



Bunwell in Brief

01953 789318

office@bunwell.cee.coop

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 3— November 2023

Ladybirds:

Since half term Ladybirds have begun their topic on changes and celebrations. Ladybirds have been on autumn walks, focusing on how our environment changes throughout the year. Ladybirds have been working hard at their nativity and are excited to perform. Ladybirds have been exploring other celebrations such as bonfire night and Diwali. Lastly, Ladybirds have been reading 'Katie and the Sunflowers'. They have enjoyed using all of the vocabulary relating to Van Gogh and Gauguin's pictures and spent lots of time creating their own inspired by the artists. Ladybirds will be hosting a gallery on Friday 24th November to display their work.

Hedgehogs:

In Maths, Hedgehogs have been focussing on shape. We have been naming 2 and 3D shapes and their properties, sorting them into different groups and making some amazing patterns. In English, we have started our new Whole Class Reading book: Owl Babies. We have been reading passages of the story, discussing vocabulary and punctuation used, before answering comprehension questions about the text. We have started our new Science topic, Animals Including Humans. In our first few lessons we discussed how animals change as they grow and the life cycle of a variety of animals.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 21st November— NHS health checks (YR/Y6)
Tuesday 21st November - dental assemblies
Thursday 23rd November—HSBC MY Money workshops
Friday 24th November—CEE Cross Country
Tuesday 28th November—PTA coffee morning
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 ASC
Tuesday 19th December—Christingle service (Y3/4)
Wednesday 20th December—end of term

Before and After School Club

Our breakfast club is staffed by the teachers on a rota. Doors open at 7:45am and children are served toast, cereal or fruit. Mrs Stoneman and a rota of support staff run after school club until 5:30pm. There is a light meal such as sandwiches, pasta, soup or toasties. Sessions cost £5 for breakfast club and £9 for ASC.

Attendance

Here at Bunwell we aim for 96% attendance. These are the attendance figures for this half term. Attendance at the moment is well below where it needs to be. We will continue to monitor individual and class attendance. If your child has repeated periods of absence, our PSA will get in touch to see how we can support your child come back to school. Family holidays will not be authorised and be referred to County where they meet the criteria.

Ladybirds	93%
Hedgehogs	92%
Badgers	97%
Foxes	94%
Whole School	94%

Badgers:

Since half term, Badgers have been writing poems about autumn and describing the seasonal changes using a range of techniques such as similes.

In maths, we have been learning how to subtract using column subtraction up to four digit numbers in Year 4.

We have been learning about the layers of the Earth and made our own model using plasticine—then we cut through them to see how the layers under our feet look.

In art we have been learning how to mix colours and used our colour mixing to paint a colour wheel.

Our PE lessons this half term have been learning how to put a sequence of moves together to create a dance.

Foxes:

Since half term we've been straight back into the swing of things; in English we've completed our balanced argument on whether or not we should scrap break times! We've started a new topic on newspaper reports based on Goldilocks. In maths we are doing fractions; adding, subtracting, converting and simplifying to name a few things. In science our topic is electricity so have been practically testing circuits and have also looked at static electricity. Geography sees us look at early settlements from the Viking times and which type of land is best to live near. We're studying the Islamic faith in RE and are learning all about why Muhammad is important to Muslims. Spreadsheets are covered this half term in computing, electronic greetings cards in DT, numbers in Spanish and gymnastics in PE, where the children go to the village hall!

We enjoyed our remembrance service in the church, thank you to all that came along to support, and helped the children at home to remember their lines.



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.

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

This week is Anti-Bullying week. We strive to create a safe environment for all our children where they are able to thrive both academically, socially and emotionally. This year, the message about Anti-Bullying Week is 'make some noise' and call out behaviour that makes you, or someone near you, feel uncomfortable.

As adults, part of our role can be to help children resolve disagreements and model how to have those restorative conversations to allow each child to have the opportunity to say how the situation has made them feel, what they might do differently next time and repairing the relationship. It's important that adults support children with these conversations but as the children get older, they take the lead more and become more able to resolve any friendship issues.

Recently, we have had some conversations with the children in Year 5 and Year 6 about their changing friendships and choosing not to play with the same children all the time. Sometimes the children can get upset if one of their friends chooses to spend playtime with other children and there can be a crowd! We spoke about how friendships with different people can offer you different things and that sometimes you need different ingredients to make it work. We also spoke to Year 5 and Year 6 about having the confidence to call out behaviour that you don't like and that if a friend is making you feel unhappy, sad or anxious then you can tell the person that. This is something which we will support the children with.

As the adults in school, the children can look to us to see how we interact with each other and how we embody the values of our school and see it running through the culture that we promote. It is important that they see us being respectful, polite and kind to each other.

It is great for me to see the messages which I deliver in assembly being repeated and shared by the children. I overheard one of the children saying to someone else that they didn't like something that someone had done and that they needed to treat each other with kindness.

I am hugely proud of the way the children conduct themselves around school and towards each other. They genuinely care for each other and have each other's backs. Yes, there are disagreements and times when children's behaviour is not as we would expect but they children recognise this and have restorative conversations with adults to discuss what has happened and how they can change their behaviour. We will continue to support the children to understand what a good friendship is and how it makes you feel as well as how to speak about this when things go wrong.

NCFC Schools' Football League

On Monday, Mr Baxter took children from our three Trust schools to play in the Norwich City Football Club Schools' Football League. Despite having never played together before, the children instantly gelled and came together as a team. The group were pitted against much bigger schools with children who are currently playing for the Norwich City Academy, but this did not phase them and they did themselves proud. Not only was their behaviour impeccable and they embodied our Trust CARE values, they won their first game and were the only team to score against the league winners.

The children will play in the league again in January and April and I cannot wait to see how they get on.

Competitions such as this one, are so important for the children and Mr Baxter has many more sporting events planned for different classes and children as the year progresses.



Remembrance Service

Last Friday, Year 6 led our annual Remembrance Service in Bunwell church. The service was very well attended by families and members of our wider community.

The children in Year 6 had worked incredibly hard to learn their words and as a class had worked together to learn the songs. Many of the congregation commented in particular how beautiful the singing was.

As the years go by, it continues to be important to remember as well as teach the children about the reasons we mark the day.

During an assembly about Remembrance Day, one of the children in Reception questioned why we have war and said simply 'why can't people just be kind to each other?'

As another year goes by where another conflict has started around the world, we must teach children about the wars which have shaped our society and remember those from our local community who fought and didn't come home.

I hope that as the children grow up they will take on board the thoughts of our youngest children and act with kindness to those around them.