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Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Trust Board Newsletter

We have somehow found ourselves at the end of the 2023/2024 academic year! Unfortunately, the sun hasn't quite kept up but let's hope the 6 weeks makes up for it.

The calendar could not have been more exciting! It's difficult to mention everything but I always try. We had break the rules day, the great Buttsbury bake-off, wear purple day, wacky hair red and white football day, sports day, school discos, books sales, trips to Lake Meadows, the Isle of Wight, Abberton Reservoir, Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple, Colchester zoo, France for a day, ratatouille making, smoothie making, enterprise morning and a visit from the author, Chrissie Sains! I think the children may also be in for some major super soaking this week – and perhaps the staff too!

The Creative Arts Evening was a very special evening for our talented children to perform across various arts, dance, music and poetry.

Sporting accolades were plentiful, the partnership final netball tournament, the swimming gala, district sports, cross country, county cricket, the plate and cup tennis tournament and for the fourth time Buttsbury has won the School Games Platinum Mark! Well done to everyone involved and of course all the children who work so hard across these various disciplines.

On top of all the fun, Year 6 took their SATS and the other year groups undertook Test Week. As a Trust Board, we attend a Data Presentation evening with the Senior Leadership team and year group leads where the results are presented to us (on an anonymous basis of course) – the informative and considered nature of this evening is humbling and year on year we see the evidence that every child that attends Buttsbury grows and develops, regardless of their starting point. This is something all the teaching staff should be immensely proud of and thank you for your time in collating and presenting this important information.

The School Development Evening was full of energy, it's the first time the Infants and Juniors have held this together and so many impressive ideas and thoughts were gathered which have been shared with you in the Buttsbury Infants and Junior School Development Plan September 2024 – July 2025.

Thank you to the phenomenal efforts of the Friends Association which have yet again raised a huge amount of money for the school totalling £26,266.46 this year, thank you to everyone who volunteers and donates to support the various events.

We say farewell to our Year 6 children which for so many of you must be a feeling of sadness, we wish each and every one the best of luck in their next stage of education. Their play was a resounding success and we hope they have enjoyed all of their end of school discos and celebrations. We also look forward to our new arrivals from the Infant School, I know so much effort goes into making this a smooth transition for the



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children and I'm sure they will do us proud. My children have enjoyed Year 3 and Year 5 so much I think they would be happy to stay in the same classes forever – I have explained this isn't how school works!

We also wish to say farewell and best wishes to Mrs Whiting and Mrs Shah and thank them for their contribution. Good luck to Mrs Barnes who will be commencing her second maternity leave.

I think it would be amiss of me not acknowledge the matter of Mrs Robinson's recent communication in respect of the disappointing behaviour of a minority group of parents. As a Trust Board, we see, like many of you, the sheer effort and over and above attitude that our Buttsbury children experience and wish to take this opportunity to express our unwavering gratitude to Mrs Robinson and the whole Buttsbury team. We also thank you for the outpouring of support so many of you have shown.

Another important matter is that of the proposed amalgamation of the Infants and the Juniors. As can be clearly seen, the two schools have been and are working together very well and effectively. The results from the recent consultation survey and meetings were overwhelmingly positive and in favour of our schools amalgamating. Consequently, the Department for Education has approved our progressing to the next stage on the way to the formal creation of Buttsbury Primary School, with a target date of January 2025.

Finally, thank you to each and every person who contributes to the success of Buttsbury. We wish you a happy sunny Summer break. Thank you for reading this newsletter and supporting Buttsbury.

With regards,

Laura Irvin
Parent Trustee (on behalf of Board of Trustees)

