

The Buttsbury Bulletin

Buttsbury Primary School

Autumn 2025

A Jolly Christmas Bazaar!

By Megan Shipton & Kaitlyn Charles Pradeep



On Saturday 22nd of November 2025, Buttsbury had their first EVER Christmas Bazaar as a Primary School, with children of ages 4-11 coming to enjoy all the different stalls, win prizes, and meet with their friends.

There were activities for all ages, along with delicious food and drinks served in the main hall. It was a wonderful way to get into the festive spirit! The event ran from 12pm to 3pm, and some pupils even kindly volunteered to help on the stalls.

Adding to the excitement, the Junior choirs performed on stage in the main hall, with Years 5 and 6 singing at 1pm and Years 3 and 4 performing at 2pm. Both choirs sang beautifully, creating a truly festive atmosphere.

The Junior colour stall competition was another highlight, with Year 6 winning first place for their Gold stall, raising an impressive £216—just £1.20 more than Year 5's Silver stall!

Erin Collins (6P) shared, *"It was really fun!"* while Megan Shipton (6B) commented, *"I loved performing in the choir, and going on the stalls was really fun!"*

The stalls proved popular with everyone, as Mr Tweedie, teacher of 5T, remarked, *"It was lovely to see how festive everyone was. Having the Infants join as well made it feel like a real community."*

The school raised a phenomenal total of £9,007.31, making the event a huge success and a fantastic start to the festive season!

Perfect Pantomime

By Pippa Daley and Erin Collins



On Friday 5th of December, the pupils of Buttsbury Primary School were treated to a wonderful performance of *Sleeping Beauty* at the Towngate Theatre in Basildon. This interactive experience is organised annually to give children an enjoyable break from their usual schoolwork.

Excitement filled the air as the children entered the theatre and eagerly found their seats. Before the show began, many joined in singing along to festive Christmas songs, adding to the cheerful atmosphere.

Suddenly, the lights dimmed and the actors leapt onto the stage, prompting cheers of excitement from the audience. Throughout the performance, pupils enthusiastically joined in at the right moments, making the experience even more interactive and fun. A humorous highlight was Mr Graves appearing as the dame's "secret admirer"—though it was hardly a secret, as the whole school knew!

Near the end, the crowd's favourite character, Dave the Dinosaur, made his entrance, delighting everyone in the theatre.

The pantomime was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Kaitlyn remarked, *"I loved the panto; they must have put a lot of hard work into performing it!"* Amelia added, *"I liked when Mr Graves set the confetti cannon off at completely the wrong moment!"*

It was a truly memorable day for everyone. With only a few years at Buttsbury, pupils are reminded to treasure these special pantomimes while they can.

Murderous Macbeth!

By Callie Beadon and Summer-Rose Smith



On 12 September 2025, the Year 6 students were immersed in a thrilling performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The production greatly helped the pupils to understand the story and appreciate their literary heritage.

There were many outstanding roles, including Banquo, King Duncan and the witches. Of course, the star of the show was Macbeth himself, alongside his evil wife. Throughout the play, children were invited to make mysterious sounds and shout, "All hail Macbeth!" One of the highlights was a silent battle scene, where pupils acted with swords and shields.

Erin from 6P stated, "It was one of the most thrilling plays I have ever seen, and it was very cool!" It was clear that everyone watching was captivated. Thanks to the actors, every child had the chance to join in and shine. The atmosphere was full of excitement, and even the teachers enjoyed themselves.

Mrs Pretlove from 6P exclaimed, "I love it! It brings Shakespeare alive and helps the children understand a complex story." Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this exciting and



mysterious tragedy, and no one was left bored after each twist and turn. The pupils were grateful to the Young Shakespeare

Company for making the story accessible and engaging. They loved showcasing their acting skills and stepping into the spotlight.

This event clearly advanced the students' knowledge of Shakespeare and gave them a memorable experience.

A sensational Shakespearean show!

Junior Parkrun

By Emilio Gallone and George White



On Sunday, 28th September, at Lake Meadows, parents, children, staff, trustees, and members of the community came together to support the Junior Parkrun.

The event was a tremendous success, with an incredible 434 participants—just six short of the world record! Lysander Goodman (6P) commented, "We were so close to breaking the world record; only six more people and we would have done it!"

Mrs Mellor (5LM) added, "It was amazing to see such a large number of children take part."

One of the highlights of this fantastic event, according to many, was the cake. Pupils worked alongside parents and teachers to set up the cake stand, ensuring everyone who

completed the run received a slice. Lysander Goodman (6P) remarked, "The



cake was nice and it had lots of sprinkles."

Edward Smith (6B) summed up the day perfectly, saying, "What a great event!"

Mrs Robinson expressed her pride in all the students and families who participated, stating that the occasion reminded her why Buttsbury Primary School is such a special place. It was truly a memorable day for the whole school community.

European Day of Languages at Buttsbury Primary School

By Freya Anderson and Poppy Bolt-Emerson

On Thursday, 25th September, Buttsbury Primary School proudly celebrated the European Day of Languages, an event dedicated to recognising and

appreciating the rich diversity of cultures, languages, and traditions across Europe.

Throughout the day, pupils engaged in a variety of exciting activities.

The celebrations began with an Inter-House quiz featuring a wide range of questions about celebrities, the origins of words, and popular European languages.

Later in the day, pupils in Years

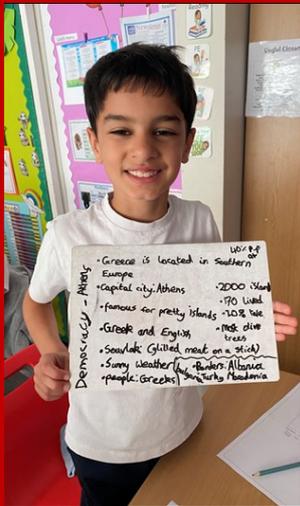
3 and 4 participated in a creative T-shirt design competition, each hoping to win a copy of their own design. Sianna from 3BW

enthusiastically shared, *"I really enjoyed the European Day of Languages t-shirt designing and I can't wait for next year!"*

Year 6 pupils took on the challenge of collecting data about languages spoken across Europe and presenting their findings in a graph. Meanwhile, Year 5 enjoyed producing informative travel guides, showcasing fascinating facts about different countries and their cultures.

Miss Burt, teacher of 5B, commented, *"I really enjoyed dressing up in the colours of our flags and seeing how excited the children were."*

A special thank you goes to Miss Hall and Mrs Goddard for organising such a memorable and enriching day. It was a fantastic celebration, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience!



Vikings Are Back!

By Ethan Rae and Vince Drury



On Wednesday, 1st October 2025, the enthusiastic Year 6 pupils of Buttsbury Primary School embarked on an exciting trip to Layer Marney Tower. This visit was organised as part of their history topic on the Viking era.

The children woke up bright and early and dressed as Vikings to make the day even more immersive. The trip was a great success, as pupils learned about the daily life of Vikings from hundreds of years ago. They took part in a range of activities, including weaving, archery, a Viking court (known as a 'thing'), weaponry, and arts and crafts such as making friendship bracelets.

Archery proved to be a favourite, with pupils competing to see who could shoot their arrow the furthest. They also enjoyed the Viking court, where they discussed different scenarios and how Vikings would have resolved them. In addition, pupils carried out a data survey on Viking trade, learning what goods were bought and sold. They even discovered more about the weapons Vikings used during raids.

Kaitlyn Charles Pradeep from 6R said, *"We learnt lots of very exciting and interesting information."* Megan Shipton from 6B added, *"It was really fun and I enjoyed the day."* Finally, Lara Austin from 6P stated, *"It was very inspirational and we learnt lots of facts about the Vikings."*

The day was both educational and enjoyable, leaving pupils with fascinating knowledge that will stay with them for years to come.



Superb Synagogue Trip

By Ben Ferris and Michael Reason



On 29th September, Year 2 pupils enjoyed an educational visit to Chalkwell Park and Westcliff Synagogue. The purpose of the trip was to learn about Judaism while enjoying a day out.

The fantastic day began with a picnic, followed by games in the park, which provided an exciting start for the children.



After lunch, the pupils entered the Synagogue, where their guide, Yael, gave them an informative and engaging tour. She explained the intricate features of the building and showed the children the Ark, where the Torah is kept. Yael also demonstrated the special pointer used when reading the Torah.

Mrs Smith commented, "The children were so engaged and asked brilliant questions. It was wonderful to see them learning about different faiths in such an authentic setting."

One pupil, Emily, shared that she particularly enjoyed seeing the Torah and discovering that Hebrew is written in the opposite direction to English.

The trip concluded with many excited children eager to tell their parents about their amazing day, their faces lit up with huge smiles.

Year 2 sincerely thank Westcliff Synagogue for their warm welcome and support in making the day so memorable.

Wellbeing Week

By Lara Austin and Olivia Taylor



From Monday 20th October to Thursday 23rd October, the children of Buttsbury Primary School participated with joy in **Wellbeing Week**, which was a great success.

The main focus of the week was on promoting healthy eating and physical activity, as well as encouraging kindness towards others. Pupils developed new and exciting skills such as orienteering, yoga, and first aid, and they demonstrated passion and creativity while taking part in these activities.

The local Billericay Baptist Church warmly welcomed the school into its facilities, providing a calm and reflective environment. This experience filled the children with excitement, and there were many fun and entertaining activities



to enjoy. Ethan Rae from 6P described the visit as "a very calming and soothing experience that let my inner feelings escape." A favourite feature of the church was the Joy Room, where lively music played and pupils could dance merrily with their friends.

Another highlight of the week was the cross-country run, which proved physically challenging but enjoyable thanks to the caring staff who eagerly cheered everyone on. Pupils expressed pride in their achievements and agreed that it was an excellent way to exercise. Linked to the theme of physical health, a dance workshop was held, along with Gaelic football matches—which were highly competitive—and several other sporting tournaments.

Throughout the week, the school councillors organised a healthy eating tuck shop for pupils to enjoy. The shop offered a variety of delicious fruits, reinforcing the importance of a balanced diet.

For many years, Buttsbury Primary School has been committed to motivating pupils to stay fit and healthy while maintaining a well-balanced diet and reflecting on both physical and mental health. This year's Wellbeing Week clearly demonstrated that commitment, and the whole school thoroughly enjoyed the experience.