

## Newsletter Term 2 Number 3 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

### *Values of the term: Unity, Courage, Peace*

'Learning to stand in somebody else's shoes, to see through their eyes, that's how peace begins. And it's up to you to make that happen. Empathy is a quality of character that can change the world' – Barack Obama.

Dear Parents,

Another busy week in school – lots to share:

**Acorns** have shared the Christmas story this week and begun to learn the actions and words to our Nativity. Little Acorns have also been counting sounds, actions and objects carefully whilst Big Acorns have been learning about 1 more and 1 less.

**Beech** - In science we have been thinking about items and whether they are living, dead or have never been alive; in RE we have begun our work on why Christmas matters to Christians. In maths our focus has moved on to place value for numbers over 20 whilst in English, we have been writing super sentences about the Great Fire of London

**Sycamore** - this week we have looked at different symbols of world religions, we have also been working on equal grouping for Y3 in Maths and Y4 have been learning about multiplication and division. In PE we have been doing football and dance – the children have been really enthusiastic about their work!

**Oak** have had the busiest time of all, away on residential at Woodlands all week. They have had a brilliant time and have been amazing – the children have been resilient, determined



and incredibly supportive of each other. There are lots more super photos with daily updates on the class pages: <https://www.bucklandprimaryschool.org.uk/oak/>. A heartfelt thank you to Mr Stevens, Mrs Lefebvre, Mrs Johnson, and Mrs Lund for their exceptional efforts this week. These amazing opportunities for our Oak children, would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication and support of our staff and volunteers. Their extraordinary commitment has truly gone above and beyond, and we are deeply grateful.

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

### **Staffing**

This week, we've been delighted to welcome Sophie Gosling, who will be joining us as a TA in Acorns three days a week, working alongside Mrs Lefebvre and Mrs Bull. Additionally, we're very happy to have appointed a new lunchtime supervisor, Kathryn Hambleton, who will be working two days a week in a job share with Mrs Sample. I'm confident you will join me in extending a warm welcome to them at Buckland.

### **Teacher/Parent meetings**

These are taking place on Tuesday and Thursday evening next week. Please either keep your child with you during the meeting or make arrangements for them to stay at home with an adult if you prefer they do not attend. We want to avoid children being unsupervised outside, especially in the dark. During the meetings, teachers will focus on highlighting your child's progress, sharing lots of positives, and suggesting next steps to support their learning journey. Children's books will be available in the following locations: Beech – Hall, Sycamore - IT Room, Oak - DT Room

For children with individual learning plans, a longer meeting has been offered at another time to discuss progress on their plan alongside their general classroom progress.

We are mindful of workload for teachers and know that these are long days – please can we kindly ask you to help us stick to the allocated 10-minute time slots. If further discussions are needed, additional meetings can be arranged for a later date. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

### **Christmas activities**

Rehearsals have started for our Nativity and for the Christmas service – beyond this, we like to try and keep a low profile on all things Christmassy until later in December. Here are the key activities that we will be doing with all the children:

FOBS Elfridge's – each class will have a morning slot to wrap gifts for parents (week 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December)

Acorn's Nativity dress rehearsal – all children in school will be watching this on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> (parents invited to watch on the 13<sup>th</sup>)

Playhouse Panto – whole school trip on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Church Service at 6pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> for Year 1 -Year 6 (Acorns optional)

Christmas lunch – school hall (normal sittings with a festive twist!) – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>

Santa visiting (shhh!) on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> in the morning.

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Further details about each activity will follow, so please keep an eye out for Parent Pay messages. While this is an exciting time of year, we strive to approach the festive season in a calm and organised manner, as many children can find the changes to regular routines unsettling. If you feel your child may benefit from extra support or preparation during this busy period, please reach out to their class teacher to discuss how we can best support them.

**Oak Assembly** – next week on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>, Oak parent’s and carers welcome – 2.30pm in the hall.

**FOBS film night** – Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> – this is now sold out.



**WOW!**

I have to share this amazing Pudsey Bear that Charlie H in Sycamore made – what an achievement - well done Charlie and helper/s – we were so impressed!

**Parent survey** - We kindly ask if you could take a moment to complete our parent survey, available at the link below. Your feedback is incredibly valuable to us. This survey is being shared across all schools in the trust to help gather important insights from parents. Thank you in advance for your time and support.

<https://forms.office.com/e/n7ZgzHNWXf>

### **Achievements**

House	<b>Horse</b>	<b>Ox</b>	<b>Dragon</b>
Weekly total	88	69	68
<b>Running total</b>	207	168	207

This week’s certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Alavander and Flossie

Beech – Millie and Chloe

Sycamore – Lola and Finley

Congratulations to all.

Have a lovely weekend,

**Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.**