave them with the biggest smiles on their faces.

FAPS Laser Night



What an amazing time we all had on Thursday evening at our very first Laser Night. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event. A BIG THANK YOU to FAPS for organising such an enjoyable event and thank you to all the staff members who stayed and helped at the event.

Abacus Primary School Reads!



In October 2025, students have read...

1,090 Books

5,929,254 Words

for **30** minutes/day!
(individual student average)



HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT

We recommend that each floor of your home has a working smoke alarm fitted. These should be tested on a weekly basis and batteries replaced if necessary.

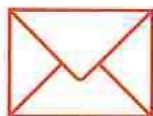
We provide smoke alarms completely free of charge. To arrange a free home fire safety visit from one of our technicians contact us now.

By phone, ask for the Home Fire Safety team on:



0300 303 0088

By email, follow the Home Fire Safety link on our website:



www.essex-fire.gov.uk



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service

Our Values: Respect, Accountability, Openness and Involvement



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

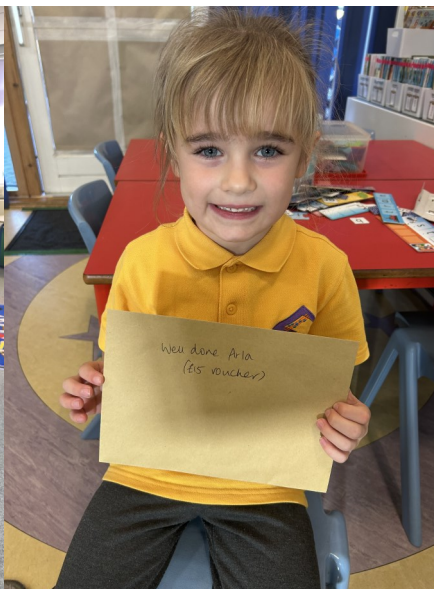
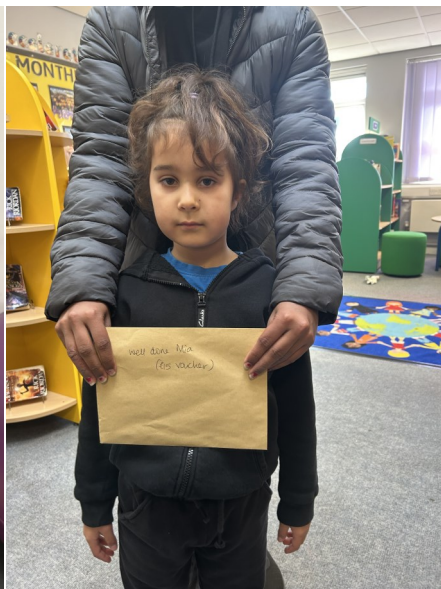
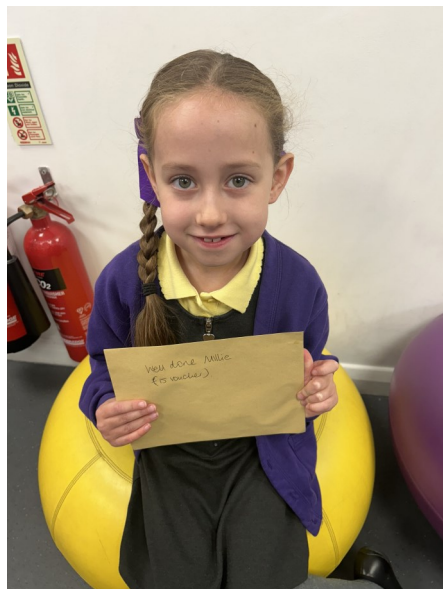
Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



Well done to our three Amazon Voucher winners (Millie, Mia and Arla) for collecting the most sponsorship money for the Fun Walk (Over £100 each)

Christmas card ordering must be done
by

11th November 2025.



Christmas Photoshoot

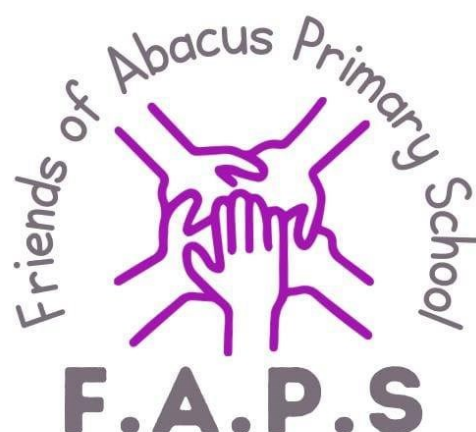


Lou Sutton
PHOTOGRAPHY



Book your slot:

<https://tinyurl.com/3hrb383x>





Book
of the
Month
£1,500 x2

SEN
Event

Ice
Lollies

Upcoming
Wellbeing
Project
£15,000

Reindeer
Visit
£784

Stage
Lights
£3,300

Easter
Eggs

Sensory
Circuit
Coming Soon
£4,000

Future
Coach
Trips
£3,500

How we invested funds
raised by YOU in
2024 & 2025

Fun
Walk

Father's
Day

Mother's
Day

Bingo

Wonka
Bars

Magic
Night

Summer
Bounce

THANK
YOU

For continuing to support these events

Sports
Day

Photo
Shoot

Cards
Disco

OPEN GLOVE

RECREATIONAL BOXING CLUB



- **STRENGTH BUILDING**
- **FIXED PROGRESS CIRCUITS**
- **TARGET CIRCUITS**
- **LIGHT WIGHT TRAINING
(POWER STRENGTH)**
- **RUNNING (STEADY, TO SPEED
ENDURANCE RUNS)**

METHODS

- **PAD WORK (WITH COACH/PARTNER)**
- **DRILLS (INDIVIDUAL AND PARTNER)**
- **BAG WORK (POWER AND STRENGTH)**

**LEARN THE SKILLS OF BOXING
WITH A QUALIFIED BOXING COACH**

For Ages 7 to 16 Yrs

**The Nevendon Centre
Nevendon Road, Wickford
Essex SS12 0QG**

**For More Details Call
Steve on 07713 735 501**

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & GIFT FAIR

In aid of BCCS a charity which supports the emotional health and wellbeing of children

Registered Charity Number - 1000661



Mill Arts and Events Centre,
Bellingham Lane,
Rayleigh (Free Parking)

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2025

10.30am till 4.00pm

CRAFT STALLS ★ GIFT STALLS ★ & MUCH MORE

£1.50 Adults, Children Under 14 Free

For more information contact Damian on 07912 308000 / ddillon@bccs.org.uk



SAVE THE DATE...

Adults only



Friday | 28th Nov



Keep eyes out for details 👁️👁️