

Friday 6th June, 2025

Welcome back to school for the final half-term of the year! It was great to start with our special themed week 'Faith and Festivals' - the children thoroughly enjoyed all the activities and learning about other religions and their celebrations.

The next few weeks will be extremely busy, due to lots of exciting events such as Sports Day, the District Sports, our Creative Arts Evening, the Summer Bonanza and the Year 6 play. Do keep an eye on the newsletter and the website to make sure that you don't miss out on an event.

This week, we sent out our Annual Parents' Questionnaire; please do try to take a few moments to complete it as we would really like to be able to include your thoughts and suggestions in our new School Development Plan.
Thank you.

Staffing News

Sadly, Miss Brown (Oak Class) and Miss Lawrence (Kestrels Class) will be leaving us at the end of term to pursue new professional opportunities. We would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment during their time at Buttsbury and wish them happiness and success in future roles

On a happier note, I am delighted to share the news that both Miss Pretty and Miss Roe are expecting babies in late October/early November. We wish them good health in the exciting months ahead!

Miss Woodland will be returning from her maternity leave in mid-July and will job-share in September with Mrs Farley - who is a very experienced teacher - and is joining us from a local school in September.

We look forward to welcoming Miss Woodland back and Mrs Farley to our school as a teacher as well as a parent!

Health and Safety Procedure

Unfortunately, the world in which our children are growing up is quite different to the one in which you and I grew up and we now face more and more challenges in order to ensure our children are safe from harm.

We have a procedure in place - called 'Lock Down' which ensures the children are safe within the building should there be a reason to seal off the school. All staff are aware of the procedure but we have not tested it since last year so in order to be effective, we need to practise it. Next week, we will be talking to the children about our procedures for sealing off the school if needed and then, at some point during the forthcoming weeks, we will try out the procedures.

In order not to cause unnecessary stress to the children, the scenario I will be sharing with them is that there is a gas leak in the local area, and we all need to stay inside to make sure we are safe. Hopefully we will never need to implement our Lock Down procedure for real but it is important that we have an effective system in place (in the same way that we have fire evacuation procedures) should we ever need to use it. If you have any questions relating to this, please don't hesitate to contact me or catch me at the gate.

Next Week's Diary Dates

School Dinners - Week 1

Year 4 Multiplication Check

Year 1 Phonics Check

Monday 9th June

- Foxes and Hedgehogs visit to the Sealife Centre
- Kestrels Sharing Assembly - 9.00am

Tuesday 10th June

- Swim Team training at Mayflower High School - 7.45am
- Robins Sharing Assembly - 9.00am
- Whole school Inflatables Event - 3.30pm - 5.30pm - infant site

Wednesday 11th June

- Badgers and Rabbits visit to the Sealife Centre
- Woodpeckers Sharing Assembly - 9.00am
- Lesley - BYT - visit - Key Stage 2 classes
- Meeting for Year 5 parents - 7.00pm - re: IOW 2026 and France 2025 - junior site

Thursday 12th June

- Infant Music Festival - Emmanuel Church - Oak and Elm - am and Birch and Willow - pm
- Owls Sharing Assembly - 9.00am
- Fathers' Day sales - infants and Year 3 and Year 5

Friday 13th June

- Infant Sports Day - Year 2: 9.00am - 10.15am; Year 1: 10.30am - 11.45am; EYFS - 1.20pm - 2.45pm
- Fathers' Day sales - Year 4 and Year 6

Footwear

Just a reminder that children should be wearing black shoes to school rather than trainers, unless they have a medical reason preventing them from wearing shoes - please provide medical evidence if this is the case. Thank you.

Fathers' Day

Fathers' Day Sales

These will be held during the day on Thursday for infant children. Year 3 and Year 5 will be able to visit the sale during the lunch time on Thursday and Year 4 and 6 will be visiting during Friday lunchtime. The junior site sales will be in CAT Club and will provide the opportunity for children to come and independently choose a gift for their Dads (or Grandads or other significant family members) to show their appreciation and thanks. Gifts cost from £1.50 - £6.00.

Pre-Loved Uniform

If you would like to purchase any items (at a hugely reduced price) please contact Maggi (vice-chair of the infant PA) on: 07801 896254.

*'Maximum Effort for
Maximum Achievement'*

The Living Memorial - Rettendon

This morning, Mr Graves and I had the honour of attending a special service to commemorate the 81st anniversary of the D Day landing in Normandy at The Living Memorial, in Rettendon. This is a memorial that Mr Sheppard (Mrs O'Brien's father) worked tirelessly to have built - a place locally for people to remember and pay their respects. Mr Sheppard was a regular visitor to our school for many years and has a special place in all of our hearts. He sadly passed away, at the age of 104, last September. During the service, some of Mr Don Sheppard's ashes were scattered; whilst it was incredibly sad, it was also uplifting to remember and honour such an amazing person who touched the lives of so many.

Don Sheppard 4th May 1920 - 7th September 2024 RIP

Non-Uniform Day

Thank you for all your wonderful donations - the children loved leaving their uniform at home and the PFA were equally delighted to collect in all the donations.

Special Lunchtime Visitors

On Wednesday, we were joined for lunch by PCSOs Lauren Bryant and Mark Webster, as part of their community support work. Lauren and Mark are regular lunchtime guests at the junior site so it was lovely to extend the invitation to the infant site for a second time. After a lovely lunch, Lauren and Mark visited the Reception Classes and listened to some of the children read.



Wrap Around Care - September 2025

Following a successful consultation process, we are looking to set up Buttsbury-led, Wrap Around Care, on the junior site, from September. We aim to start small and hopefully expand the provision in time if there is a need.

The next step is recruitment! We are looking for several members of staff to join the team - if you are interested in a role, or know someone who may be interested, please visit: <https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=111438>

to find out more about the roles. If you have children of your own, we may be able to offer a fee reduction. Further details of the provision, for parents who are interested using the Breakfast/Tea Time Club, will follow in due course.



Year 5/6 Cricket Tournament

In June, the sun shines and the sound of ball on willow can be heard. Unless it is at Wickford, where the two Buttsbury teams played in the partnership final, under grey clouds, wind and rain. The A-team came third in their group with one win and two close defeats. Whereas, the B-team won three and lost their last game to Quilters (the eventual winners). Finishing second in the group, the B-team played Elmwood for third place overall; a very close game which Elmwood won by the barest of margins. The A-team played off for 5th again Stock and won. Both teams played well and it was wonderful to see confidence grow throughout the day. Many thanks to Ms Carson, Mr Mynard, Mrs Patel and Mrs Bowerman for joining the teams on the day and braving the conditions and to Mr Tweedie, our cricket coach,



RAAC Remediation Project

It's taken almost two years to get to this point and so many meetings that I have lost count but - as you can see in the photo below - we got there in the end and work has started! The scaffolding - internal and external - is so complex that it's going to take three weeks to install and then the roofers will get started, in readiness for 5R being back in their classroom and the Small Hall being back in use, for September!



Partnership Tennis Tournament

The sun was not on our side yesterday, but that did not put our children off from playing superbly and smiling through all the rain! During the morning, Year 3/4 attended the finals Plate and Cup tournaments at Billericay Lawn Tennis Club. Results speak for themselves.

The Cup competition saw team B finish in 4th place and team A finish 1st.

The Plate competition saw team B finish 5th, team C finish 4th and team A finish in joint 2nd.

The sun didn't want to show its face in the afternoon either, but that didn't stop Year 5/6 absolutely owning both competitions.

The results are a true testament to the fantastic team effort from our players.

The Cup competition saw team A finish 2nd and team B finish 1st.

The Plate competition saw team B finish 2nd and team A finish 1st.

A huge well done to all players and a special thank you to all the parents that transported the children and stayed to support them. Thank you as well to Mr Mynard, Mrs Payton and Mrs Rivas for attending.

EYFS/Key Stage 1 Celebrations



Reception Stars of the Week



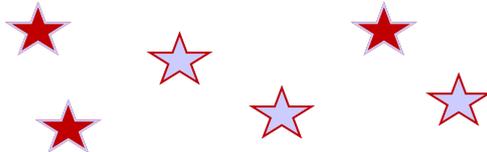
Year One Stars of the Week



Good Manners Award



Out of School Success



Year Two Stars of the Week



50 Things To Do At Home



Year 6 Work Experience

Over the next few weeks, all the children in Year 6 will have the chance to take part in some work experience, either at our infant site, Buttsbury Pre-School or Noah's Ark Pre-School. The first groups of children visited their respective locations this week and, as you can see from the photos, they had a great time

Thank you very much to Mrs Dean and Mrs Morris who spent many hours organising the timetables and also to the infant site staff, Buttsbury Pre-School and Noah's Ark Pre-School for enabling our children to visit. Thank you also to the staff who are getting their steps up each day by walking the children to and from their work experience.

Celebration Assembly

'Well Done' to all the children who were awarded MERIT certificates this week.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Summer Aronson | Summer Tait |
| Oy Egharevba | Maddie Stower |
| Layla Faris | Theo Clifford |
| Francis Hoile | Jorgie Jackson |
| Jamie Collyer | Isla Clifford |
| Bobby Taylor | Willow Harmer |
| Albie McCarthy | Alfie Thompson |
| Jack Wilkinson | Olivia Storey |
| Moraya Kemp | Alannah Cronin, |
| Laurel Beaumont | Kayn Bowerman |
| Lola Prior | Isla Sanders |
| Amelia Mangan | |

50 Things To Do Before Leaving Primary School
 Congratulations to **Isabella Swift** who has completed 10 things!

Pen Licences
 Well done to **Maisie Doyle, Lewis Eggleton and Darcy Leftwich** who all received their Pen Licences this week.



Out of School Success

Well done to **Mollie Parker and Amber Jobbins (both 4M)** who set up a stand outside their house to sell lemonade and crisps in aid of Cancer Research and St. Luke's, and raised £41.50!

Congratulations to **Olivia Mallett (3BW)** who participated in the Elevate Dance competition last weekend and achieved a silver medal in her solo tap dance!

Well done to **George Day (3M)** who competed in a football tournament at Leyton Orient last weekend.

Congratulations to **Vihaan Aggarwal (3BW)** who has had great success in swimming over the past three years and has now moved to Stage 5 Swordfish!

Well done to **George Willis (3BW)** who won "Player of the Day" and his team won the "Plate Cup" at Leyton Orient last weekend.

This week's 'Writers of the Week' are:

Emily Wilkinson Olivia Murley
Peter Fallouh Mahi Dalal Elliot Warman
Eloise Mills Jasmine Faris Vivaan Mukherji
 Well done to our writing super stars!

This week's 'Mathematicians of the Week' are:

Darcy Leftwich Leya Isikgun Ruby Price
Leo McDougall Poppy Goring Louie Parnell
Louie Omer Jonny McConnell Holly Lague
 Well done to our magical mathematicians!



Afternoon Tea

We had our final official gathering in the staffroom this week as the children from across the school shared a piece of work they were proud of whilst tucking into cakes, biscuits and squash! Over the next few weeks, we will be holding 'catch up' Afternoon Tea for anyone who has missed out.

This week's 'Readers of the Week' are:

Maisie Doyle Theo Barnes Ivy Duerden
William Stafford Charlie Wood Anya Farley
Anastasia Markelova Albert Sullivan
 Well done to our enthusiastic readers!

This week's 'Times Table Rockstars' are:

Noah Dias Charlie Leach Isobelle Sanders
Isabelle Neathercoat Bluebell Cole
Bonnie Atkinson-Lassman Amelie Moore
Mikael Ali Khan Peter Fallouh

House Points

This week's winning house:

Leopards



Top Table

This week, the children chosen by the Midday Assistants to sit at the 'Top Table' were:

Matty Rose
Luke Richardson-Young
Jemima Broom
Rory Atkinson
Vincent Pranevicius



This week's attendance figure is: 95.4%!

This year's attendance target is 97.0%.

A special 'Well Done' to Classes 6B and Elm who both had 100% attendance this week! Congratulations!



Rainbow Awards

Congratulations to this week's **GREEN** and **ORANGE** award recipients:

Joey Purkiss

Hanna Mitchelson

Yasmin Salter

Noah Webb

Well done to this week's **Bronze Pot of Gold** recipients:

Alex Metcalfe

Joe Jackson

Alfie Field

Zack Brewer

Well done to this week's **SILVER Pot of Gold** winners:

Freddie Beckwith
Aaron Barnes
Eddie Turner
Harry Brooks
Arlo Spencer-Nimmo
Bailey Ramrutton
Kaitlyn Charles Pradeep
Max Wilson
Alexander Fryd

Oliver Sutton
Mollie Smith
Jeremiah Hernandez
Lewis Eggleton
Evan Aarons
Gracie Birch
Isobel James
Jessica Chinnery

Bonnie Atkinson-Lassman
Jacob Dyer
Emelia Giddings
Ella Goodenough
Elizabeth Sheehan
Harrison Wooder
Elliot Bacchus
Emily Lycett

Charlie Saitch
Darcy Baglin
Louie Dixon
Henry Smith
Reuben Hilborne
Maggie Dear
Jacqueline Fulker
George Day

Girls' Football

St Helen's 0 - 2 Buttsbury

After a competitive 5 - 5 in the cup earlier in the year, St Helen's requested a rematch. The match started off at a hectic pace with the ball ricocheting on the dry ground. Buttsbury had the better of the first half chances but were unable to break the deadlock. In the second half, the girls got to grips with the game, passing the ball around the opposition and stretching them out of position. Scarlett neatly scored our first goal by converting Ella's dangerous corner. Shortly after, Alannah doubled our lead by plucking the ball out of the air and then striking a half-volley that lobbed the keeper. A number of fine saves from the St Helen's keeper kept the score down. It was the perfect way to sign off for the year. Well done girls.

Thank you Mr Cronin for your assistance with coaching and to all of the parents who came along and supported the girls, and to Mr Graves and Miss Roe, for coaching the team.



Buttsbury Rotakids - Excellence Award

I am delighted to share with you the exciting news that Buttsbury RotaKids have been awarded a **FOURTH** Presidential Citation (now known as the Excellence Award) by the President of Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland. These awards are not commonplace and are made in recognition of outstanding achievement in the last year. This morning, Anne Moriarty, who is the Rotary District Governor, Patrick Rotheron (President of the Rotary Club) and five other members of the Billericay Rotary Club, attended our assembly to present this very special award. We were incredibly proud of the work of our amazing children.



Magistrate Visit

This week, Year 6 were treated to an engaging and educational visit from a local magistrate. The session offered a fascinating insight into how the justice system works, the important responsibilities magistrates hold and the role they play in upholding the law. Children then took part in a mock trial, stepping into the shoes of court officials, witnesses, and defendants to bring the courtroom to life - sparking plenty of discussion and curiosity!



Local History Visit

This Wednesday, Mr Jim Devlin visited Year 6 supporting them with their History topic this half-term - 'Local History'. The children were fascinated to learn about the history of Billericay High Street and enjoyed seeing the High Street change over time. Mr Devlin's extensive knowledge and array of photographs - some over 100 years old - brought the topic to life and allowed pupils to learn in an exciting manner. The keen historians impressed Mr Devlin with pertinent questions and great enthusiasm.