



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

Newsletter Term 2 Number 1 Friday 8th November 2024

Values of the term: Unity, Courage, Peace

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half-term break - we hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. We've had a calm and settled start to the new term, with children quickly getting back into the rhythm of their routines and engaging enthusiastically in their activities. Here's a glimpse of what each class has been doing this week:

Curriculum

Acorns have been sharing their own experiences of Halloween and Bonfire Night. We have been learning about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot as well as how Diwali is celebrated. The children have been drawing on pumpkins, colouring rangoli patterns and making firework pictures.

Beech have been exploring watercolours in art and using the Paintz programme in ICT – lots of colourful pictures all round. In English, the children have been learning about sentence structure, focusing on understanding full stops and when to use them.

Sycamore have been learning about non-chronological report writing, which will be all about dragons. The children have been exploring features of a non-chronological report as well as generating questions to ask about the dragon that is in their individual dragon egg – very exciting!

Oak class have been planning and writing a diary entry from the viewpoint of Ernest Shackleton. We have also been continuing our work on fractions, which has required lots of perseverance and determination to succeed. In addition, we have analysed extracts from three Michael Morpurgo books, described how videos are produced for maximum effect in our Computing lessons and identified the five main types of mountains on Earth.

Lots going on next week –

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Monday - Remembrance

Reverend Talisker will be holding a service at school on Monday at 10 a.m. to mark this occasion - it reminds us of the courage and resilience shown in the face of hardship; as we remember, we will also look to the future with a hope for lasting peace, valuing compassion and unity over division.

Tuesday - Little City and Millets Farm

On Tuesday 12th November, Acorns will be visiting Little City at the Memorial Hall and Beech Class are on a trip to Millet's Farm – I look forward to updating you on their news next week!

Wednesday – Odd Socks Day as part of Anti-bullying week

Next week is national Anti-Bullying week – we will be wearing Odd Socks for Anti-Bullying on Wednesday the 13th so that Acorns and Beech can join in. The theme is 'Choose Respect'.

Friday - Children in Need

We're looking forward to supporting Children in Need on Friday, November 15th. We'll be doing some fun activities, including participating in the Gladiators School Special for an energizing start. Children are invited to wear something spotty or Children in Need themed to school that day should they wish. If you would like to make a donation, please use the link below:

<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/Primarystandard>

Achievement

Our new achievement badges have arrived! A big thank you to FOBS for funding this – they are beautifully crafted with bronze, silver, and gold plating - made to stand the test of time. The badges have a laurel wreath design which has long been a symbol of achievement.



The first badge, the Bronze 'Kind' badge, is the first to be awarded, and we expect many children will earn it before Christmas by accumulating 30 house points for their

hard work, perseverance, and academic excellence. Furthermore, one child each day receives a 'Fruit of the Spirit' award, which is displayed on the class tree. This special award recognises social, emotional, and pastoral achievements and is sent home at the end of the term.

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FOBS

A huge thank you to FOBS for organising the annual Halloween disco – lots of fun had by all and the outfits were fantastic! The total amount raised was an amazing £934; FOBS are always looking for more volunteers to help with these events – they require a lot of work and benefit the whole school community – thanks if you can.

Vacancies

We have adverts out for an Admin Assistant role – 5 days a week – 37 hours and a School Business Administrator – 3 days a week – 24 hours. Please share widely – thank you.

<https://www.bucklandprimaryschool.org.uk/vacancies/>

Mental health and wellbeing

This week's wellbeing assembly was all about positive thinking. We talked about how a bottle could be considered half full or half empty and discussed how we could turn negative thoughts around a situation into more positive ones – a really important skill to have in life.

Achievements

House	Horse	Ox	Dragon
Weekly total	49	39	45
Running total	49	39	45

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Arabella and Sebastian

Beech – Georgia and Finn

Sycamore – Chloe and Edward

Oak – Lacey and Dexter

Congratulations to all.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.