



*Small school, big hearts.
Wise, Responsible and Kind
like the Good Samaritan.*

Newsletter Term 4 Number 6 Friday 4th April 2025
Values of the term: Diversity, tolerance and equality

‘The great gift of Easter is hope’ – Basil Hume

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your well wishes and support upon the announcement that I have been appointed the substantive Headteacher at Buckland. Your kind words mean so much to me. I am absolutely delighted to take on this role at a school I truly love and care deeply about. It has been a genuine privilege to lead Buckland as Acting Headteacher, and I feel incredibly fortunate to now continue this journey permanently. Buckland is a very special place, and I’m excited to build on our shared successes. I look forward to working together with our amazing pupils, staff, families, and wider community as we continue to grow, thrive, and achieve even more in the future.

Easter celebrations



Yesterday, the children enjoyed a peaceful and thoughtful Prayer Walk at St Mary’s Church. Each class took part in a workshop led by Mrs Gildersleeves and Mrs Lines, where they learned about the colours used throughout the church year - purple for Advent and Lent, white and gold for Christmas and Easter, green for Ordinary Time, and red for Pentecost and Holy

Week. As they explored different areas of the church, the children were able to see these symbolic colours in place and deepen their understanding of the liturgical calendar.

In the afternoon, the whole school gathered for a special ‘Open the Book’ worship led by our Year 5 class, focusing on the story of the Last Supper. It was a meaningful way to reflect as we approach Easter. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs Gildersleeves and Mrs Lines for their dedication and hard work in creating these spiritual and reflective experiences for our children.

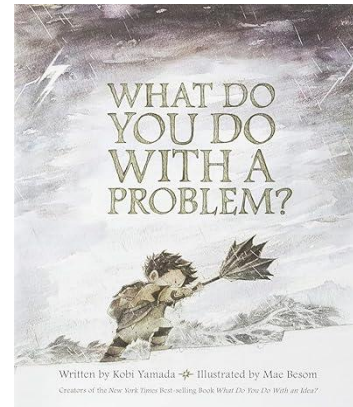


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Today, the children had a great time taking part in an Easter Egg hunt in the garden. It was a joy to see their excitement and smiles as they discovered hidden chocolate treasures! A big thank you to FOBS for organising.

In worship this week, we explored one of our core values – wisdom - not just as knowledge, but as the ability to make good choices and learn from life’s experiences. We reflected on James 1:5, which reminds us that we can ask God for wisdom, who will generously give it. To bring this message to life, we shared the story “What Do You Do with a Problem?” by Kobi Yamada. It follows a child who learns that instead of running away from problems, facing them can reveal opportunities to grow stronger and wiser.



As a group, we thought about the challenges we each face and asked ourselves how we might respond with wisdom: What can we learn? Can something good come from it? We ended our time by reflecting on one wise thing we can do today - whether it’s helping someone, asking a thoughtful question, or learning from a mistake. It was a meaningful reminder that wisdom comes from reflection, learning from experience and never giving up.

If you would like to share the story at home, here is a link:

[https://fliphtml5.com/uaycu/lfyr/What do you do with a problem%3F By Kobi Yamada/](https://fliphtml5.com/uaycu/lfyr/What%20do%20you%20do%20with%20a%20problem%3F%20By%20Kobi%20Yamada/)



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Science finals

Our science finalists had a fantastic experience at the Rutherford Appleton Labs! They confidently presented their projects and enthusiastically took part in a variety of exciting, hands-on science activities. We are incredibly proud of how well they represented our school - with both their knowledge and their positive attitude. The children returned with medals, certificates, and a strong sense of achievement. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Houston for her amazing support and encouragement throughout both trips.

Williams F1



This week, it was Sycamore's turn to visit Williams F1 - and what an incredible experience they had! The children took part in exciting challenges, explored the F1 museum, and had a go on the simulators. The F1 enrichment days are specially designed to inspire and inform, building on children's existing passion for STEM or sparking new interest in those who may not have considered a future in the field before – a brilliant enrichment opportunity for all our KS2 children.



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Staffing updates

After Easter, we are thrilled to welcome Stacey Blackwell as our new School Administrator, who will be joining us on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Mrs Siedle will be with us for the first week back to ensure a smooth handover to Mrs Blackwell. I'm sure you'll all join me in extending a warm welcome to Mrs Blackwell as she joins us here at Buckland.

This week, we are saying a fond farewell to three valued members of our Buckland community. Mrs Miller will be leaving us to take on an exciting new role within the Cambrian Learning Trust, working in project management. We will really miss her here at Buckland, but we are so pleased for her and wish her every success in this new chapter.

Mr Roper, who has been a hugely supportive and much-appreciated presence at Buckland for many years, will also be moving on to a new opportunity as Site Manager for FCC. This is a fantastic next step for him, and we wish him all the very best in his new role.

Finally, we said goodbye to Lou Viner, our much-loved singing teacher, after her final session with the children this week. Lou is stepping away to focus on her family, and we are incredibly grateful for the joy and inspiration she has brought to so many children through music over the years.

We send our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Mrs Miller, Mr Roper, and Lou for the future - you will all be greatly missed!

Dates for after Easter:

Wednesday 23rd March – the second small schools transition morning for Year 6 children attending FCC in the Autumn Term - please see parent pay communicated on the 10th March for further information.

Thursday 24th April – Chance to Shine Cricket will be in school to do cricket sessions with each class.

Class newsletters are being sent out today with further news about this term and information for Term 5.



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FOBS

Dear Parents, Carers, and Staff,
Get ready for a magical evening of fun and adventure at the FOBS Spring Family Fun Event!

Inspired by the playful spirit of Roald Dahl, this event is sure to be a glorumptious time for the whole family!


A delicious BBQ & refreshing treats (even the BFG would approve!)


Sports and games to put your skills to the test

Exciting stalls filled with surprises


A golden-ticket worthy raffle with amazing prizes, including:

- An Annual Family Membership to Blenheim Palace
- Afternoon Tea at The Belfry Hotel
- A Family Ticket to Birdland
- A Family Ticket to Science Oxford
- £20 voucher for Aston Pottery

 Friday 25th April

 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

 Buckland Memorial Hall

 £3.50 per child, adults enter for free!

Book your tickets here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofbuckland/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=94120>

We believe everyone should have the chance to join the fun! If cost is a concern, please speak to the office, and we'll make sure you can attend.

Can you help make this a truly whoopsy-splunkers event?

- Donate second-hand books for Matilda's Bookstore to the parent shelter
- Drop off lucky dip prizes to the parent shelter
- Bake a cake or sweet treat worthy of a Willy Wonka creation
- Volunteer to help—either beforehand or on the night
- Run a Roald Dahl-themed game
- Know a business that could donate a raffle prize? Let us know!



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It's set to be a phizz-whizzing evening—so gather your human beans and join us for an unforgettable night of fun!

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 2 lunch time assistants – one for 3 days and one for 5 days. If you know anyone who may be interested in either of these roles, then please share -

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

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2025-BCEPS-62844>

Achievements

House	Horse	Ox	Dragon
Weekly total	106	75	95
Termly total	551	432	523

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Wilder and Sebbie

Beech – Indigo and Georgia

Sycamore – Bertie and Lilah

Oak – James T and Lily

Silver badges have been awarded to:

Horse: Billie, Tudor, William O, Maggie, Tabitha, Bertie O

Ox: Emily H, Noah M, Betsy, Florence and Tom H (Bronze)

Dragon: Lucy, Emmy, Miranda, Annabelle and Axel

Congratulations to all.

Have a wonderful Easter holiday, we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team