



# 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 1—September 2023

### Ladybirds:

Ladybird class have settled in well, they are building relationships, becoming used to the classroom routines and exploring the different resources. The arts and crafts area has been a favourite so far, as well as the dinosaur hunter roleplay. We have begun exploring patterns in class and in nature, we have looked at length and documented how tall each member of Ladybirds are at the beginning of the school year. Ladybird class have also started phonics and are working hard to find familiar letters and sounds. Well done Ladybirds on how well you have settled in!

### Badgers:

The children seem to be settling in well into their new year groups. This term so far we have been looking at place value and partitioning in maths, In English we are concentrating on writing in full sentences and adding adverbs and adjectives to our work using the book 'The Secret of Black Rock' as a focus. Our history topic this term is 'Famous Explorers.' This week we have been looking at the journey Christopher Columbus took and what life on board the ships would have been like. Today we went to the school library to choose a book to bring home.

### Hedgehogs:

In English we have started our first Write Stuff book 'The Train Ride'. It started after turning the classroom into the Hedgehogs Express and allowing the children to use adjectives to describe what they could see and hear. In maths we have continued our work on place value, Year 1s have been ordering numbers and using number lines. The Year 2s have been partitioning two-digit numbers in different ways. In RE we have been discussing what a leader is and what it takes to be a good leader.

### Foxes:

We have been extremely busy here in Year 5/6. In maths we've been looking at place value, including negative numbers, ordering, rounding and adding. English has seen us doing lots of creative writing based on a book called Arthur and the Golden Rope; we've produced some really lovely work. In science we've carried out a few experiments such as mixing solvents and solutes to create a solution, and then trying to reverse this process! In history we're learning all about the Vikings and have produced a newspaper report on the Viking's first invasion. In art our topic is architecture so we have drawn houses and created our own buildings. In computing we're learning all about computer safety and in RE, learning about the Christian bible.

### Dates for your diary

**Tuesday 3rd October**—Ladybirds Stay and Play 9-10am  
**Thursday 5th October**—KS1 girls football  
**Friday 20th October**—Flu vaccinations  
**w/b 23rd October**— half term  
**Wednesday 1st November**—Halloween/Bonfire Night ASC  
**Wednesday 1st November**—School Games Cross Country  
**Tuesday 7th November** - parent reading morning  
**Friday 10th November**—Remembrance Service  
**w/b 13th November**—Anti-Bullying Week  
**Tuesday 21st November**— NHS health checks (YR/Y6)  
**Tuesday 21st November** - dental assemblies  
**Thursday 23rd November**—HSBC MY Money workshops  
**December**—School Games Active Advent  
**Tuesday 5th December**—1:30pm nativity performance  
**Wednesday 6th December**—4pm Nativity performance  
**Wednesday 13th December**—Rocksteady concert  
**Friday 15th December**—Christmas film night  
**Tuesday 19th December**—Christingle service (Y3/4)  
**Wednesday 20th December**—end of term

### Before and After School Club

Breakfast club starts at 7:45am and children are served toast, cereal or fruit. After school club runs until 5:30pm and there is a choice of sandwiches, fruit and vegetables for tea. Sessions cost £5 for breakfast club and £9 for after school club. Book your sessions via Wisepay.



### Safeguarding at Bunwell

At Bunwell 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: Miss Husbands, Mrs Brookes, Mrs Mitchell (PSA) or Mrs Clarke (Trust Deputy). You can also ring the number 0344 800 8020 if you have a concern about a child outside school.

### Parking

Due to our location, many families drive to school. There is only limited parking near school, although the Village Hall car park is a short walk away. At school times, there is an unofficial one way system in place so please drive in at the church end of The Turnpike and leave at the Easton's end. This makes it easier for everyone coming to and from school. The area at the end of the gravel drive is reserved for disabled families and please refrain from parking on the yellow lines.

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 Update

Last week, we took Foxes away on their residential to Kingswood Activity Centre in West Runton. This trip was funded by Sports Premium and so, apart from the coach, no cost to families. The residential is a fantastic opportunity for child to spend a couple of nights away from home, try new activities and develop new skills.

We spent our first morning on the beach; the children loved it. They all had a paddle in the sea, played games on the sand, dug holes and went fossil hunting. When we left the beach, the children were wet, sandy and happy.

On arrival at Kingswood, the children were surprised to hear that the first task they had to do was to make their beds. A combination of team work, trial and error and sheer determination got all the beds made before too long and the children settled into their dorms. They were responsible for keeping them clean and tidy during the trip. One dorm set a very high standard!

The days were action packed and non-stop with activities to challenge the children. Every single child threw themselves into all the activities, with many facing fears and apprehensions head on with encouragement from friends. During the days the children took part in climbing, zip wire, problem solving team building activities, archery, fire lighting, den building and night line which involved the children being blindfolded and working together as a team to navigate a course.

We walked up to Beeston Bump on our first night. The sun set over the sea as we started the walk and it was pitch black by the time we arrived back to Kingswood. One child described the walk as 'magical' and another said that they had never been for a walk at that time of day.

The children were a wonderful group to take away and the memories from this trip will live on for years to come. They pushed themselves to try new things and step beyond their comfort zones. They were independent and responsible. They were supportive and encouraging. They were happy and relaxed.



## Attendance

We do still aim for **96%** attendance and hope to achieve this as the year goes on. Our whole school attendance for 2022/23 was 93%, so there is some work to do towards our target. Here are the attendance figures for each class since the beginning of term.

Ladybirds	95%
Hedgehogs	96%
Badgers	95%
Foxes	94%
Whole School	95%

The last three years have been impacted by COVID, strikes and children picking up more illnesses. We recognise that children get ill, but with 90% attendance it means that your child misses:

- one half day each week
- nearly four weeks every school year
- over one school year in a school career

