



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 2— October 2024

Ladybirds:

In Ladybirds we have been reading texts such as 'Big Feelings' and 'Be You'. We have been discussing different feelings as the children have settled into school life as well as looking at how we grow and change. The children have been expanding their vocabulary on body parts, as well as learning how to label. In maths we have begun looking at numbers 1, 2 and 3. We have practised counting and subitising numbers as well as learning how to add one more or take away one less.

Hedgehogs:

In Hedgehogs we have continued our work about the Arctic and have been comparing it to a city in the United Kingdom. The children have learnt lots of facts about the Arctic this half term and have been able to talk about whether or not they would like to live there.

In English we have been reading 'The Very Busy Spider' and making predictions about what might happen next in the story. In maths we have been finding the difference.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 7th November—Y5/6 Rugby festival

Monday 11th November—Remembrance service in the church

Monday 11th November—Y5/6 NCFC football league (Trust)

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

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.



Gardening Club

Gardening club have worked hard to set up their working stations this term. The children have weeded and prepped their new planter before moving and adding more compost to all the areas around school. The children have planted the spring bulbs along the edge of the field as well as scattered wildflower seeds, we look forward to seeing how they grow! We have made bird feeders and discussed the impact of a garden on our local wildlife, we have begun thinking about what we can grow next spring. We would like to thank Premier Roofing LTD in Long Stratton who helped us with the wood for our new planter, Sturgis Landscapes LTD who donated the compost and all the families of Bunwell Primary school who have kindly donated to the gardening club.

Badgers:

This week we have been working on our story plan for 'The Incredible Book Eating Boy' and will be writing our own story about a character with an unusual habit/talent. In maths we have been working on column addition, when the ones, tens and hundreds are crossed. We have completed our Roman topic by finding out about the Roman legacy in Britain. Do you know anything about what the Romans left behind? We have been conducting experiments in science using litmus paper and investigating different liquids to see if they are acidic, alkaline or neutral.

In music, we have been composing our own music and playing the glockenspiel.

Foxes:

In maths this month, Y5/6 have been working on fractions and multiplication. We've also covered many arithmetic skills such as division, percentages and decimals.

In English we finished our Arrival stories, and have since been practising elements of grammar and punctuation until the next English unit starts. In science we have loved learning all about Earth and space - the sheer vastness of the universe has blown our minds!

Geography has seen us learn more about what natural resources we have, such as sun and water, and what we can do with these, such as turn them into electricity.

We made spaghetti bolognese in DT which was a highlight of the half term for us, and we even got to eat it for lunch!

We've made huge progress this half term, and Miss Todd and Mrs Levitt are very proud. Let's keep up the good work!

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 oc-

Headteacher Update

One of our Trust values is teaching children to become 'responsible members of the community.' Our assemblies regularly focus on our Trust values and this week we talked about responsibility. It is important to teach children about responsibility from a young age and children enjoy having responsibility.

In assembly, we talked about responsibility meaning taking care of ourselves and others; taking ownership; taking care of our things and other people's; looking after our homes, schools, communities and the world; and keeping our promises or staying true to our word.

Instilling a sense of responsibility starts as soon as children start school. In Ladybirds, we teach the children about starting to be responsible for their own belongings and remembering to put their coats on their pegs, working collectively as a class to look after resources and tidy the classroom. As children move through the school we expect more of them and also give them more responsibility. In Badgers, the children are given a variety of jobs to understand the responsibility involved in looking after their classroom. One of the book monitors has taken on the role with enthusiasm and ensuring that their new bookcase is well organised, tidy and easy to access.

In assembly, we also talked about what it means when we do not take responsibility and the impact it can have on those around them such as acting selfishly and harming others or their property.

Children enjoy having responsibility and being responsible can make them feel proud. Giving children things to be responsible for at home can help them develop lifelong skills. We teach the children that they are responsible for looking after the resources in school and that it is their responsibility to keep the classroom tidy, this can be extended to home with tasks such as tidying their bedroom and looking after their toys.

We have a responsibility to our children to teach them to become responsible citizens for the future. If we do not instill this in them at a young age through their primary school life, they will not have the skills or understanding as young adults. Learning to understand the value of responsibility teaches children about decision making, boosts their self-esteem and prepares them for adulthood. It also helps children to understand the connection between their choices and the consequences which comes from them, for example, not being responsible for looking after a toy may lead to it becoming broken and unusable.

This week we have been looking out for children who have been taking responsibility in whatever form it comes—being honest, looking after themselves, each other, the school etc and there is lots of evidence of responsible children around school.

PTA Update

The PTA are working hard to organise more events and support the school. They have discussed events for the year ahead and allocated funds to classes to fund school trips. Trips are a really valuable opportunity for children to get outside the classroom but are increasingly expensive. Having our trips subsidised by the PTA is a huge benefit for our families. The PTA would love some additional members to support the work they do. Our committee are a friendly group of parents who put in a lot of hours to make the PTA run smoothly. If you think you can spare a bit of time to help out, let us know.



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	94%
Foxes	95%
Whole School	95.3%

