

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2024

The final week of the half-term has been quite busy as we've had our Healthy Schools' Week as well as lots of football, with Parents' Evening thrown in for good measure too! It's a good job we now have a week off to draw breath!

Healthy Schools' Week has been a great success. The children have had the opportunity to take part in yoga sessions and reflection activities at the Baptist Church.

They also enjoyed taking part in orienteering with infant school children. Within the classroom, the children have enjoyed lots of different activities, all linked to the theme of well-being. After half-term, the children will all have their annual first aid sessions (Jenni is currently in the Far East, so we had to delay the sessions this year).

During Parents' Evening, you may have noticed some new doors have appeared. Our fire safety project is now well underway, with lots of work planned during half-term to make the most of the school closure. I am still having regular meetings with the local authority and appointed contractors regarding the RAAC in the Small Hall and 5R's classroom - we are still on track to start work in January and be finished by Easter!

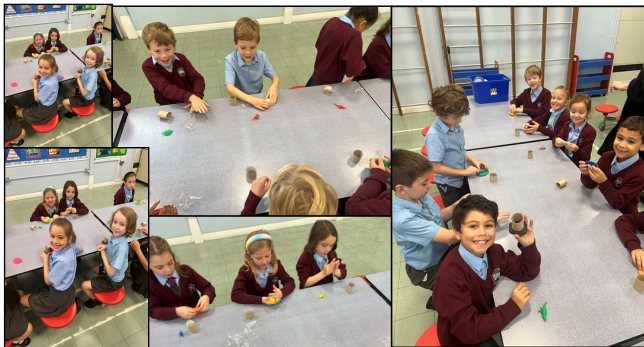
Have a lovely half-term break and see you in November!

### Parents' Evening

It was great to see so many parents at our meetings on Tuesday and Thursday. I hope that you found the meetings helpful. Just a reminder that, if you would like further details regarding your child's progress in maths or have any questions for their maths teacher, the Maths 'Drop In' meetings are on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Please indicate your preferred time slot on the slip. We will only contact you if the slot you have selected is very busy - I would imagine the first slot will be popular and could result in a large queue so it might be advisable to pick a later slot if at all possible.

### Fossil Making

As part of their 'Rocks' topic in Science, Year 3 have been learning all about fossilisation and how fossils are formed. Last Thursday, they completed the unit with an exciting fossil making morning. The children used playdoh, a kitchen roll tube, a toy dinosaur and Plaster of Paris to create their fossil mould. They had a great time and loved seeing their final products once they had had time to solidify! It was a very memorable way to end the unit.



### Forthcoming Diary Dates

#### School Dinners - Week 1

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Half-Term

#### Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October

- Trick or Treaters are welcome to pay a house call to Mrs Robinson between 5pm and 7pm (Stock Road, opposite Mayflower, red Mini)

#### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

- Children return to school

#### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November

- 3P 'Parents to Lunch' event at 12.00pm
- Year 4 'Inter-House Gala' at Billericay School Pool, 6.15pm
- Year 6 'Inter-House Gala' at Billericay School Pool, 7.00pm

#### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November

- Non-uniform day for the Christmas Bazaar

### Non-Uniform Day - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November

As in previous years we would like the children to participate by bringing in an item that will be used on a tombola at the Christmas Bazaar, in exchange for the opportunity to wear non-uniform. All of your donations will be gratefully received. This year, Year 3, 4, 5 and classes 6B, 6P and 6S are being asked to donate any items of chocolate. This can be any boxed sweets such as Roses, Quality Street, Heroes, selection boxes and stockings, packets and bars of chocolate. 6R are being asked to bring in yule logs, boxes of biscuits, shortbread or mince pies for the refreshments stalls.

Please note that we have changed the day from 'wear house colours' to 'non-uniform' to align with the infant school and also make life a bit easier for parents.

No sprayed hair though please - save that for 'Wacky Hair Day' in July please. Also, sensible shoes, no 'short' shorts, no make up/jewellery and no cropped tops! Thank you.

### Poppies

After half-term, assuming our poppies have arrived, they will be taken around the classes daily so children can purchase one. We hope also to have a limited number of wristbands and poppy key rings which the children may like. The **minimum** donation for a wristband or key ring is £1. The **suggested** donation for a poppy is at least 20p. Thank you for supporting this year's Poppy Appeal.

### Children's Chosen Charity 2024/2025

The School Council were very busy last week gathering suggestions from their classes about potential charities for this year. There were lots of amazing ideas and it was very difficult to make a final decision. However, after much thought and discussion, the chosen charity has been selected as St. Luke's Hospice. The children are looking forward to getting their fundraising started!

*'Maximum Effort for  
Maximum Achievement'*

### Vehicles mounting the pavement

As you might have seen yourself, sometimes the roads around the school become so congested that vehicles need to mount the pavement to get past. Naturally, this is far from ideal but, it was mentioned to me this week that it might be an idea to remind parents to keep their children away from the kerb side.

### Girls' Football - CUP

#### St. Thomas' C of E 1 - 2 Buttsbury

Buttsbury travelled to Brentwood for the second round of the cup in what turned out to be a very close score line. Buttsbury started the game playing up hill and were moving the ball around the pitch well. A shot from distance took a bobble and looped over our unsuspecting keeper resulting in us being 1 - 0 down at half time. Playing down the hill, chance after chance went by before an equaliser arrived. Extra-time was looming but a goal in the last 30 seconds secured the win and progression to the next round of the cup. Goalscorers: Alannah and Ruby. Thank you to all the parents who assisted with transport and came along and supported.



### Boys Sports Partnership Football Final

Tuesday afternoon, we represented the Billericay family at the Partnership finals. Small pitches and short games meant that we had to hit the ground running and the boys certainly did that scoring in the first minute of the first game. The boys continued to play with the same level of intensity which made for an entertaining afternoon of football. With six different scorers across the team and zero goals conceded, we finished with five wins and two draws, finishing second to close neighbours Sunnymede. These were the best performances from the boys all season. Thank you to all the parents who assisted with transport and came along and supported.



### Girls' Football Partnership Final

On Wednesday afternoon, it was the girls' opportunity to compete in the Partnership Final. Buttsbury took two teams and were placed in different pools. The B Team finished an impressive second place in Pool B with a win, a draw and a loss on their card. The A team finished first with three wins and a draw and no goals conceded. This set the B team up for the third place play off but unfortunately, despite a gallant effort, they had to settle for fourth which is another brilliant result. The A team continued their recent dominance and won 2-0 in the final which means they now go on to represent the Sports Partnership at the County Finals. Once again the girls were a credit to the school!

Thank you to everyone who assisted with transport and for supporting the girls.



### Kung Fu Demonstration

We finished Well-Being Week with a Kung Fu demonstration led by Meridian Kung Fu, Billericay. The children enjoyed seeing all the different skills and were amazed by the level of concentration needed. It was a great way to end the week.

### Provision for children with SEND

This week we held a SEND coffee morning which focused on the sensory processing and sensory needs within autism. Parents were invited along to share a hot drink and biscuits whilst listening to a short presentation delivered by Mrs N Robinson, our Inclusion Manager. After, parents were encouraged to network with one another and ask any questions they had. It was lovely to see everyone getting involved as we all learn more on our SEND journey.

After half term Mrs N Robinson will be running SEND Drop In sessions on a two weekly cycle. This will be allocated time where you can book to see Mrs N Robinson regarding any SEND queries, whether your child is on the SEND register or not.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November from 2.30-3.10 in the infant school  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2.30-3.10 at the junior school  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2.30-3.10 at the infant school  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2.30-3.10 in junior school.  
If you would like to attend these session then please call either school or email Mrs Tracey [tracey@buttsbury-inf.essex.sch.uk](mailto:tracey@buttsbury-inf.essex.sch.uk) to book an appointment.

Please note - you are welcome to attend at either school, regardless of which school your child attends.

### Reading Awards

Well done to:

Summer Mariner, Elodie Greenhalgh, Emma Booth, Thomas Knight, George Day, Vivaan Mukherji, Rhys Carey, Amber Branch, Freya Evans, Oliver Wilson, Maisie Doyle, Nifemi Oladele, Lilani Luthra, Amelia Hudson, Alessia Tutuianu, Mariah Hands, Zara Wakerly, James Lyons Ruby Ellis, Alannah Cronin, Chloe Hayes Laurel Beaumont, Eloise Higdon, Ryan Martin Charlie Vail, Ivy Duerden, Emily O'Keefe, Oscar Beckwith, Harry Ekers, Felix Plummer, Anastasia Markelova, Elizabeth Moody, Gethin Arentsen Ava Catchpole & Moraya Kemp

who all managed to read a book from each genre in our Reading Reward charts and were presented with their **Bronze** Reading badge today in recognition of their commitment to reading.

A very special 'Well Done' to:

Emma Booth, Amber Branch, Ivy Duerden & Harry Ekers

who all read two books from each genre and received their **Silver** Reading Award today.

Huge congratulations to:

Ivy Duerden & Harry Ekers

who have already read three books in each genre and gained their **GOLD** reading award!



# Celebration Assembly

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

Alice Bennett	Carter Lewis
Ella Tennet	Vincent Pranevicius
Soraya Packer	Holly Fensome
Oliver Stephens	Alex Fryd
Gracie Birch	Leo Campbell
Florence Fuller	Albie Rangecroft
Ashley McSharry	Harvey Perry
Theo Vasileiadis	Buzz Walker
Holly Pinder	Francesca Ginn
Leonardo Parente	Callum Ovel

50 Things To Do Before Leaving Primary School  
 Congratulations to **Abi Hau** who has completed **10** things!  
 A very special 'Well Done' to **Amber Branch** who has completed 30 things at home!



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

*Callie Beadon Maisie Wallis Sophia Golberg  
 Leah Jackson Elliot Bacchus Coraline Riches  
 Anjola Oladele Cooper Smith  
 Well done to our writing super stars!*



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

*Alex Metcalfe Henry Smith Ava Pardoe  
 Emma Booth Grace La Rocque Jude Goad  
 Max Barford Summer Murriner Thea Robbshaw  
 Well done to our magical mathematicians!*



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

*Zack Brewer Luke Pickering Eione Phillips  
 Isabel Shearwood Ben Ferris Gethin Arentsen  
 Leah Ballestero Jasmine Pike  
 Well done to our enthusiastic readers!*

*This week's 'Times Table Rockstars' are:*

*Bradley Bloomfield Joshua Murton  
 Amelia Hudson Bella Pankhania  
 George Boyer Chloe McGibbon  
 Harriet Rocks Logan Mariner*



## Headteacher's Awards

Headteacher's Awards are the highest accolade achievable and are awarded to children who 'demonstrate exceptional commitment to a cause or activity showing the child has gone above and beyond normal expectations'. This half-term, Headteacher's Awards have been presented to:

Hannah Sijo	Pippa Daley	Darcy Shorey
Amelie Moore	Amelie Owen	Rory Hearmon
Zachary Arnold	Lola Obergan	Jax Evans
Joshua McCarthy	Cooper Smith	

Congratulations on achieving this coveted award.



## Afternoon Tea

We hosted another lovely Afternoon Tea on Thursday which was attended by the children who are Number 14 on their class register.

## Lost Property

Please can you check that all your child's clothing is named - especially jumpers and cardigans. Thank you.



## House Points

This week's winning house: **Panthers**

This half-term's winning house: **Lions**

The children in **Lions** will have 20 minutes extra lunch break on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November as a reward.

## Top Table

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

**Leya Isikgun  
 Oscar Beckwith  
 Florence White  
 James  
 Felix Plummer**



*This half-term's attendance figure is: 97.5%!*

*This year's provisional attendance target is 97.0%.*

A special 'Well Done' to Class 3M who had the highest attendance this half-term - 99%! Congratulations!



## Rainbow Awards

Well done to this week's **INDIGO** award winners.

Summer Aronson  
Nancy Jack  
Alice Bennett  
Grayson Kemp  
Tommy Smith  
Emily Porter  
Zachary Emerson  
Fred Cronjaeger  
Eione Phillips  
Theo Vinicombe  
Isabelle Sanders  
Kaiser Thorby-Mead  
Gethin Arentsen  
Chloe McGibbon  
Ruby Brockwell  
Leah Ballesterio  
Isla Bloomfield

Rory Buckle  
Carter Lewis  
Frankie Moughton  
Will Williams  
Alex Metcalfe  
Blaine Mountford  
Edward Turner  
Alex Fryd  
James Rowley  
Max Wilson  
Ewan Muller  
Louie Omer  
Bradley Bloomfield  
Ava Pardoe  
Anjola Oladele  
Thomas Laughland  
Elodie Greenhalgh

Noah Dias  
Olivia Johnson  
Jack Robertson  
Joe Jackson  
Annabel Guy  
Thomas Knight  
Luke Pickering  
Sophia Golberg  
Oliver Stephens  
Louie Garwood  
Isabel Shearwood  
Leo Showell  
Leif Emanuel-Francis  
Kerem Korkmaz  
Jasmine Dong  
Elliot Bailey  
Marcel Hernandez

Summer Tait  
James Wright  
Brooklyn Nelson  
Lysander Goodman  
Maggie Dear  
George Day  
Max Barford  
Evelina Kiafa  
Asa Taylor  
Alex Drew  
Taylor Gibson  
Alessia Tutuianu  
Mariia Fedorova  
Maya-Love Chance  
Pars Gunay  
Lola Hurry  
Jamie McSharry



**Thank You!**  
We have some lovely new lunchtime equipment which has been bought for the children by the Friends' Association. Thank you very much! The children are looking forward to playing with all the new toys and games.



### Well-Being Week

What a busy, fun and active week, Well-Being Week has been and the photos only tell half the story! We've been orienteering, x-country running, trying Gaelic football, forest schooling, learning with different teachers, reflecting at the Baptist Church, working with the Infant school, enjoying the healthy tuck shop and wearing yellow! The children have been fully immersed in to thinking about how active lifestyles contribute to positive Wellbeing. One of our highlights is hearing the children at break and lunchtimes talking to each other about the different activities they've been doing in class.