

Friday 19th September, 2025

This week has been our annual Walk to School Week. We started the week with an assembly where we thought about the physical and environmental benefits of walking to school each day. You'll see from the photographs, that as ever, Happy Shoesday was well received by the children (and staff) who were able to wear their favourite footwear for the day. Trainers and slippers were clear favourites! Today, all children who walked to school each day received a Walk to School Week badge as a reward for their efforts. We hope that all of you will continue to walk to school and reduce the number of cars around our school.

European Day of Languages

Next Thursday, Buttsbury Primary School will be celebrating the European Day of Languages with a wide array of language and culture-based activities. This year's theme is 'Languages open hearts and minds' and Year 5 pupils will visit Years 1 and 2 to help their younger peers with their language studies. Children across all year groups are invited to dress in the colours of the country that their class will be studying for the day. Please be advised that there is absolutely no need to buy any new clothing or accessories for the day – if you do not have any clothing that matches the colour of your child's country for the day, you could simply make a wristband in the colours of the flag for your child's class country.

Reception classes will all study England.

Key Stage One classes have been allocated the following countries to study: Kestrels – Spain; Owls – Austria; Robins – Netherlands; Woodpeckers – Serbia; Birch – Germany; Elm – Italy; Oak – France; Willow – Portugal.

Key Stage Two classes have been allocated the following countries to study: 3BW Ireland; 3M Turkey; 3P Sweden; 3W Greece; 4C Scotland; 4H Spain; 4M Austria; 4P Denmark; 5B France; 5LM Portugal; 5M Italy; 5T Germany; 6B Poland; 6P Switzerland; 6R Finland; 6S Estonia.

We are all greatly looking forward to celebrating the languages with the children!

Year 6 'Open Door' afternoon

If you have a child in Year 6, you are very warmly invited to join them in their classroom on **Wednesday 24th September**, from 2.15pm - 3.00pm. You will have a chance to experience life inside a Year 6 classroom and get a flavour of some of their recent activities - you may even have the opportunity to join in! As this is an informal, experiential afternoon, children's books won't be available but there will be lots of work on the display boards for you to enjoy. Please could we ask that you don't bring pre-school children along as the classrooms will be very full and that just one person per child attends. Please could you come in via the external classroom doors rather than the front entrance.

Pre-Loved Uniform

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

Next Week's Diary Dates

School Dinners - Week 1

Monday 22nd September

- 3W and 3BW visit to Hyde Hall - usual school timings and school uniform please

Tuesday 23rd September

- 3P and 3M visit to Hyde Hall - usual school timings and school uniform please
- 4H 'Parents to Lunch' at 12.00pm

Wednesday 24th September

- Year 6 Open Door event - 2.15pm - 3.15pm

Thursday 25th September

- European Day of Languages celebration

Friday 26th September

- Year 3 - 6 Harvest Festivals (details below)

BILLERICAY

foodbank 

Key Stage 2 - Harvest Festivals - Christ Church **Friday 26th September**

Timings

- Year 4 - 9.00am - 9.30am
- Year 3 - 9.45am - 10.15am
- Year 5 - 10.30am - 11.00am
- Year 6 - 11.15am - 11.45am

Arrival

- Numbers are limited to **two** people per child.
- Doors will be opened as soon as the church is clear from the previous Harvest Festival.

In Church

- There are enough seats for one per family so some people will need to stand; priority will be given to the elderly, expectant Mums and those with mobility issues.
- Please arrange childcare for babies, toddlers and pre-school children if at all possible.
- **The church will be cleared fully between services so please don't leave coats on seats.**

Departure

- Please leave promptly via the Front Door - please don't walk over to the classes

Parking

- **There is no parking available at Christ Church - you will be fined if you park there so please don't!**

Hopefully, we will have four very successful Harvest Festivals - we are really looking forward to seeing you all.

Donations for the **Billericay Foodbank** can be brought into school from Monday.

Thank you, in advance, for following these protocols.

*'Maximum Effort for
Maximum Achievement'*



Little Musketeers Fencing Assembly - KS2

On Wednesday, James Beevers, Little Musketeers, joined us for our assembly to help the children find out a little more about fencing, including the 'on guard' posture. A few lucky children also had the opportunity to have a try themselves. If your child would like to join the Little Musketeers Fencing Club, details can be found on the school website.



Year 3 visit to Lake Meadows

On Tuesday afternoon, Year 3 pupils took a visit to Lake Meadows, as part of their Geography topic focused on exploring the local area. Thankfully, the weather was on our side - the rain held off so children could enjoy a dry and productive afternoon.

Thank you to all the parents who generously gave their time to support the visit. Your help made the afternoon run smoothly and ensured the children had a great time.



School Photographer - Infant Site

All the infant children had their photograph taken on Tuesday. The day went very smoothly due to the excellent organisational skills of Mrs Marven, the flexibility of staff and the superlative behaviour of the children.

Photos and purchasing information will follow shortly.

**Vacancies
Midday Assistant**

We have a vacancy for a midday assistant at the junior site - 12.00pm - 1.20pm. The role is 5 days per week but it could be split into 2/3 days if preferred.

Learning Support Assistant

We are looking for a kind and caring person to support a child in Year 5.

Hours are - Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 12.00pm. Please contact Mrs Byfield, in the Junior Site Office, if you are interested in either of these roles.

01277 623217 or

adminjun@buttsburyprimary.essex.sch.uk



Private Tuition

Mrs Wenham, one of the part-time teachers at the junior site, has vacancies for private tuition. Please contact the junior site office for further details.

Bye, bye Demountable

On Monday, the demountable classroom that has been home to 5R for nearly two years, was taken away! It was actually quite sad to see it go as we've had it for two years but, it was also joyous, as we are almost over the RAAC situation which has impacted the school since September 2023. We now have the Year 5 classroom and the Small Hall both back to full use which is wonderful - especially for me, as taking the chairs in the Computer Suite, was a challenge, to say the least. We now just have final site clearance and some damage to the playground to be sorted and then, that's it! No more RAAC!

(In case you are wondering why we didn't keep the demountable, as it would have been a great resource - sadly, that was down to funding, as it cost £1,300 per week to hire! Fortunately, this was paid for by the DfE as was all the remediation - very lucky as the latter came in at over £250,000!

Diary Date Changes

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to change two diary dates for next year -

Key Stage 2 - Group and Team Photos

Now - Friday 19th June 2026

Year 5 Trip to France

Now - Wednesday 24th June

Please accept my apologies for the changes.



Parents to Lunch

We had our first 'Parents to Lunch' event on Thursday when we invited the parents of children into 4C to join us for lunch. Thank you to the staff who played a part in enabling this lovely event to take place.



Key Stage 1 Celebrations



Year One 'Stars of the Week'



Year Two 'Stars of the Week'



Good Manners Award



50 things to do at home



Summer Reading Challenge



Out of School Success



Gym Trail Event

Yesterday, some of the children in Key Stage One had the opportunity to take part in a gym trail event, which was led by Mrs McSweeney, from Mayflower High School. The children had a great time and enjoyed taking part in all the activities. Thank you to Miss Mower for co-ordinating the event and to Mrs McSweeney, for leading it.



Walk to School Week

Thank you to everyone who embraced our 'Walk to School' week and helped to make it a great success. The weather has been a little unpredictable, however so many families have walked all or part of the way in the morning and again at the end of the day. This has really supported the important messages of being both safe and active which have been part of our lessons this week. As part of this it was lovely to see so many children wearing their favourite shoes on Tuesday, in support of 'Happy Shoesday'. We saw bright pairs, patterned pairs and lots of favourite trainers.



Celebration Assembly

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

<i>Amber Branch</i>	<i>Harry Shipway</i>
<i>Jude Phillips</i>	<i>Poppy Goring</i>
<i>Poppy Walsh</i>	<i>Rhys Carey</i>
<i>Felix Duncan</i>	<i>Ruby Hill</i>
<i>Rosie Hadassi</i>	<i>Zachary O'Keefe</i>
<i>Ines Ferreira Melo</i>	<i>Elsie Dowling</i>
<i>Emma Wingate</i>	<i>Noah Nevill</i>
<i>Chloe Cambridge</i>	<i>Jasmine Carter</i>
<i>Nieve Dyer</i>	<i>Hazel Pentecost</i>
<i>Finley Horton</i>	<i>Emma Laming</i>
<i>Rosa Gladwin</i>	<i>Finley Paton</i>
<i>Yasmin Salter</i>	<i>Theia Wright</i>



Out of School Success

- * Well done to Bella and Rafe Pankhania (4C and Robins) who planted the sunflower seeds that were sold in aid of St. Luke's Hospice last year - as you can see, they grew very well!
- * Congratulations to Vivaan Mukherji (5T) who won the runners-up trophy in the Stock Tennis Club's 2025 orange ball (8-11 years) competition and also played in the Billericay Cricket Club U9 team. They came out as runners-up in the Central Essex Cricket Participation Group (U9) Cup 2025.
- * Well done to Seb Stephens (4M) who took part in his first ever Duathlon event hosted by East Essex Triathlon Club at Basildon Sporting Village, on Saturday.
- * Congratulations to Ariella Osborne (4C) who has been invited to join SEBS (South Essex Ballet Scholars' elite programme).
- * Well done to Bluebell Cole (5T) who completed the Summer Reading Challenge at Billericay library.
- * Congratulations to Nyla Baker (4H) who won 2 x silver and 2 x bronze medals at her gymnastics competition on Sunday!
- * Well done to Ava McCarthy (3P) for growing an amazing sunflower - over 3m tall!

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

*Maddie Wallis Jessica Reeves Emmy Blake
David Golberg Kishan Lythe
Jay Lythe Jessica Russell Faith Fenton
Well done to our writing super stars!*

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

*Sophie Warden Darcy Leftwich Maddie Wallis
Ellena Boulwood Theo Page Harry Higgs
Lara Isikgun Isla Bellinger Nieve Dyer
Well done to our magical mathematicians!*



Afternoon Tea

This week, it was Year 4's turn. The children, excitedly joined Mr Graves and me in the Staff Room to share biscuits, cakes and squash!

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

*Amber Jobbins Emel Enver Dominic Senior
Maddie Johnson Paisley Goodman
Jack Keefe Sophia Hayes Teddy Chapman
Well done to our enthusiastic readers!*

This week's 'Times Table Rockstars' are:

*Mia Dixon Joshua McCarthy Mollie Parker
Jessica Pilka Sienna Lewis
Kumail Jeevaji Owen Ridall
Alexander Smith Luke Welch*

House Points

This week's winning house:

Jaguars

Top Table

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

**Ariella Osborne
James Rowley
Rhea Rai
Caelan Hughes
Freya Anderson**



This week's attendance figure is: 98.3%! AWESOME!

This year's provisional attendance target is 97.0%.

A special 'Well Done' to Foxes, Robins, 4P and 6S who all had 100% attendance this week! Congratulations!

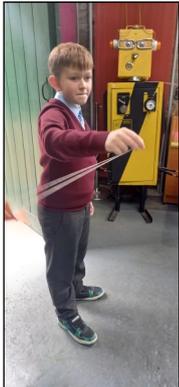


Year 5 Visit

This week Year 5 visited the Museum of Power where we learnt about a range of different forces. Children investigated the force 'thrust' and how it is used in transport vehicles. Children made their own cart and took part in a race. Excitingly, with water, a paper cup and some string, children tested the centrifugal force. They found that they can keep water safely in our cup when rotating the cup 360 degrees!

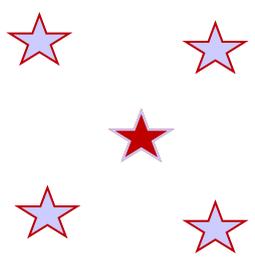
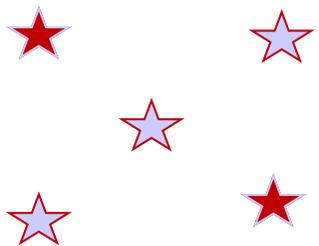
Additionally, they learnt about magnets and saw a steam engine in action!

Can you see any other forces taking place in our pictures?
We've had a splendid time!



WrapAround Homework Club

Another benefit of the club - supervised homework! We're currently thinking about a new name for the club as WrapAround is rather dull, isn't it?



Mrs Robinson's Right Hand People

Introducing our Hall Monitors and our Music Monitors! The Hall Monitors set the hall up for assembly and, even more importantly, put the benches out and tidy them away from benchball lessons (in their lunch time). Thank you to: **Zachary Mason-Bauckham, Mollie Hughes, Alfie Field, Grayson Kemp, Alice Bennett and Summer-Rose Smith.**

Also invaluable, are **Perdie Noble and Daisy Mumford**, who are the Music Monitors. They make sure we have the right words and music for our assemblies and singing assembly which can be quite challenging at times, especially when the tech goes wrong!

Core Five

Congratulations to our new 'Core Five' who, along with Mrs Wilson and Miss Olive, will drive the work of the School Council this year.

★ **Chair: Freya Anderson** ★
★ **Vice-Chair: Lola Obergan** ★
★ **Secretary: Summer-Rose Smith** ★
★ **Treasurer: Theo Vasileiadis** ★
★ **PR/Events: Kaitlyn Charles Pradeep** ★

Well done children and good luck in your roles!

50 Things To Do Before Leaving Primary School

Congratulations to **Amelia Hudson** who has completed **20** things at home.
who has completed 10 things!
A very special 'Well Done' to **Sophia Smith** who has completed **30** things at home!