



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 8— April 2024

Ladybirds:

In Ladybirds we have had the exciting arrival of caterpillars. The children have loved watching them grow and used some excellent vocabulary to explain the next stages of their life cycle. Within our growing topic we have been focusing on stories such as: 'the Hungry Caterpillar', 'Handa's Surprise' and 'Jaspers Beanstalk'. These have aided our understanding of how different creatures grow, differences between plants that grow in England and other climates and how to properly care for the plants we have in our outdoor area.

Hedgehogs:

In Hedgehogs, we have been busy making puppets. The focus has been on joining materials together without sewing, so we have used a variety of techniques including pinning, stapling and gluing. We have also been learning about the history of farming, with a focus on Bunwell. In our first few lessons we have discussed different types of farming as well as how farms have changed over time.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 8th May—Ladybirds to High Lodge
Thursday 9th May—Y3/4 Rugby @ Wymondham Rugby Club
w/b 13th May—Y6 SATs Week
Friday 17th May—Badgers to Thorpe Woodlands
Thursday 23rd May—PTA meeting @7:30pm via Zoom
w/b 27th May— half term
Monday 3rd June— Foxes to Whitlingham
w/b 3rd June—Y4 Multiplication check
Thursday 6th & Friday 7th June—Y5 Bikeability
w/b 10th June—Y1 phonics check
Thursday 13th June—Y4/5/6 netball tournament

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 the last two weeks. Attendance is improving. 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	94%
Hedgehogs	97%
Badgers	95%
Foxes	93%
Whole School	94%

Badgers:

This week in Badgers we have continued to write an explanation text about earthquakes. In maths Year 3 have been using number lines to find the difference between 2 different amounts. Year 4 have been continuing their work on decimals. In history we have been finding out about the Windrush Generation and the reasons why people might migrate to another country.

Foxes:

Over the last few weeks we have been busy as always! In maths, Year 5 have been looking at coordinates, shape, position and direction. Year 6 have been recapping a few topics such as fractions, ratio and division, in preparation for their SATs in a couple of weeks. In English we've been learning all about David Attenborough and how a biography is written. We are now writing our own biographies about a scientist of our choice. We are reading an exciting horror book called The Watertower which we are loving! So much so that we're trying to get our hands on the sequel! In science, we are learning about animals and plants and the life cycles of these. Geography sees us studying the Norfolk Broads, including how the water cycle works. Hinduism is being covered in RE where we've learnt a Hindu story by heart! In PE, we are loving our weekly swimming lessons as well as our Friday lessons in school where we're practising our communication skills, learning patience and giving feedback as part of the OAA (Outdoor Adventure Activities) unit.

Top 10 Tips to Stay Safe Online



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

In a couple of weeks, Y6 will be sitting their SATs in grammar, punctuation and spelling, reading and maths. We know how hard the children have worked and that throughout the year the tests have been at the back of their mind. The children have worked incredibly hard over the last year and have made real strides from their starting points.

The SATs assess the children against everything they have learnt throughout the Key Stage 2 curriculum, not just content taught in Y6, it is a culmination of four years work. However, the tests do not assess children on what makes them special and unique. They do not assess the journey the children have taken to get to this point or the progress which they have made over the course of the year.

As they sit their SATs, we must remember all of the other talents and skills which our children have. Last week Mrs Levitt took a team of Y6 girls to a tournament at UEA. Netball has captured the children's interests and over the last year they worked hard at improving their skills and understanding of the rules of the game. Last year, the team came second from bottom and this year fourth overall, but second in their half of the competition! A remarkable improvement in the competition and a huge achievement for the children.

Our jobs as teachers is to teach the children a broad and balanced curriculum, but it is also our jobs to nurture and develop their personal, social and moral education; teaching them how to be a good friend, how to resolve conflict and how to be a responsible member of society.

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is not education at all" - Aristotle

PTA Update

The PTA Quiz Night was a great success raising a huge amount, over £500! The PTA have many more events coming up over the next term. Arrangements for Bunwell in Bloom are well underway and I can't wait to see the village blooming later in the year.

Along with the weekly Friday cake raffle, from Friday 7th June, the PTA will also be selling ice lollies after school. More information to follow.

The next big event in the pipeline is the summer fete—planned for Saturday 6th July. If you have ideas or would like to contribute, please come along to the next PTA meeting which will be held online on Thursday 23rd May at 7:30pm.

Sing up to Easyfundraising to help the PTA earn more funds:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bunwell-primary-school-pta/>

searchSessionId=a0949c1b-f2a5-4847-b282-61b5e9e61b3f

We have already raised over £150 through this route.



School Games Mark

We are very proud to have been awarded the Gold School Games Mark for the second year in a row. This award demonstrates our commitment to PE and sporting competitions.

With all children at Bunwell taking part in at least 3 events this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible. Over the course of the year events include KS1 Disney Football, Active Advent, Santa Dash, Move it Week, Norfolk Leadership Pathway, KS1 Cricket, Trust Cross Country, UEA Netball, Tag Rugby, Football Matches, Personal Challenge, ECB Cricket Day, The Norwich Way and the Norwich Schools Football League. As well as trips to Eaton Vale, Thorpe Woodland, High Lodge and Whitlingham as well as after school netball, cricket, dance and dodgeball clubs.

Well done to Mr Baxter for his hard work in achieving this award.



Staffing Update

After Easter, we welcomed Miss Heath to our staffing team. She will predominately be working in our Y3/4 class, Badgers but also be working with groups of children for interventions such as sensory circuits.

Miss Heath has been a great addition to our team and has got to know the children really quickly.

I know that some children are already thinking about their teacher and class for September. After half term, we will begin the transition in supporting children with moving on to their next class and teacher. We know that this change can be really big and unsettling for some children.