

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break and that it was both peaceful and fun!

It was lovely to officially welcome Mrs N Robinson (Inclusion Manager) and Mrs S Tracey (SENCO Assistant) to our team - both are already members of staff at Buttsbury Infant School - I am sure that working across both schools will bring many benefits and I am looking forward to seeing their roles grow and develop.

The term ahead is already quite full with lots of exciting events and activities planned! Please see details of forthcoming dates on our school website.

On behalf of the staff team, thank you very much for all the lovely gifts, cards and messages of goodwill which we received before Christmas. Your thoughtfulness and generosity were very touching.

Finally, I would like to wish you a wonderful 2024!

Happy New Year!

Punctuality

Please can I remind you that children need to be in school by 8.40am in readiness for their first lesson. We still have a number of children who are regularly late which impacts their learning and also disrupts the class.

Applications for Year 3 - September 2024

I have been asked by the Admissions Department, at Essex County Council, to remind parents who may have a child in Year 2, that if they have not yet submitted an application for Year 3, they need to do so by 15th January 2024. Applications should be made via the following website: www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Thank you.

Just a few reminders about uniform as we start a new term:

- Trainers and boots are not allowed - only black shoes should be worn.
- No jewellery (including wrist bands) should be worn other than a simple watch (no Apple watches please) and small studs for pierced ears.
- Nail polish is not allowed.
- Hair accessories should be small and discreet please. Large flowers and/or bows are not appropriate for school. Hair should not be shorter than a Number 2.
- For outdoor PE, children should wear royal blue socks please. This is particularly important for girls who are wearing tights as it is unhygienic to wear these for PE lessons. School tracksuits or dark coloured tracksuits may be worn on top for outdoor PE lessons. Under-armour and running leggings should not be worn. For indoor PE, children need black plimsolls (particularly important this term as the focus for this term is dance).

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping to ensure that our children look smart at school.

Next Week's Diary Dates

School Dinners - Week 3

Monday 15th January

- Year 6 Mock SATS Week (1)
- Friends' Association meeting - 8.00pm - Meeting Room

Tuesday 16th January

- Year 6 Careers Festival (pm)

Wednesday 17th January

- 6M 'Parents to Lunch' at 12.20pm
- Parent Workshop - White Rose Maths - 7pm - Buttsbury Infant School

Thursday 18th January

- Year 4 Buddy Boot Camp (am) - please bring old warm clothes and trainers plus a heavy-duty bag to take everything home in

Friday 19th January

- School Discos - Year 3/4: 5.00pm - 6.30pm; Year 5/6: 6.50pm - 8.20pm

Panathlon - Outstanding Achievement Award

On Wednesday 20th December, we were visited by Dominic Fenton, from the Panathlon Foundation, who had come to present a very special award to Annabelle Wilks (6P). Annabelle had been selected for the Woodland Group Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of her commitment to sport, her encouragement and kindness towards others and her willingness to go above and beyond. Well done Annabelle - this is a very well-deserved award!



Cancer Research UK (CRUK)

On Monday, we were joined for our assembly by David Cianciola who is a representative from Cancer Research UK. As you may already be aware, our children's chosen charity this year is Cancer Research UK so it was lovely for the children to find out more about the charity and how the money we raise will be used. We supported CRUK four years ago and raised almost £10,000 during the course of the year - this is double the amount we usually raise which I think is an indicator of how highly we all value the work of CRUK. We have a sponsored event planned for 26th January - this will be our main fundraising initiative but we have a few smaller ones alongside - the collecting tubes that we sent home this week are an example of this. The tubes can be filled with 20p coins and, once filled, will hold £10. It would be great if we could have lots of tubes filled and returned.

*'Maximum Effort for
Maximum Achievement'*

Celebration Assembly

'Well Done' to all the children who were awarded MERIT certificates this week.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Grayson Kemp</i> | <i>Joshua Hale</i> |
| <i>Oliver Munro</i> | <i>Preston Mills-Martin</i> |
| <i>Jessica Rendell</i> | <i>Jenson Wallis</i> |
| <i>Liam Martin</i> | <i>Harry Parker</i> |
| <i>Oliver Thorpe</i> | <i>Joseph Jackson</i> |
| <i>Mariah Hands</i> | <i>Alfie Moclair</i> |
| <i>Arun Sawhney</i> | <i>Bodhi Seabrook</i> |
| <i>Blake Silvester</i> | <i>Ivy-May King</i> |
| <i>Joe Hussey</i> | <i>Ben McCreery</i> |
| <i>Teddy Thomas</i> | <i>Jessica Chinnery</i> |
| <i>Zachary Mackenzie</i> | <i>Thomas Christie</i> |
| <i>Julian Hak</i> | |

Dance in a Day

On Tuesday, a group of talented dancers from Year 5 and Year 6 took part in a 'Dance in a Day' workshop. The children worked throughout the day using the music different musicals such as Six and Hamilton. The children (with a bit of help) then created an 'Annie' themed dance which they performed to Year 5 and 6 as well as their parents at the end of the day. It was a fantastic day, enjoyed by all of the children who took part. A huge 'thank you' goes to Louise Hunt from DOT productions for running the day with such enthusiasm and also to the support staff who assisted with supervision during the day.



Snow White

Year 3/4 Choir Performance - Snow White

'Save the Date' - Wednesday 27th March 2024, 7.00pm
Further details regarding programmes, costumes etc. will follow in due course.



This week's 'Writers of the Week' are:

*Alex Fryd Jasper Smith Renee Mweleka
Theo Vasileiadis Archie Alderton
Betsy Burcombe Amelie Doyle
Well done to our writing super stars!*

This week's 'Mathematicians of the Week' are:

*Jack Tribe Chloe Bowdidge Alice Bennett
Georgie Harding Oghoghosa Egharevba
Efe Kemal Thomas Chandra
Jasmine Faraday Heath Harlow*

This week's 'Readers of the Week' are:

*April Marsh Adam Sargood Nathan Hawes
Jax Evans Summer-Rose Smith Lavanya Soni
Thomas Wright Mariia Federova
Well done to our enthusiastic readers!*

This week's 'Times Table Rockstars' are:

*Alfie Moclair Freya Childs Thomas Bennett
Asa Taylor Tommy Smith Georgie Hodges
Joe Jackson William Smith Zachary Mackenzie*

Afternoon Tea

We have two Afternoon Tea celebrations featured in this week's newsletter - Thursday 4th January and Thursday 11th January. Both occasions were a great success and the children enjoyed the lovely refreshments as much as chatting to others about their work.



House Points

This week's winning house:
Panthers

Top Table

This week, the children chosen by the Midday Assistants to sit at the 'Top Table' were:

**Erin Collins
Larry Mitchell
Joshua Gabriel-West
Isla Clifford
Jemima Broom**



This week's attendance figure is: 96.7%!

This year's attendance target is 97.0%.

A special 'Well Done' to Class 3P who had the highest attendance this week - 99.1% Congratulations!



Visitors' Bays

Please note that the visitors' bays at the front of the school should not be used for dropping off/picking up children at the start/end of the school day unless prior permission has been given. Thank you.



Play Leader Training

Last Friday, our Year 6 Play Leaders and Year 5 Buddies took part in Play Leader training, led by Mrs Jaggard and Mrs Morris, from the William de Ferrers School Sports Partnership. The aim of the morning was to upskill our playleaders and buddies to help them create and lead lunchtime games for other children throughout the school.

The children all had a chance to take part in different games, led by Mrs Jaggard. They were then challenged to create their own game, using a small selection of play equipment such as large dice and bean bags.

The children had a fantastic morning and are looking forward to sharing some of their new game ideas on the playground in the coming weeks. Thank you to Mrs Lovell and Mrs Lee for overseeing our children throughout the morning.



Bible Explorers

On Monday, Year 4 were lucky enough to embark on a series of six sessions called 'Bible Explorers' delivered to us at school courtesy of The Schools Ministry Billericay Team.

The children learned about the first eight Bible stories of the Old Testament in a fun and interactive way. From the story of creation to Joseph and his coat of many colours, everyone enjoyed the many activities designed to ensure the children understood and remembered the stories whilst having lots of fun. We are already looking forward to next week!



Out of School Success

- * Well done to **Jessica Reeves (3M)** took part in the Elites swimming gala before Christmas and won a gold medal and three silver medals in her races.
- * Congratulations to **Charlie Partridge (3W)** who sang 'Sleeps to Christmas' on the radio and received a special certificate for his super singing.



Pen Licences

Well done to:
Emily Lycett and Zachary Bauckham
who both received their Pen Licences this week.



QUIZ!

WED 31ST JAN
7.30PM

£8 per ticket
Teams of up to 8

Join us in the school hall for a trivia night exclusively for adults. BYO snacks and drinks & get ready to laugh & have a great time!

Bring cash if you want to play our exciting Heads or Tails game or our fabulous raffle.

Tickets at PTA Events

Dance in a Day

Rainbow Awards

Well done to this week's **INDIGO** award recipient:

Oghoghosa Egharevba

Congratulations to this week's **BLUE** award winners:

Leon Whitby

Layla Neale

Scarlett Welch

Well done to this week's **GREEN** award winners:

Archie Alderton
Vince Drury
Arun Sawhney
Zachary Bauckham
Emilio Gallone
Grayson Kemp
Blair McFadzean
Alex Pierce
Coraline Riches
Teddy Youngs
Jack Campkin
Alfie Moclair
Olivia Tait

Elliot Bacchus
Chloe McGibbon
William Rebel
Alice Bennett
Joshua Hale
Zehra Korkmaz
Ashley McSharry
Rhys Povey
Oliver Stephens
Rhys Carey
Lucas Armsden
Orest Savchuk
Zachary Webster

Bradley Bloomfield
Sophie Moore
Bodhi Seabrook
Alex Fryd
Peony Harlow
Carter Lewis
Preston Mills-Martin
Ethan Rae
Will Williams
Ruben Skehill
Chanelle Asubiaro
Freya Evans

Erin Collins
Brooklyn Nelson
James Wright
Henry Fuller
Olivia Johnson
April Marsh
George Morgan
Esmay Ramrutton
Max Wilson
Rupert Kehoe
Jack Hyatt
Faith Fenton

Congratulations to our first **YELLOW** award winners this academic year:

Mikael Ali Khan
Marley Dowling
Ariana Lazell
Mollie Parker
Bonnie Atkinson-Lassman
Rory Coshell
Sophia Rusu
Patrick Dillon
Sophia Golberg
Leo Hughes
Lilani Luthra
Jacob Ovel
Jack Robertson
Asa Taylor
Theodoros Vasileiadis
Isaac Harding
Connie Rumsey
Henry Chandra
James Knowler
Ethan Tyler
Esmae Lazell
Darcy Shorey

Jamie Baker
Emel Enver
Jonny McConnell
Conchobar Veats
Violet Costello
Elliana Wilkins
Leif Emanuel-Francis
Mariah Hands
Joe Jackson
Harry Mann
Dhruv Patel
Edward Smith
Kaiser Thorby-Mead
Sophie Anderson
Georgie Hodges
Clark Williams
Phoenix Gough
Samuel McFeely
Isabelle Warden
Charlie Leach
Oliver Wilson

Theo Clifford
Ruby Hill
Sophie Warden
Emily Wilkinson
Florence Barrett
Jacob Dyer
Freya Anderson
Jax Evans
Sofia Holdgate Lopez
Evelina Kiafa
Jennifer McSharry
Eione Phillips
Teddy Soar
Jack Tribe
Betsy Burcombe
Joe Hussey
Erin Bateman
Arnav Gupta
Jessica Nash
Austin Ellis
Amelia Maloney

Lola Cohen
Francesca Howe
Olivia Murley
Lily Woods
Isla Clifford
Scarlett Metcalfe
Pippa Daley
Ben Ferris
Amelia Hudson
Malachi Kwanzambi
Lola Obergan
Kaydee Quirk
Frederick Solomons
Alessia Tutuianu
Kaua Ferriera Melo
Keyla Osborne
George Brooks
Jamies Ivimy
Lavanya Soni
Amber Jobbins
Vivaan Mukherji



50 Things To Do Before Leaving Primary School
Congratulations to **Marley Dowling** and **Vivaan Mukherji** who have both completed 10 things!



50 Things To Do Before Leaving Junior School

The booklet was developed by representatives from all the School Councils across the schools in Billericay and contains 50 activities that the children can complete both in and out of school. Some of the tasks may be quite straightforward whilst others are a little more challenging.

Examples of tasks: Build a sandcastle, cook a meal, tie a lace, face a fear.

When the children have completed each task they need to provide photo evidence to show their class teacher.

The class teacher will then sign and date the booklet and award the child with a gold star. There are coloured certificates awarded for every 10, 20, 30 and 40 stars earned. If the child completes ALL 50 tasks then they will earn themselves a GOLD certificate and a non-uniform day for themselves and a friend!! The children all have their own copy of the booklet but there is an electronic version attached with this newsletter too.

We look forward to seeing even more children complete the challenges.



Reading Challenges



We would love every child at Buttsbury to attempt their reading challenges over the course of this year.

In order to receive their award, the children need to read books from each genre - one from each for Bronze, two for Silver and three for Gold. We also have a special Platinum Award for children who read five books in each genre.

These lists are frequently updated by the Book Trust and below are links that match our reading challenge themes to help you pick new stories to begin!

Animals:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/a/animal-stories-for-older-readers-childrens/>

Mystery:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/d/detectives-childrens/>

Adventure/Action:

Year 3/4 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/a/adventure-books-5-8/>

Year 5/6 <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/a/adventure-books-9-12/>

Stories with a hero/heroine:

Year 3/4 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/s/superhero5-8/>

Year 5/6 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/s/superhero-9-12/>

Historical:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/bookfinder-results/#!?cat=2576,71827&sortOption=Relevance&pageNo=1&pageSize=8>

Fantasy:

Year 3/4 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/m/magic-bc-5-8/>


Year 5/6 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/m/magic-bc-9-12/>

Humour:

Year 3/4 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/f/funny-books-childrens-book-trust/>

Year 5/6 - <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/f/funny-book-older-children/>

The children's Reading Challenge sheet is at the back of their Literacy Homework Book.



VACCINATION CLINICS

**Has your child missed their
school vaccinations?**

**We are running catch up clinics
in your area.**

Where: Crouch Vale Medical Centre, CM3 5QP

When: Saturday 13/01/24

Time: 10am to 3.30pm

Where: Witham Health Centre, CM8 2UX

When: Saturday 27/01/24

Time: 10am to 2pm

Year 10 & 11 pupils only

HPV (Cancer vaccine)

Meningitis ACWY

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio Booster

Reception to Year 11

Flu Vaccine (Nasal & Injection available)

If your child is eligible, don't delay.

Book your nearest clinic NOW or for more information on missed vaccinations please call 0300 790 0597.

