

The Buttsbury Bulletin

Buttsbury Primary School

Summer 2026

Buttsbury's Breakfast for the World Cup!

By Sophie Mackenzie and Nifemi Oladele



On Monday 6 July, over 200 children and staff at Buttsbury Primary School attended a special football breakfast event to watch the exciting England v Mexico World Cup match. Pupils were able to choose from a vegetarian, sausage or bacon bap while enjoying the game. The event was organised by Headteacher, Mrs Robinson, with the aim of bringing the school community together and allowing children to watch the match, which had been scheduled late in the evening.

Adding to the excitement, everyone had the opportunity to chant live on the radio and Mrs Robinson was interviewed. The atmosphere was full of anticipation and Mrs Catini, Head of Year 4, said that she was thoroughly excited to watch the highlights because she did not know the final score. Meanwhile, a Year 3 pupil shared how much he had enjoyed the occasion, saying that he was happy to see his friends and enjoyed spending time with them before the start of the school day.

Throughout the day, the excitement of England's victory continued to buzz around the school. As the afternoon came to an end, a sea of red-and-white football kits and clothing streamed out of the gates, with children eager to tell their families about their memorable and enjoyable day.

The football breakfast was a great success and provided a wonderful start to the day for everyone who attended.

Alice In Wonderland

By Jemima Broom and Elodie Wang Gao

From Tuesday 2nd June to Friday 5th June 2026, the whole school enjoyed a vibrant Creative Arts Week based on the theme of Alice in Wonderland, organised by the Head of Art, Mrs Pretlove.

Throughout the week, pupils took part in a wide range of creative activities that encouraged them to think imaginatively and express themselves through the arts. One of the highlights was a once-in-a-lifetime workshop led by the Royal Ballet and Opera, where pupils sang, performed, and gave their all. Some students also designed and created miniature ballet-inspired stage sets based on the week's theme, producing impressive and imaginative pieces of work.

To conclude the week, the entire school took part in a sensational Mad Hatter's Tea Party. Pupils danced, sang, and enjoyed a variety of exciting games. They also had the opportunity to spend time with the infant children, which many found especially enjoyable. Grace and Isabella from 4C said that they "really enjoyed the infants' company while we were dancing and playing," adding that they also loved the delicious cakes.

The celebrations continued as Mr Tweedie entertained everyone with a freestyle performance of the Macarena, encouraging pupils to join in. To make the afternoon even more special, the school cook baked a selection of delectable cakes, which were enjoyed with squash and water.

Creative Arts Week was a memorable success, providing pupils with an exciting opportunity to celebrate creativity, imagination, and teamwork across the whole school.



Memorable WW1 Theme Day

By Felix Halder and David Timperon



On Thursday 23 April, Year 5 took part in a special First World War themed day. The event included an engaging question-and-answer session, heartfelt poetry writing, aircraft drawings and an exciting flight simulator experience.

During the Q&A session, the children met a real pilot who shared fascinating facts about the First World War, the history of flight and the different aircraft used during the period. The pupils were captivated by what they learnt. Marley Dowling from 5B commented, "I have thoroughly enjoyed this fascinating session and I hope the new Year 5 pupils will find it just as intriguing."

Following this, the children wrote thoughtful poems to honour those who lost their lives during the First World War. Pupils from across Year 5 took part enthusiastically, carefully choosing respectful and reflective language. Mrs Robinson praised the children's mature approach to the activity.

The next task gave the pupils an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents. Using only an HB pencil and a rubber, they created detailed sketches of aircraft, demonstrating excellent concentration and creativity throughout.

The excitement then continued with the flight simulators.

Wearing virtual reality headsets, the children experienced aerial battles and tested their flying skills against enemy aircraft. Sophie Mackenzie from 5M said, "I have been intrigued and fascinated by this experience and worked my socks off focusing on it."



In conclusion, Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed this memorable day. From the informative session and poetry writing to the artwork and flight simulators, every activity provided valuable learning and enjoyment. The day will certainly be remembered for a long time.

A Fin-tastic day out

By Willow Harmer and Arianna Lazell

On Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 June 2026, Buttsbury EYFS visited the Sealife Centre in Southend as part of their learning for the Big Wide World topic. The trip provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to develop their understanding of the world around them by experiencing a beach environment and learning about animals from across the globe, as well as creatures that lived millions of years ago, such as dinosaurs.

The children had a fantastic day exploring the Sealife Centre. They enjoyed seeing a variety of amazing animals, including penguins, otters, colourful fish and impressive sharks. Miss Kane said, "The children had a wonderful time learning. My favourite animal was the otter as they were so playful."

As they explored the centre, the children walked through underwater tunnels and observed fish



swimming overhead. Rishi was especially excited by this experience and said, "I liked seeing the fish swimming over my head. There was even a treasure chest right at the bottom of the water. I was the only one who spotted it."

The trip also included a visit to the dinosaur area, where the children walked among giant prehistoric creatures. Ben particularly enjoyed this part of the visit, commenting, "I liked seeing the dinosaurs." The children also visited the beautiful butterfly enclosure and learned more about a range of fascinating animals.

After a busy morning of exploration, the children enjoyed a picnic together on the beach. They then spent time playing on the sand, building sandcastles and enjoying the seaside environment.

Overall, the trip was a great success.

Everyone had a fun-filled day packed with discovery and adventure, creating happy memories along the way.



Bon Voyage

By Jamie Baker, Felix Duncan and Vivaan Mukherji

On the beautiful, sunny day of Wednesday 25 June 2026, the Year 5 pupils of Buttsbury Primary School embarked on an exciting trip to France. The visit gave pupils the opportunity to apply the French language skills they had learned at school in a real-life setting, making it both educational and enjoyable.

The enthusiastic pupils arrived at school bright and early at 6.15 a.m. before setting off on the two-hour coach journey to the Eurotunnel terminal. With little traffic and no delays, the group soon boarded the train and, after a 35-minute journey, arrived in France.

Their first stop was Cité Europe in Calais, where pupils practised using euros to buy snacks and souvenirs. After exploring the shopping centre, they travelled to Blériot-Plage, a popular French beach near Calais.

Although the weather was windy, it did not spoil the fun. After lunch, the children enjoyed playing rounders, paddling in the sea, splashing in the waves and building sandcastles. One pupil commented, "The trip was really good," while another described it as "a fantastic day with lots of fun activities."

Following their time at the beach, the group began the journey back to Buttsbury. Reflecting on the day, Mrs Cattini said, "C'était une longue journée, mais formidable!" meaning, "It was a long day, but it was wonderful."

Although the children were sad that their adventure had come to an end, they returned home with many happy memories.



Exhilarating

Egyptian Day

By Freya Evans and Poppy Walsh



On Tuesday 28 April 2026, the Year 3 pupils took an exciting journey back in time to Ancient Egypt. They explored the lives of the Egyptians and learned about daily life in one of history's most fascinating civilisations. As they arrived at school, pupils admired one another's impressive costumes while discovering that their classroom had been transformed into an Egyptian scene. The children took part in a range of activities designed to deepen their understanding of Ancient Egypt. They developed their artistic skills by creating hieroglyphics, the ancient writing system used by the Egyptians. One of the highlights of the day was mummifying satsumas. The children thoroughly enjoyed recreating the mummification process using the small fruits, which quickly became known as the "orange mummies". Miss Watson praised the pupils' efforts and described the activity as "10/10". The day left a lasting impression on the pupils. Ella said that writing hieroglyphics made her feel like a real Egyptian. By the end of the day, it was clear that the children had thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Through creating clay pyramids, role-play and collaborative learning, the Year 3 pupils deepened their historical knowledge and gained a greater appreciation of Ancient Egyptian civilisation.

Wonder Through Wildlife

By Marley Dowling and Tanvi Kondapalli



On Tuesday 5 May 2026, Year 3 pupils from Buttsbury Primary School enjoyed an exciting visit to Colchester Zoo as part of their Science topic, Animals and Their Habitats.

Once at the zoo, the pupils were amazed by what they learned about the animals and the history of the zoo itself. Miss Evenden described it as "a fun school trip where we all learned a lot about the animals and history of the zoo."

The children particularly enjoyed seeing the leaping lemurs as they moved swiftly from branch to branch. They also took part in creative activities, including sketching animal coat patterns and designing imaginative birds of prey.

One of the highlights of the day was a visit to the gift shop, where pupils learned how the zoo supports conservation and sustainability.

The trip was enjoyed by all. Elsie Dowling from 3M said, "It was the best school trip I have ever been on! My favourite animal was the monkey because he was so cheeky!"

The trip provided an exciting opportunity to explore the world of animals while bringing their classroom learning to life.

Brilliant, Boiling Buttsbury Bonanza

By Amber Branch and Maddie Wallis

On 27 June, the final fantastic fundraiser of 2026 took place – the Summer Bonanza. In total, the children of Buttsbury raised an impressive £8,300, almost twice as much as last year. This fantastic achievement shows what can be accomplished when the whole school community works

together. There were plenty of exciting activities, including the Year 5 Tug of War and the Year 6 Cage of Monsters, where

participants could blast Mrs Robinson, Skittleman and others with cold water. Maddie Stower from 5LM described the event as "amazing and so slay!", showing just how much pupils enjoyed the day. The sunny weather helped create a wonderful atmosphere, with children and families enjoying themselves throughout the afternoon. Mrs Sherwood, teacher of 6S, said that it was great to see everyone outside enjoying the sunshine. A huge amount of hard work went into organising this year's Bonanza, making it a memorable success for the whole Buttsbury community.

