



# Bunwell in Brief

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Together, we will strive to ensure that we C.A.R.E and our children are:  
confident, able learners, responsible members of the community and effective learners.

## Newsletter No.12: 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Ladybirds:** This week at home ladybirds have been reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. They have been writing their own story and learning the lifecycle of a butterfly through crafts. They have also been learning about 3D and 2D shapes through a variety of practical activities. I have loved seeing photos on Dojo and Tapestry showing what you have been up to, thank you and keep safe.

**Badgers:** Badgers have been doing lots of different English tasks this week including some imaginative writing and reading comprehensions. In maths we have been focusing on times tables and addition. Using timed activities and puzzles to get our minds moving. We have also been designing Stone Age villages and continuing our work on how the hominids lived. I have been impressed with the photos that have come through so far! Please make sure you get in contact via dojo and keep up the hard work!

**Hedgehogs:** This week at home school we have continued to work on our phonics and spelling. In English we have been concentrating on our sentence structure and making our sentences more interesting by using adjectives and adverbs. In maths we have been working on our mental recall of facts, including number bonds, number doubles and the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. In the afternoon it has been lovely to see everybody busy doing lots of fun and exciting things, such as baking, discovering secrets pathways, social distancing treasure hunts, paper mache, construction using boxes, painting and much, much more. Well done to everyone for all your hard work (children and adults!). I have really enjoyed seeing the photographs of what you have been doing, so please keep them coming.

**Foxes:** Foxes Class have been working hard at home, not only completing the work set but also taking part in some wonderful afternoon activities. I have seen pictures of dog walking, tree climbing, pond dipping, gardening, baking and science experiments, to name a few.

Challenge for this weekend: tidy your bedrooms.

Keep the photos coming - I miss you all and am loving seeing what you are up to and receiving your emails.

### Sharing our Lockdown

Although school has only been closed for a week, it seems like a lot longer since we saw everyone. It has been really nice to see the photos and messages shared on ClassDojo. Since Monday, we have sent nearly 900 messages on ClassDojo, in a normal week, we don't even send 100. Here are a few which have found their way to me over the last few days. Please keep them coming! One of the nicest things I've heard from all of this is how the Ladybirds craft club parents are holding their own weekly craft club via FaceTime on a Wednesday afternoon.



### Helping to Fight the Pandemic

On Wednesday I posted a couple of links on Dojo to apps which have been created to help fight the coronavirus pandemic. One was an app which tracks symptoms and helps the NHS build a picture of how quickly the virus is spreading and any more information about symptoms.

The second was an app which people can use to volunteer to support vulnerable people. By the end of the first day, more than 500,000 people had signed up to help deliver food and medicines, drive patients to appointments which cannot be cancelled and phone the isolated. Mrs Weller is planning on signing up as has my mum!

### Safeguarding at Bunwell

Even during the closure, all staff have a responsibility to safeguard children. If you ever have a concern about a child or a member of staff then please contact one of our designated safeguarding leads: Mr Tuckett, Miss Husbands or Mrs Brookes. You can also ring the number 0344 800 8020 if you have a concern about a child outside school.

Bunwell Primary School is registered with Operation Encompass. This means that Norfolk Police will contact the school concerning any domestic incidents which involve the families of our children the day after the incident occurred.

## Headteacher News

Over the last few weeks, we have all had to adapt our lives in ways which would have been unthinkable a few months ago. The situation has changed so quickly, with the message changing from avoiding public places to only leaving home for daily exercise or essential work/shopping in a matter of days.

Ever since I became Head at Bunwell I have seen the importance of our community and this has never been more important or obvious as it is now. I enjoy my daily interactions with parents on the gate and the buzz of the school when the children and staff are there. We wouldn't be the school we are without the people.

An exceptional team of staff made changes quickly last week to switch seamlessly from classroom teaching to remote teaching. They adapted and worked together to ensure that the children in their classes were catered for and that the parents had the support they needed. It remains to be seen how long we will have to work like this, but we will continue to provide the work and support for as long as we do.

We will all take our time to adjust to this new normal; to establish routines at home and juggle the demands of childcare and working from home. We'll all need routines to get through this time, and those routines must include time and space to exercise and relax, to look after ourselves and our loved ones, to switch off and take breaks. We also need to think about keeping in touch to make sure we've not let anyone become invisible and isolated.

Whether it's a regular phone call or family chat (my family are trying Zoom to get us all 'together'), writing a letter to someone or waving out of the window to people on their daily exercise.

Finally, I want to thank you all. It's been an extraordinary week or so. I have been hugely impressed by how the school community has adapted to this incredibly difficult situation while at the same time managing all the uncertainties which have come with it. We need that team spirit and community now and over the coming weeks and months.

## Trust Update

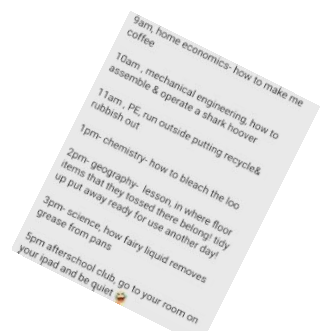
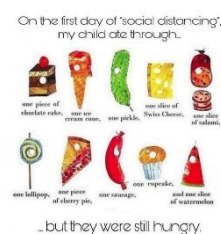
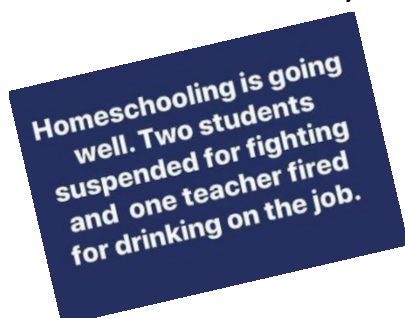
*I think we can safely say that we have experienced a school term like no other. A hugely successful start-up of the early years provision, some incredibly inventive and spectacular costumes for world book day, Mothering Sunday gifts organised by the PTA, celebration of Chinese New Year and a fantastic new-look school website to name but a few.*

*Oh yes, and the other thing. We are living in unprecedented and unsettling times which is affecting everyone across the globe, and we are all having to come to terms with a new normal. It has also demonstrated communities coming together, helping vulnerable groups and supporting key workers & the NHS. From a schooling perspective, the latter part of the term has been dealing with day-to-day uncertainty ultimately leading to nationwide school closures. A huge thank you to the Head, staff, parents & carers for their dogged determination and just getting on with it in the face of adversity. We have all had to adapt to remote-learning, not just the pupils but the challenge for staff, parents & carers too. This last week could be seen as 'strive to see what you can achieve' before the Easter break, with the anticipation that further remote-learning will be required into the summer term. No-one can predict when the situation may change, and it is incredibly important for each pupil to maintain their learning – the Head and staff are working incredibly hard to ensure material and guidance to help. Please keep up to date with notifications on Dojo and there are also some great resources online. We can also all do our part in the fight to overcome Covid-19 by complying with the government emergency measures and follow official guidelines.*

*Easter symbolises new life, and despite the challenges we are all facing on a daily basis, there is hope and things will eventually get back to normal. From the Governors and Trustees, we wish that everyone remains safe and well and have a peaceful Eastertide. David Clover*

## Dates for your Diary

As there are no dates in the diary at the moment, here is some light relief.



Have a great weekend at home!

Miss E. Husbands