



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 2024

Ladybirds:

Ladybirds have settled in well, they have enjoyed exploring their new environment and learning the classroom routines. We read stories to inspire thoughts about individuality such as 'super duper you' and 'perfectly Norman', encouraging children to think about what is important to them and what makes them so amazing! We have now begun looking at our changing seasons, exploring colours, textures and sounds of Autumn.

Hedgehogs:

Hedgehogs have been learning all about the Arctic Circle including where it is on a map, what it is like in the summer/winter and the physical/human features you may find there. In Science we have been learning about the five vertebrate groups and how we can group animals with similar characteristics. We have also had lots of fun making music in class, focussing on the pulse and rhythm of different songs.

Dates for your diary

Monday 21st October—Y3/4 NCFC girls football (Trust team)
Thursday 7th November—Y5/6 Rugby festival
Monday 11th November—Remembrance service in the church
Monday 11th November—Y5/6 NCFC football league (Trust team)
Tuesday 12th & 26th November—Positive behaviour workshops for parents
Thursday 14th November—KS2 cross country
Thursday 5th December - Christmas performance 2pm
Tuesday 10th December—Christmas performance 4pm
Friday 20th December—last day 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.

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.

Badgers:

This week in Badger class we have continued our work on 'The Incredible Book Eating Boy' as part of this work we have made books based on the story 'Ketchup on your cornflakes' which we will be sharing with Ladybird class soon. In maths, we have continued our work on place value and have been rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. Our history topic this term is 'The Romans' and this week we have been finding out about Boudica and the revolt.

Foxes:

In year 5/6 we have been off to a cracking start to the school year. In maths we have learned place value up to 10 million and addition and subtraction. Our English work is based on a picture book called The Arrival where the children work on their vocabulary and descriptive techniques to write and describe the story. In science we are learning all about Earth and space, and in geography, natural resources, such as wind and sun that help give us electricity.

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

We have been back at school for almost a month now and the children are all settled into their new classes. Even within a couple of days, it felt like they had all slotted into their new year groups swiftly and calmly. This is credit to the transition work we had done before the summer as well as the staff welcoming the children back into well organised, calm classrooms with clear expectations.

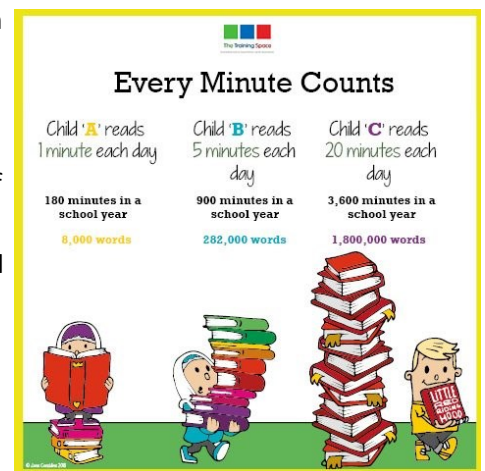
Parent, and family, support is vital to the work we do and we are fortunate to have a supportive school community. The most important way to help your child is to show an interest in what they do at school, ensure they attend regularly, eat a nutritious breakfast before school and get plenty of sleep.

Some children are more forthcoming with what they have done at school than others. On our website we have an overview of what each class is doing for the year detailing the topics as well as a curriculum grid giving more information about each topic termly. The curriculum grid also gives suggestions about what you can do to support your child at home.

Reading regularly with your child has a huge impact on their learning. Not only is their reading improving but they are also broadening their vocabulary, imagination and/or knowledge base. Reading together also gives children one to one time with an adult, strengthening the relationship and carving out time in the busy day to day world. For younger children, it's important to get the balance right of practising learning to read with decoding and the phonics books which we send home alongside reading children high quality texts which they can listen to and immerse themselves in.

Even when children can read fluently and are older, bedtime stories are still a valued part of the day. It can be opportunity to read a story that is a bit out of their reach independently but they are interested in or to broach a challenging topic together. Research shows that fewer children are read to before bed nowadays than a generation ago.

A bedtime story can be a calming part of a bedtime routine and support children getting a good night's sleep. We have a wealth of books which families can borrow to get their bedtime stories started.



PTA Update

Our PTA had a great year last year, raising over £7,000 to support the school in funding school trips, community events and the regular cake raffle.

Our PTA committee is made up of Sue (Chair), Jodie (Vice Chair), Sam (Treasurer) and Natalie (Secretary).

The PTA are busy organising events for the year ahead. A Halloween Bingo night at the Village Hall is taking place on Friday 25th October from 6pm.

Our weekly cake raffle will start up again on Friday 4th October, thank you to everyone who has volunteered to donate a cake.

Look out for more PTA events happening soon!



Attendance

We do still aim for **96%** attendance and hope to achieve this as the year goes on. Our whole school attendance for 2023/24 was 94%, so there is some work to do towards our target. Here are the attendance figures for each class since the beginning of term.

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

Mrs Mitchell is always available to offer support in getting your child into school.

September	
Ladybirds	96%
Hedgehogs	97%
Badgers	93%
Foxes	94%
Whole School	95%

