



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.19: 17th July

Ladybirds: This week we have continued to focus on our phonics and tricky words, using these to write words and sentences. We have also been continuing our work on number bonds to 10 and being able to make them with numicon and recall them. We are looking forward to our end of year celebrations beginning on Thursday with a trip to the woods!

Badgers: It was lovely to welcome many of the children back to school last week. We had a great week working on English and maths and designing our own playgrounds. This week we will be doing lots of forest school in the afternoons which I am sure the children will enjoy! Thank you to those still at home for keeping up with the online learning!

Hedgehogs: This week in Hedgehogs class, we have been carrying out phonics, reading and spelling checks. We have also been practising our mental recall. Today we had a mini sports day. Unfortunately, there was a localised shower and the children got a little wet 😊 We look forward to seeing everyone on Zoom on Monday.

Foxes: It has been lovely to have Year Five back in the classroom. They have been working hard in maths to master the accurate use of a protractor and have also been learning about triangles, quadrilaterals and other polygons. In English, we have been reading Roald Dahl's autobiography, 'Boy' and have used it as the inspiration for some writing. *Mrs. Simon*

Ladybirds' trip to the woods



PTA

Under the current circumstances and given how difficult it will be to hold fundraising events and other regular events such as the cake raffle, the PTA have made the difficult decision to have a break. I hope that when we are able to hold events again, that we will be able to restart, but in the meantime, I would like to extend a huge thank to everyone who has been involved with the PTA, particularly the committee members, who have worked so hard to put together events, keep the finances in check and recruit new members.

Uniform

At the moment, M&S have got 25% off all uniform, including their logoed school jumpers and cardigans. Please make sure that your child is wearing the correct uniform when they come back to school in September. Full details of the uniform needed is available on our school website.

Packed Lunches

Eating a healthy and balanced lunch is really important to give children the nutrition and energy to get through the day. In their lunches children should have, a sandwich with wholemeal bread (or similar eg. a wrap, pitta bread), a piece of fresh fruit or vegetables (not a fruit winder or similar) as well as something else such as bread sticks, a child sized flapjack, a biscuit or a yoghurt. Children should have water to drink with their lunch.

Safeguarding at Bunwell

During the lockdown, unfortunately there will be some children who are a greater risk of being unsafe. This campaign calls on communities to look out for children and young people during the current coronavirus lockdown. Entitled See Something, Hear Something, Say Something, the campaign focuses on keeping children safe, as families face the pressure of staying at home for this prolonged period. You can ring 0344 800 8020. We all have the responsibility to keep our children safe. You can also contact one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Tuckett, Miss Husbands or Mrs Brookes, for advice and support. 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

What a year it has been at Bunwell! Looking back on the last year, it has certainly been a memorable one. This time a year ago, we had just finished our performances of Pirates of the Curry Bean and were already thinking about what we would perform this year. The summer term of 2019 ended in a heat wave and we held all the usual events such as leavers' trips and assemblies, children spent time with their new teachers and we welcomed in new starters for settling in sessions. We thought that these routines would happen in 2020 as they had done in 2018. Even when we started this academic year back in September, we knew there would be some surprises and changes along the way but none like the one we have been dealing with since March. There have been other memorable events along the way though this year with Ofsted visiting us at the end of October. The inspectors saw so many strengths which continue to say so much about the school community we are proud of. Staff have supported each other, as well as our families, over the lockdown period and I am so proud of the way that staff have pulled together to make sure that they have been there to support their colleagues while adapting the way they work and making sure that they are continuing to work together, wanting the best for the children in the school. Since June 1st, we have seen children so excited to come back into school and day in, day out, I have seen them enjoying school and the learning opportunities presented to them in the classroom. Equally, we have seen how hard children have been working at home, children who have come back to school and progressed by two reading bands because of the efforts put in by their parents during the lockdown period and children who have used lockdown to learn life skills such as learning to tie their shoelaces or make breakfast for themselves.

In January, we opened our three-year-old provision and it has been very successful. Just as Ofsted commented in their inspection, we are able to extend the good start children have in Reception to those in Nursery. Children have settled in quickly and happily which is testament to the environment and security created by the staff team. We are pleased that uptake is high for September.

As we look ahead to a new academic year, we will look forward to welcoming back all our children into a building where they enjoy school and are supported by a team of staff working hard to provide a varied and broad curriculum.

Trust Update

Phew! We have made it, well almost, until the end of term and what a term it has been! I am sure it will live long in everyone's memories for lots of different and personal reasons. As the term ends I think we are all allowed a few moments to stop, pause and reflect (hopefully with a glass of your favourite tippie in hand), on what everyone has achieved during lockdown. I say this from personal experience, juggling home schooling with work has not been easy for anyone, so well done for sticking with it and giving the children the very best you can during these strange days. Every little bit of work completed will help the children come September and into next year, so thank you for keeping going. Whilst personally, lockdown has been a mixture of challenges and rewards, the thing I am most grateful for is having such a better understanding of how my own children think and learn. I hope you have come closer to your children too and have developed a few cherished memories along with all the battles to get them to correct spellings or to look at a maths question again before they are allowed to watch TV or play on Minecraft!

I must also take time to highlight how lovely it has been to welcome more children back over the last few weeks and again thank you all for being so flexible. Your willingness to adapt has allowed every year group to have some time in school, which has been invaluable and will stand us in good stead for next year. To hear the buzz of children learning and having fun again has been a real joy and made all the planning and risk assessments worthwhile. It is a testament to Miss Husbands and the entire Bunwell team, from the teachers and TA's, to the apprentices, administration staff and Mr Stokes, our caretaker and cleaner, that the school has been able to open for so long to so many children, therefore I am using this column to post a special thanks and mention to them.

I hope you all manage to enjoy the summer holiday and I have my fingers crossed that we see something of the sunshine, which has disappeared a bit of late. The holidays will probably look and feel different from what you might have had planned, but I hope you get a rest and manage to have fun too, so that you and the children are refreshed and ready to start learning again in September. Please be assured that Miss Husbands and I will continue to work over the summer to assimilate and work on the Government's guidance, and risk assessments to make school work effectively next year. With all best wishes for the summer and beyond.

Paul Bunn
CEO

Useful Dates

Dates are subject to change



Tuesday 21st July – school closes for the summer; no more home learning after this date

Monday 7th September – children return to school (more details to follow)

Monday 28th September – individual school photos

Wednesday 7th October – Y6 transition day at OBHS

Wednesday 21st October – last day before half term

14th -15th June 2021 – Y5/6 residential trip to Eaton Vale

Have a great summer!

Miss E. Husbands