



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 9— May 2024

Ladybirds:

Ladybirds class had the exciting news of our class butterflies hatching from their cocoons, it has been a wonderful experience watching them grow, change and finally watching them fly away for the next part of their life cycle. Ladybirds have been working hard to get ready for Bunwell in Bloom, by planting up and decorating their own plant pots. The children have been looking after their plants well and enjoying recording the different stages of their plant growth. We have been learning all about farms, how farming looks in Norfolk compared to other countries as well as how farming has changed over the years. In maths we have been working out real life problems by sharing and grouping equally.

Hedgehogs:

Hedgehogs continued their learning about the history of farming in Bunwell. We visited Villa Farm to discuss key characters in Bunwell's farming history as well as having a visit from Mr and Mrs Jackson. In science we have been learning all about how to keep fit and healthy with a focus on the importance of exercise.

Dates for your diary

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

Friday 14th June— KS2 STEM Rolls Royce workshops

Friday 21st June— Sports Day

Friday 5th July—KS2 to Explorify Science

Friday 5th July— PTA Summer Fete 3:15-5:30pm

More dates on Class Dojo.

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 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	93%
Hedgehogs	97%
Badgers	95%
Foxes	94%
Whole School	95%

Badgers:

Last week we went to Thorpe Woodland Adventure and spent the day carrying out team challenges, caving, playing archery and having a go on the giant swing. It was lovely to see the children challenge themselves and try things that they have not done previously. This week in maths Year 3 and Year 4 have completed their maths work on fractions. In English we have been finding out about cyclones and writing an explanation test. In Topic we completed our work on The Windrush Generation by creating a PowerPoint based on everything that we have learnt.

Foxes:

We've had a very successful few weeks in year 5/6, including the SATs week of course! Last week, all year 6s took part in the end of KS2 tests, and we were so impressed with their hard work and dedication.

Whilst this was happening, year 5s were helping in other classes around the school, as well as creating their own Norfolk Broads PowerPoint to link in with our geography topic.

In maths this week, Y6 are revisiting ratio and Y5 are adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals.

In English we have written a postcard from prison which has been fun and quite humorous!

In RE we've been studying Hinduism and various Hindu stories, and in PE we've continued with swimming on a Tuesday and Outdoor Adventure Activities on a Friday.

Science has seen us learn about living things and their lifecycles. We've made pinwheels, been for walks around the field to look at plants and flowers, and have drawn some lovely diagrams and sketches. In art, we have been drawing portraits - one week we brought in a picture of ourselves and drew that!

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

On Wednesday after school our choir performed to families and staff. For the last few months, Miss Bennett and Miss Todd have run a choir club after school for Ladybirds and Hedgehogs and Badgers and Foxes respectively. You can hear snippets of the songs they are learning as you walk through school on Wednesdays but this was the first opportunity that they had had to perform in front of an audience and share their hard work.

Music has a special power and there will be songs and music which remind us of life events or just transport us to another place. We can lose ourselves in music and it can help us to switch off and relax after a long day. Long before tablets and screens in cars, it would be songs which would help pass long car journeys. Somehow the words to songs from twenty years ago come flooding back as soon as the first beats start to play, but remembering PE kits on the right days doesn't come quite as readily.

Music is a vital part of children's development. Research shows that listening to almost any type of music has positive effects on brain development. In the 1990s research suggested that listening to classical music would make babies smarter! Researchers believe that listening to music strengthens the connection between what a child can hear and their brain processing the sound.

Music continues to be important for children throughout childhood supporting children with language development—by singing songs, children learn new vocabulary and patterns. It also helps with their memory, concentration, mood and emotional regulation, patience, ability to hear different sounds as well as gross and fine motor skills.

At school we have a weekly singing assembly and many children name this as their favourite assembly of the week. I enjoy watching how different children interact with the music and songs. Some children get lost in the music and their whole body moves to the music while other children just enjoy listening to the music around them. Music lessons at school expose children to a wide range of music styles, instruments and allows children to express their opinions and begin to develop their own taste in music.

The choir performance also gave children the opportunity to perform in front of people. There were nerves before the performance and pride after it. I felt an enormous sense of pride watching them perform and have the confidence to sing in front of an audience, particularly for those children who sang solos—it takes some real confidence to be able to do that!

I hope that this will just be the start of choirs at Bunwell and the first of many performances.

PTA Update

Recent events include:

- tea and coffee at the choir performance
- Crazy Hair Day
- Weekly cake raffle

The cake raffle has raised over £140 since the Easter holidays—thank you to everyone who buys tickets every Friday.

The PTA are currently working on plans for the summer fete, due to be held on Friday 5th July. We hope to see as many families there as possible to enjoy some traditional stalls, family BBQ, refreshments and more.

Bunwell in Bloom will soon be upon us and I can't wait to see the village in all its glory. We will also be taking part at school and hoping to spruce up some of our outdoor areas.

If you would like to get more involved in the PTA, please speak to me or one of the committee.



Local History

Earlier this week, we took Hedgehogs to Easton's farm to learn more about the local history of farming as part of their topic work. We walked the short distance from school to Villa Farm and began our history lesson there learning about the first people to live and farm from the site.

From there we went in the farm buildings and learnt about how farming has changed over the last 100 years. The children (and adults) were also lucky enough to be able to climb into old and new tractors and lorries.

Farming is a vital industry in our local area and many of our families work within the industry. It is really important that the children learn about the area they call home, about the products which are growing in the fields and how this industry has changed over the years.

Thank you to Mr Easton for welcoming us to his farm, to Mr and Mrs Jackson for bringing farming to life for the children with examples of crops and a tractor on the playground. The staff also enjoyed their rides in the tractor! Thank you for all the hard work and research that went into the talk they gave us and the information they shared.

If your child is interested in learning more about the history of farming, a visit to Gressenhall museum is highly recommended.

Each class study local history and geography as part of the curriculum.

Hedgehogs learn about the history of farming and the geography of where they live; Badgers learn about the history of Norwich and more about the geographical features of the city while Foxes learn about the Broads.