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17th December 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Festive Trust Board Newsletter

As 2024 draws to a close, I take this opportunity to reflect on the last few months at Buttsbury – as we can expect, it's been jam packed full of activities, learning and excitement.

We welcomed our new Year 3 children to the school who have settled well; with a smooth transition from the Infants school – thank you to everyone involved in supporting these transitions. As a Trust Board we see the positive impact of these efforts.

The normal events have been plentiful, Happy Shoes Day, Walk to School initiative, film nights, school discos, European Day of Languages as well as school trips to Hyde Hall, Harvest Festivals and a Macbeth Shakespeare Workshop. All of this and it was only September...

The pace of course didn't slow, with DT morning, Layer Marney Tower visit, healthy schools' themed week, Hello Yellow, trampolining events, Colchester Castle visit, Children In Need, Greenwich visit, the Christmas bazaar, Year 3 and Year 5 Christmas productions, the upcoming carol services and the sponsored Elf Run/Walk for St Luke's Hospice. We thank all the staff and all the parents/carers who support these events, those who volunteer to help with transport among many other things. It's an enormous team effort and everyone involved should be immensely proud.

Whilst I enjoy listing all of the activities offered to our children, it would be amiss of me not to mention that on top of all of this, is the children's unwavering education and learning journey, from reading challenges, timetable rockstars, spelling tests and assessments – in addition to all their classroom learning.

Of course, there cannot be a newsletter where Buttsbury's sporting achievements are not mentioned – boys and girls football, netball, basketball, dodgeball, the swimming gala, cross country, bikeability, panathlon and Barleylands Sports Award lunch – these sports are inclusive and are vital to our children recognising the importance of keeping fit & healthy, whilst also having fun.

We give our heartfelt thanks to the Friends' Association for all the events and support they offer the school in raising funds to support and improve our children educational experience, and to all our parents and carers whose combined efforts raised a whopping £5,641 at the annual Christmas Bazaar and a further £725 was raised from the Christmas shop which is fantastic – thank you to everyone involved and to everyone who attends to show their support.

Are there other schools out there that pack a punch like Buttsbury? I have written this before and will always highlight where the opportunity arises; to have Buttsbury in our community is a privilege, it provides an exceptional environment for the children, as a Trust Board we are endlessly impressed and proud of the matters that we have oversight of – the monitoring in the school and the meetings and training we attend. The tremendous effort of each and every member of the Buttsbury team supports our children – and for this, we must be grateful. As a reader of this newsletter I know you share my sentiment.



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Mrs Robinson, you are inspiring and such an advocate for hard work and discipline – I know my children have individually benefited from your support, encouragement, strength and kindness.

Another amazing term & All's Well that Ends Well – thank you Buttsbury, we look forward to 2025. We wish you all a happy and restful festive period – thank you for your ongoing support.

Festive regards,
Laura Irvin
Parent Trustee (on behalf of Board of Trustees)

