

# Abacus Primary School



## Newsletter 545 25/10/24

**HAPPY  
HALF TERM**

What a busy first half term we have had, I think we are all looking forward to recharging over the half term break.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our harvest collection, the local food bank were very happy to collect these contributions on Thursday and these will make a great difference to many families.

After half term we have individual school photos on **Thursday 14th November 2024**. there will be an opportunity to sign up for sibling photos from 8am, more communication will come out after half term. We also have family consultations booked in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th November and Years 3,4,5 and 6 Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th November. You will be sent a booking link to book your appointments a week before. I am delight-



ed to share with you that Miss Hodkin is expecting her first child. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her and her husband on this wonderful news. The recruitment process for Mrs Craske and Miss Hodkin is underway and I will update you once things have been finalised.



**When we return we will be on WEEK 2 of our school menu, which you can view on our website.**

THIS SCHOOL IS  
**NUT FREE**



THANK YOU  
for keeping our school safe!



# YOUNG LEADERS



If you've called the school this week you might recognise our Young Leaders on the message!

They had great fun recording it!



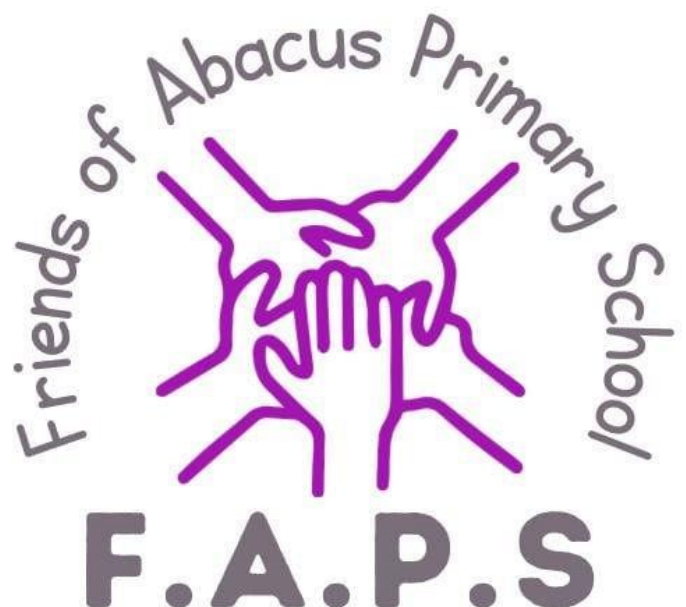
Please see below the link to book for the Abacus Christmas photo shoot with Lou Sutton on 30th November 2024.

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

*Lou Sutton Photography*

[www.lousutton.co.uk](http://www.lousutton.co.uk)

01268 661315





What a great week Year 6 have had bringing their Greek topic alive with Greek cooking and their Greek day on Wednesday where they enjoyed a number of activities including 'the Olympics' 'wrestling' and going on a Greek adventure using our Now press Play.

# LET'S CELEBRATE!



Well done to Freya, Logan, Callum, Charlie and Liam for their achievements outside of school in dance, swimming, sewing, football and self defence.



Well Done!





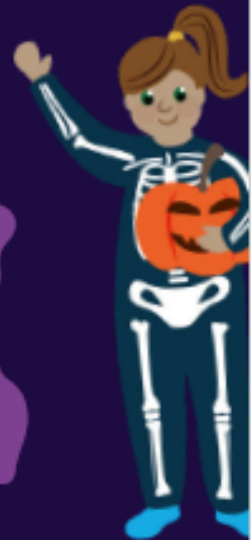
Essex County Council

Basildon Council  
BASILDON • BILLERICAY • WICKFORD

Essex

ACTIVate  
Half Term

Active Essex



## BOOK ONTO A FREE HALF TERM CLUB WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE!

Eligible children and young people are invited to book onto **FREE**, fun-filled activity clubs who are run by a network of locally, trusted organisations across Essex, brought to you by Active Essex on behalf of Essex County Council!

### IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Essex ActivAte offer club spaces to primary and secondary school aged children (4-16 years), who are eligible for benefit based free school meals, or from 'low-income' working families, as well as children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation.

### WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will run in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford! Due to half term programmes being solely funded by Essex County Council, unfortunately there will not be any clubs running in Thurrock.

### WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs provide a range of different physical, enrichment and food activities to support children's physical and mental wellbeing, as well as a delicious, nutritious meal!

### HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?

To book your child/ren onto one of our half term clubs, you will not receive a Holiday Activities voucher from your school, and you will need to book on through the Essex ActivAte website. Simply select your area, find what clubs are available and book your child on through the link provided. Depending on the club, you may need to book through our website, or contact them directly.

[Find out more about October half term clubs and book on here.](#) 



# **NEW INTAKE SCHOOL TOURS**

**Our school is holding tours for prospective parents on the following dates:**

**TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**

**THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024**

**WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025**

**We are holding 3 sessions on each of the November dates: 9.30am, 10.45am & 1.30pm and**

**2 sessions on the January date: 9.30am & 1.30pm**

**The tours will last for approximately 45 minutes and begin with a presentation sharing key information about our school, followed by a tour led by our “experts” in Year 6.**

**Please contact our school office on 01268 571018 to book a tour.**

**\*Tours are by appointment only\***

**We look forward to meeting you all!**

## Below is a Neurodivergence Focus on ADHD/ADD



### What Is ADHD?

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental condition whereby individuals find it difficult to focus their attention and to control their behaviour. Individuals with ADHD usually cannot concentrate for very long and may do or say things without thinking of the consequences.

ADHD affects individuals across the lifespan and is more commonly seen in boys than girls. It is estimated that 1 or 2 children in every 100 will have significant ADHD. In many cases, ADHD coexists with other conditions including [Autism](#), [Tourette's Syndrome](#) and [ODD](#).

### What Are The Symptoms Of ADHD?

#### Inattention

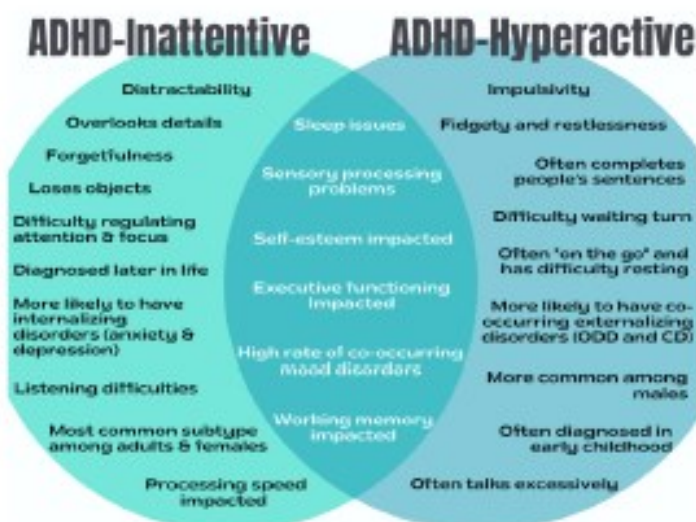
- Not paying attention to detail
- Easily distracted
- Losing things

#### Hyperactivity

- Always on the go
- Fidgety
- Cannot sit still

#### Impulsivity

- Blurts out answers
- Interrupts conversations
- Difficulty with taking turns



### What Is Attention Deficit Disorder?

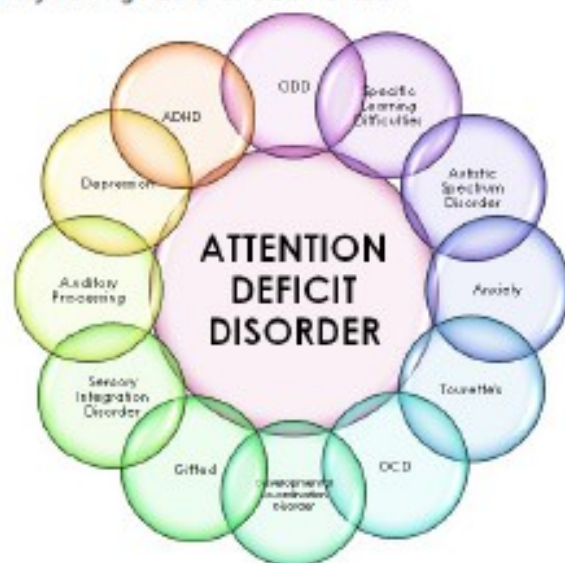
Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) is a term used for people who have excessive difficulties with concentration without the presence of other ADHD symptoms such as excessive impulsiveness or hyperactivity. The official term from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual IV is "ADHD of the predominantly inattentive type." However in practice ADD is a much more appropriate term.

ADD is more common in girls but it can occur quite often in boys also.

Some children with ADD are also impulsive but have never been hyperactive. This impulsiveness can adversely affect their social skills interaction.

Occasionally a child with ADD is so demoralised, so anxious and depressed or self-harming, that these are seen as being the key issues rather than the underlying concentration weakness.

ADD has a very different presentation from the hyperactive impulsive type of ADHD but it frequently co-occurs within the same family, with some children of the family having ADHD and some ADD.



For More Information



<https://adhduk.co.uk/>

<https://www.lanc.org.uk/>

[related-conditions/attention-deficit-disorder-adhd/](https://www.lanc.org.uk/related-conditions/attention-deficit-disorder-adhd/)

<https://neurodivergentinsights.com/adhd->



# Flames Netball Club

## Flames Mini Me's

Friday Evenings

5pm -5.45pm

Years 2, 3 & 4

@

The Basildon Sporting  
Village



Come along, have fun and learn the basic netball skills.



Contact [jojoflames@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jojoflames@hotmail.co.uk)

For more info.



**Glow In The Dark Sculpture Workshop** (suitable for ages 5-11 and their families/carers)

Join local artists to create unique collages and amazing glow in the dark sculptures, which will light up East Square as part of a mini pop-up sculpture trail in Basildon Town Centre on 2nd November.

*Date & Time: Weds 30th October 3pm-6pm*

*Location: Westgate Shopping Centre (old EasyGym unit), Basildon Town Centre, SS14 1WP*

**Sat 2nd November 4.30pm - 7pm**

**Westgate Centre**

# POP UP SCULPTURE TRAIL



**GLOW IN THE DARK  
+ PROJECTED  
SCULPTURE IN  
BASILDON  
TOWN CENTRE!**

**FREE**

**FAMILY FRIENDLY**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



**CREATIVE  
BASILDON**

**Pop-up Sculpture Trail** (suitable for all ages)

This free family event is inspired by Basildon's rich public art. Join us for an immersive creative experience, learn more about Basildon's public art and explore pop-up glow in the dark sculptures, created by Basildon families. UV torches provided!

*Date & Time: Sat 2nd November 4.30pm-7pm*

*Location: meet at Wendy Taylor's Animal Underpass, Roundacre Underpass, SS15 5UL*

**FREE TKTS  
THROUGH  
EVENTBRITE**

**FUN! FREE!**  
**HALF TERM  
ACTIVITY  
AGES 5-11**

# GLOW IN THE DARK SCULPTURE WORKSHOP



**WESTGATE SHOPPING CTR**

**Wed 30th Oct | 3pm - 6pm**

**Join artists Shaun C. Badham & Emma Edmondson for this free family workshop exploring the public art of Basildon through fun creative activities**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

**CARE  
CONTRACTORS**

**CREATIVE  
BASILDON**



Dear Parents,

***Kids With Bricks After School Club at Abacus Primary School (Monday)***

We are pleased to be able to offer our Kids With Bricks after school club running from 3:15 - 4:15 every **Monday** for 6 weeks from **4th November 2024 (no club 18th November inset day)**. This club is open for **Years 1 - 6** and there are a maximum of 30 places available. The club is organised, administered and supported by Kids With Bricks Ltd, an external provider who deliver after school clubs across the whole of the UK.

As well as completing a range of exciting educational challenges, students will have the chance to work both individually and to work in teams.

As an added bit of fun, students from the club will also take part in a weekly inter-school competition where parents can vote for their favourites and points are won for the national leader board.

**BOOK ONLINE!**

The club costs £3.99 + VAT per child per session and is paid for termly in advance. All club places are reserved and paid for online. Just go to [www.kidswithbricks.com](http://www.kidswithbricks.com) to book your child's place.

**Tickets go live on Wed 16th Oct at 12:00 midday!**

Any problems please contact us on 01633 383211 or [bookings@kidswithbricks.com](mailto:bookings@kidswithbricks.com)

Kind regards,

*John Gallacher*



Dear Parents,

***Kids With Bricks After School Club at Abacus Primary School (Tuesday)***

We are pleased to be able to offer our Kids With Bricks after school club running from 3:15 - 4:15 every Tuesday for 7 weeks from 5th November 2024. This club is open for Years 1 - 6 and there are a maximum of 30 places available. The club is organised, administered and supported by Kids With Bricks Ltd, an external provider who deliver after school clubs across the whole of the UK.

As well as completing a range of exciting educational challenges, students will have the chance to work both individually and to work in teams.

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Kind regards,

*John Gallacher*