

Newsletter Term 5 Number 1 Friday 25th April 2025
Values of the term: Kindness, understanding, forgiveness
‘Rivers know this: there is no hurry. We shall get there some day.’
– A.A. Milne, *Winnie-the-Pooh*

Dear Parents,



Our May Day celebrations were an absolute delight! It was wonderful to see the whole community come together to joyfully welcome the arrival of spring (although it feels like summer!) with its longer days and light. The children were fantastic - supportive of one another, calm, and collaborative throughout. A heartfelt thank you to FOBS for their invaluable help in setting up gazebos, serving delicious cream teas, and decorating the parent shelter with the children's lovely flowers!

This week in class –

Acorns have been sharing lots of stories about plants this week and have learnt about what plants need to grow. We have been creating collages of flowers and have been drawing and labelling different parts of a plant. Big Acorns have been learning to double a number in maths and have also enjoyed their first forest school session. Little acorns have been exploring differences in length and height. Acorns also took part in their first Maypole Dance too.

Beech - As well as practising for Maypole Dancing (Weren't they wonderful? We are so proud!) we have also done a lot of learning this week - starting our science topic on materials and sorting items in plastics, material, wood etc; we started a new maths topic with Mrs Elliott on Statistics and learnt about tally charts, whilst with Mrs Gorham we are finishing the last few items on multiplication and division. Finally, we have started



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writing amazing stories about the Iron Man and his journey to the cliff top which we will finish next week.

Sycamore This week in Sycamore we have been practising on our Maypole dance and Class Worship. We were extremely lucky that Mrs Bunting was able to come in and give us a final Maypole rehearsal before the performance on Thursday! In class we have been continuing our learning on the Ancient Egyptians - we have learnt about Tutankhamun and Howard Carter in our Guided Reading sessions, and we have been really enjoying our class story - Secrets of a Sun King. We have started learning about Pentecost in RE and had our first Science and Art lesson where we looked at Plants.

Oak class have been writing their next portfolio piece: should zoos remain open to the public or be closed with immediate effect. Co-ordinates have been a focus for Maths, as well as plotting points on a co-ordinate grid, the class have been reflecting and translating shapes on a four-quadrant grid. We have retrieved information from Tiger Tiger in our Guided Reading sessions; provided advice for different scenarios regarding how we protect our Mental Health in Circle Time and compared the life cycles of different animal groups in science. Finally, the children executed the plait (twice!) so well as part of our May Day celebrations.

Staffing updates -

Beech Class

As you know, Mrs Gorham will be retiring at the end of Term 5. We are delighted to announce that Mrs Elliott has been appointed to a permanent role and will be working in a job share with Mrs Langlay-Smith, who will be returning from maternity leave on Wednesday 3rd July.

Staffing for Beech Class in Term 6:

Mrs Elliott will teach full-time (Monday to Friday) until 3rd July.

From 3rd July onwards, Mrs Elliott and Mrs Langlay-Smith will begin their job share arrangement.

Acorns Class

In Term 6, Miss Hatton will continue to teach Acorns Class on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. She will be joined by Mrs Jones, who returns from maternity leave on Thursday 26th June to complete the week.



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In the three weeks prior to Mrs Jones's return, we are pleased to have Mrs Siedle and Mrs Bunting teaching on Thursdays and Fridays.

Staffing for Acorns Class in Term 6:

Miss Hatton – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Mrs Siedle & Mrs Bunting – Thursday and Friday (until 26th June)

Mrs Jones – Thursday and Friday (from 26th June onwards)

We are really pleased that both Mrs Jones and Mrs Langlay-Smith are returning to Buckland School, and we very much look forward to welcoming them back to Acorns and Beech Class.

Next week:

Emergency services – On Wednesday 7th May, we are excited to welcome visitors from the Emergency Services. The children will have the opportunity to see a fire engine, police car, and ambulance up close, and they'll be able to ask plenty of questions to learn more about the important work these teams do.

A big thank you to Mrs Wrigglesworth-Footit for organising this fantastic experience!

VE day celebrations – Thursday 8th May - children are invited to come to school dressed in red, white, and blue as we mark VE Day. We'll be enjoying a picnic lunch and taking part in a range of VE Day-themed activities in class.

Primary School Health Nursing newsletter – for parents and carers in Oxfordshire – please have a look, there is lots of useful information –

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/jQu57EsFWmL3SyAl?ref=email&loc=play>

Reporting your child's absence - please can parents notify the office either by email or to the office phone by 8.45am at the latest. **Please do not only leave a message with a member of staff – all messages of absence need to go to the office** so that Ms Harvey can add the correct information to our registers by 9.10am. Thank you for your support with this.

Staffing adverts – we are currently advertising for a lunch time assistant for 5 days a week. If you know anyone who may be interested in this role, then please share -

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2025-BCEPS-42359>



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Achievements

House	Horse	Ox	Dragon
Weekly total	97	81	92
Termly total	158	159	143

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Thomas and Toby

Beech – Sofia and Finn

Sycamore – The whole class for a lovely Class Worship and Iris

Oak – Tom H and Harry

Silver badges have been awarded to:

Horse: Indigo, Ava K, Hermoine, Iris, Evie

Ox: Denver, Charlie F, Freddie L-S, Heather and Sophie

Dragon: Thomas and Finn

Gold badges have been awarded to:

Dragon: Grace H

Congratulations to all.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the Bank Holiday! We look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 6th May.

Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team